



Jock Young at Grandtully

The First Commonwealth Slalom

The First ever Commonwealth Canoeing Championships in Slalom and White Water Racing were held this August at the newly Acquired SCA site at Grandtully on the River Tay.

The event got underway with an exciting rolling contest which set a mood of keen competition and pleasant social activity for the White Water Race and Slalom which followed later in the week at Grandtully. The rolling competition was won

by a Welshman in an incredibly fast time of 16.2 seconds for 10 rolls.

The Slalom Committee, of course, used their influence in higher places to arrange a week of outstanding weather. This contributed greatly to the over-



all success of the events and drew in a large crowd of scantily clad spectators.

This was the first time a Scottish organisation had been responsible for running an international slalom and the preparations in the weeks before the event were conducted with some uncertainty. Then suddenly it was all happening about us. There were representatives from ten nations. The scale of the event became more apparent. This seemed to spur organisers and judges alike to co-operate with an energy and enthusiasm seldom seen in domestic competitions.

The water level at Grandtully was very low, but a well designed course gave a challenging slalom for even the better competitors. The new slalom equipment again proved its worth and will continue to be of great use in the future. On the organisation front the event ran exactly to time and Dave Cuthill must be proud that SCATTI, his timing and communications

baby, performed without fault. The judging went smoothly and gained us much credit on an international front as the few protests that were made were not upheld.

In the competition our team gave a creditable performance collecting 3 silver and 9 bronze medals (see results table). This must give the younger team members some confidence and point them in the right direction for the future. The event was naturally dominated by the strong English team, particularly the ladies. However, the Scottish ladies team of McLeod/Wilson/Adamson performed very well to take the Bronze medal. John Reid also did well coming 4th in the C1 event.

The success of this event will give Scottish canoeing a good reputation at home as well as abroad. A special thanks must go to George Cleland the event director for his hard work, to the other organisers and all the canoeists who gave so much time and effort.

Negotiating the Falls.



COMMONWEALTH SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS AUGUST 1981

RESULTS SUMMARY

C1 MEN

1.	M. Hedges	ENG	233.3
2.	P. Keane	ENG	240.5
3.	L. Adams	AUS	272.5
4.	J. Reid	SCO	282.0

C2 MEN

1.	Felton/Christensen	AUS	238.5
2.	Jamieson/Williams	ENG	243.2
3.	Young/Munro	SCO	260.8
7.	Laing/Lees	SCO	304.8

K1 MEN

1.	N. Wain	ENG	201.5
2.	R. Mainwaring	ENG	204.2
3.	J. Dolan	SCO	206.6
14.	N. Baxter	SCO	235.6
16.	G. Robertson	SCO	237.4
17.	D. Trotter	SCO	237.7
18.	A. Meikle	SCO	238.7
20.	I. MacDonald	SCO	242.2

K1 MEN'S TEAM

1.	Wain/Edge/Mainwaring	ENG	228.1
2.	Delderfield/Gardner/Christensen	AUS	246.8
3.	Dolan/MacDonald/Meikle	SCO	250.0

K1 LADIES

1.	E. Sharman	ENG	217.2
2.	J. Roderick	ENG	236.8
3.	S. Garriock	ENG	243.4
5.	J. Wilson	SCO	265.9
7.	K. McLeod	SCO	267.0
9.	N. Adamson	SCO	271.4
10.	L. Berry	SCO	277.2
11.	S. Ward	SCO	277.5
15.	G. Robbie	SCO	301.7

K1 LADIES TEAM

1.	Sharman/Small/Roderick	ENG	272.8
2.	McLeod/Wilson/Adamson	SCO	296.7
3.	Charles/Henderson/Fraser	CAN	366.2

C1 MEN'S TEAM

1.	Hedges/Keane/Bell	ENG	278.8
2.	Cameron/McNally/Waring	N.IRL	392.1
3.	Young/Reid/Lees	SCO	400.4

COMMONWEALTH WHITE WATER CANOE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The team to represent Scotland was chosen following the selection event held on the Saturday prior to the Championships. It was pleasing to see a good number of White Water C1s on the water for the event and competition for selection was fierce.

The team chosen for the Championship was:

A TEAM K1	B TEAM K1	C1
K. Fraser	J. Knox	J. Young
T. Liddon	A. Murray	A. Meikle
A. Morton	P. Gardner	M. Rawson
YOUTH MEN K1	LADIES K1	C2
A. Bownes	G. Robbie	Colin Tannock/ Colin Woodgate
I. Bownes	L. Morrison	
M. Forde	J. Wilson	

Alastair Denny, making a return to competition after injury was selected to paddle; however his taking up new employment prevented him from paddling and

Alan Murray took his place.

The glorious weather for which everyone seemed grateful resulted in the river being at a very low level. The greatest diffi-

COMMONWEALTH CANOE SPRINT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Strathclyde Park, 8 - 9 August 1981



Gary Young and Kenny Fraser of Scotland, receive their bronze medals in the K2 500m event from Frank Writebrook, Chairman of the Commonwealth Canoe Federation.

R1 Commonwealth Senior Men K1 1000m - Final

1. J Bertrant	CAN	3.57.58
2. M Wooden	AUS	4.00.54
3. R Lucas	ENG	4.01.80

R2 Commonwealth Senior Ladies K2 1000m - Final

1. Olmsted/Guay	CAN	4.19.25
2. S Haws/ A Dawson	ENG	4.35.19
3. D Mills/A Edwards	SCO	4.36.53

R3 Commonwealth Senior Men C1 1000m - Final

1. B Bliss	CAN	4.25.66
2. S Train	ENG	4.29.84
3. W. Reichenstein	SCO	4.40.03

R31 Commonwealth Men K2 500m - Final

1. Shaw/Mercer	CAN	1.39.46
2. Martin/Pepper	AUS	1.40.99
3. Fraser/Young	SCO	1.46.78

R32 Commonwealth Ladies K1 500m - Final

1. L Blencowe	AUS	2.09
2. L Guay	CAN	2.12
3. S. Haws	ENG	2.23
4. L. Morrison	SCO	2.24

R51 Commonwealth Senior K4 500m - Final

1. Wooden/Doak Martin/Doak	AUS	1.32.28
2. Mercer/Thomson Shaw/Bertrand	CAN	1.32.85
3. Lucas Middlehurst Bishton/Train	ENG	1.42.08

R.58 Commonwealth Senior & Junior Ladies 600m K2 - Final

1. Guay/Olmsted	CAN	28.17
2. Haws/Dawson	ENG	31.02
3. Mills/Edwards	SCO	39.03

R.60 Commonwealth Senior Men K1 10,000m - Final (a)

1. C Shaw	CAN	46.44
2. R. Martin	AUS	48.46
3. R. Lucas	ENG	48.50

R.60 Commonwealth Senior Men C1 10,000m - Final (b)

1. S Train	ENG	52.52
2. B Bliss	CAN	53.12

R62 Commonwealth Senior Men K2 1000m - Final

1. J Doak/B Doak	AUS	3.33.45
2. Bertrants/Thomson	CAN	3.34.27
3. G Spiers/A Morton	SCO	3.44.48

R63 Commonwealth Senior Ladies K1 1000m - Final

1. L Blencowe	AUS	N/T
2. B Olmsted	CAN	N/T
3. S. Haws	ENG	N/T
4. L. Morrison	SCO	N/T

R79 Commonwealth Senior Men K4 1000m - Final

1. Doak/Doak/ Wooden/Martin	AUS	3.15.13
2. Bertrand/Thomson/ Mercer/Shaw	CAN	3.17.87
3. Lucas/Middlehurst/ Bishton/Train	ENG	3.28.07
4. Fraser/Montgomery/ Young/Morton	SCO	3.28.58

R104 Commonwealth Senior Men K1 500m - Final

1. C Shaw	CAN	1.52
2. M. Pepper	AUS	1.55
3. G Speirs	SCO	1.56

R105 Commonwealth Senior Ladies K2 500m - Final

1. Olmsted/Guay	CAN	2.04
2. Haws/Dawson	ENG	2.12
3. Mills/Edwards	SCO	2.14

R106 Commonwealth Senior Men C1 500m - Final

1. W. Reichenstein	SCO	2.04
2. S Botting	CAN	2.05
3. S Train	ENG	2.17

R131 Commonwealth Senior Ladies K1 6000m - Final

1. L Guay	CAN	31.44
2. S Haws	ENG	32.57
3. L Morrison	SCO	33.35

R132 Commonwealth Senior Men K1 10,000m - Final (b)

1. Martin/Wooden	AUS	Disq.
2. Thomson/Mercer	CAN	44.27
3. Fraser/Morton	SCO	44.46

culty on the top half of the course was trying not run aground! The top fall at Grandtully still, however, presented some difficulties especially for the C1s. The finish of the race was moved downstream from the usual point to the new road-bridge because of parking and other considerations. The extension of the finish to this point added several minutes to the race and subsequently the race had to be approached in a slightly different manner from usual. Split times taken during the race showed that paddlers of comfortable standard could have times 30 seconds apart from the bottom section, so it seemed worthwhile leaving that little bit of reserve strength for a good "burn" to the finish.

Being held midweek the White Water race unfortunately did not attract a large number of spectators from the non-canoeing public, but STV still managed to give the event some short coverage on that evening's Scotsport. There was a healthy number of entries in all classes including the Canadians and all of the Commonwealth countries were well represented. The event ran smoothly to time and generally the organisation was good. Ewan Paterson kept the spectators at Grandtully well informed with his commentary and split times using the excellent public address system which had been hired for the event. Results had to be relayed from the finish to

the results board at Grandtully rapids by car when the Scottish Sports Council radio equipment failed to work even though it had operated flawlessly for selection events.

With the provisional results for the Men's K1 event completed on the results board, David Taylor of England was in first place with Kenny Fraser of Scotland in second place. Immediately, a protest concerning the time of Robert Campbell (England) was lodged by the acting English Team Manager, Melvin Swallow. The protest jury upheld the protest as many independently taken times agreed and gave Campbell a time about 30 seconds faster. The mistake was perhaps due to an error reading from the digital clock, however, we shall never know with certainty. Even the World Championships with the resources of a £30,000 timing system behind them could not time their event with perfection.

Campbell's corrected time pushed him into 2nd place and Kenny Fraser lucklessly dropped back to third, this still being however an excellent result against some top class competitors. If he can still improve further, he should be in for higher honours next year. The ladies event was won by a large margin by Susan Hornby of England. The C2 event was also won by England with a crew of Goode and Williams. Colin Tannock and Colin Woodgate of Scotland were slightly disappointed to come in 4th as they had already beaten the winners on several occasions this year. Only in the C1 event was the English dominance broken, Glen Gaynor of Australia, still a youth, made the rest of the field look positively

WHITE WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

INDIVIDUAL MEN'S KAYAK - 5th August 1981

POSITION	NAME	NATION	TIME
1.	Taylor, David	ENG	22.14.9
2.	Campbell, Robert	ENG	22.23.8
3.	Fraser, Kenny	SCO	22.44.9

LADIES K1

1.	Hornby, Susan	ENG	24.24.3
2.	Fraser, Morna	CAN	26.00.3
3.	Donovan, Debbie	AUS	26.31.0
4.	Robbie, Gill	SCO	26.43.8

C1

1.	Gaynor, Glen	AUS	27.32.7
2.	Evans, Robert	WAL	29.26.2
3.	Stanley, Andy	ENG	30.17.8

C2

1.	Goode/Williams	ENG	27.01.7
2.	Grick/Butler	AUS	27.12.5
3.	Cooper/Haydock	ENG	27.27.6
4.	Tannock/Woodgate	SCO	27.30.3

MEN'S K1, 6th August 1981

1.	Delderfield/Gardner/Doyle	AUS	23.37.1
2.	Morton/Fraser/Liddon	SCO	23.54.6
3.	Taylor/Swallow/Bayliss	ENG	24.17.9

LADIES K1

1.	Hornby/Cox/Harling	ENG	27.52.7
2.	Robbie/Morrison/Wilson	SCO	28.30.3
3.	Dalimor/Alexander/Hayward	WAL	Capsize

C1

1.	Young/Meikle/Rawson	SCO	31.22.4
2.	Crick/Bownes/Gaynor	AUS	31.31.0
3.	Stanley/Fletcher/Halloway	ENG	32.25.4



Above: K1 10,000 metres Start.

Below: Approaching the Top turn in the K1 10,000 metre event.



pedestrian when he powered home to win by a margin of 2 minutes from Bob Evans and top British Canadian paddler who was representing Wales.

The team events were held on Thursday again with excellent weather and the water level even slightly lower. Australia had a surprise win in the Men's K1 event. One of their paddlers made a big improvement in his time from the individual event, thus highlighting the importance of wash-hanging. However, Aus-

tralia's jubilation was short lived because in the C1 event one of their team capsized with exhaustion just short of the finishing line to let Scotland (Jock Young, Alan Meikle and Malcolm Rawson) take the gold medal. England could not field a strong team in the Men's K1 event and Scotland took the silver medal here. The English ladies, however, won their team event by a good margin.

David Wolfe

COMMONWEALTH CANOE CHAMPIONSHIPS 1982

Brisbane, Australia

Because of the success of the recent Commonwealth Canoeing Championships the Council of the Scottish Canoe Association, at a recent meeting felt that it is desirable that future Championships should be encouraged and, if at all possible Scottish teams should be present at such Championships.

The next ones will take place in Brisbane in September/October 1982, but it is unlikely that there will be any extra grant from the Scottish Sports Council. Canoeing is not yet one of the sports included in the Commonwealth Games and these Championships are only being run in conjunction with the '82 Games and are not an official part of it. This means that Scottish paddlers will not be eligible to receive grants from the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland as competitors in the official Games will do.

The cost of sending one person to Australia will be in excess of £500 for air fare alone and as this would finance a complete Scottish team trip to Europe, the Council of the Scottish Canoe Association was unwilling to commit any financial support at this stage.

While a small amount of money may become available nearer the time of the Championships any team travelling to them will have to be largely self-financing. To help such a team it is intended that they should be selected in the early part of 1982. This would then allow them either on an individual or

group basis to organise fund raising, either by sponsorship or by running specific events such as discos. The Council and technical sub-committees would give such help as they could, but as most competitors are aware, these committees are already stretched to the limit both in financial and manpower terms with the organisation and administration of the rapidly expanding programme of Scottish canoeing.

Any competitor who is eligible to paddle for Scotland (i.e. Scottish parents or has been living in Scotland for 6 out of the past 12 months) and is seriously interested in the 1982 Championships should write to the Chairman of the sub-committee of their branch of the sport or to the Scottish Canoe Association office. Standards will be maintained — positions on the team will be open only to those people who satisfy the selection criteria of the Scottish Canoe Association. It is expected that a decision on team composition will be made in the first three months of 1982.

*George Cleland
General Secretary*

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Commonwealth Championships at Strathclyde Park and Grandtully didn't just happen — they were the result of a lot of hard work by a relatively small band of people. They, therefore, deserve our thanks for running such successful international championships. If you weren't at one or other venue, you missed an important milestone in the Association's history — no one else can now organise the first official Commonwealth Championships!

What about the Commonwealth Games? There seem to be a few misconceptions here. The Games are being held in Brisbane, Australia, next year, but canoeing doesn't feature in the programme. Commonwealth Canoeing Championships will, however, be held near Brisbane during the Games and it is hoped that there will be at least two or three Scottish representatives. Because of the expense involved and the limited nature of our association's finances it is likely that they will have to be largely self-financed unless any are enterprising and lucky enough to come up with sponsorship.

In 1986 Edinburgh is to host the Commonwealth Games and rowing has been selected as one of the seven optional sports. The rules for the Games, however, allow for sprint canoeing to be run together with rowing and for rowing/sprint canoeing to count as one sport. It is on this basis that the SCA along with any other members of the Commonwealth Canoeing Federation are campaigning for the inclusion of canoeing in the 1986 Games.

As yet there has been no decision to include sprint canoeing. The main problem appears to be financial since the organisers have to provide food and accommodation for all competitors during the Games and also contribute to their travel costs. Adding sprint canoeing to the programme would mean perhaps another thirty or forty competitors which represents an appreciable addition to the host city's budget.

The lack of finishing tower at Strathclyde Park is also a problem, but moves are afoot again.

It will be appreciated from the above that there is no possibility at present that any other branch of our sport could be included in the 1986 Games since all seven optional sports have already been chosen. The Commonwealth Canoeing Federation will, however, continue to seek the selection of canoeing on its own as one of the seven optional sports in future Games.

P. F. Nelson

CANOES and ACCESSORIES

TRY then BUY

from

AFTON CANOES

EAGLESHAM

THE HARBOUR

GLASGOW

ELIE

041-644 2038

0333-330502

MAIN SCOTTISH AGENTS

for

PYRANHA

Stockists of

ARROWCRAFT, BARON, WATER RAT

Tay Marathon success despite problems



Above: Mol and Sloan (Australia) Winners of the K2 event.
Below: Start at Grandtully road bridge.



Andy Morton, the organiser of the Tay Marathon could be forgiven for thinking the Gods and odds were against him as the start of the event approached on Saturday, 5th September.

Organisation and preparations for the event ran smoothly in the preceding months. The Scottish Team looked strong, a competent team of officials had been put together and all bookings had been made well in advance. However, the first hint of trouble came when Andrew, expected to be the highest placed Scottish singles paddler, developed bursitis on the tail bone. (Other terms have been used to describe this complaint, but decency prohibits their mention!) The complaint, unknown as yet in canoeing circles, results from friction at the base of the spine as a result of the paddling movement, and it could keep Andy out of competitive canoeing for some time.

A few days before the event, Scotland's two top Junior paddlers, Alison Edwards and Garry Young, withdrew from the Team as they felt the long endurance paddle might damage their prospects of success at the British Sprint Championships, held the following weekend. The final blow to the Scottish Team came on Saturday morning, half an hour before the start when news came through that Scotland's top K2 paddlers, Gilbert Speirs and Lou Barrie had crashed in Lou's car. They were unhurt, but the car and kayak were both written off.

On the organisational front, things were little better. Fred and Anne Nelson, normally chief officials for the duration of the event 'phoned on Friday night to say they could not manage. Short notice you might think. Nos so. Anne gave birth to a healthy baby boy twelve hours later!!

To cap it all, the weather deteriorated as the competitors prepared to start at 11 am on

Saturday morning. The wind increased from Force 2 at 7.00 am to Force 7 at 11.00 am. The largest of the three rescue boats lost its rudder on the way to the start and had to be moored half-way up the loch. The other smaller rescue boats were barely up to the conditions on their own, let alone rescuing sinking kayaks, so the first stage of the event was cancelled.

Despite the many and various problems the race got under way at 1.30 pm and thereafter ran smoothly.

On Sunday, competitors from England, Wales, Australia and Scotland raced in excellent conditions from Grandtully to Perth, where Greeff of the White Water Racers won the individual event from Dimmock of England. In the doubles event the Australian team of Mol and Sloan were first over the line. Unfortunately, Scottish paddlers did not feature high in the results except for Linda Morrison who came second in the Ladies event.

TAY MARATHON RESULTS

		Times in Hours, Minutes and Seconds				
		I	II	III	IV	Total
SENIOR MEN K1						
1.	C. Greef	WWR	1.24.23	1.15.22	2.33.46	5.13.31
2.	P. Dimmock	Eng	1.26.17	1.15.23	2.34.58	5.16.38
3.	R. Kinch	Eng	1.26.29	1.16.08	2.34.57	5.17.34
SENIOR MEN K2						
1.	Mol/Sloan	Aus	1.23.27	1.12.19	2.29.59	5.05.45
2.	Park/Rennie	WWR	1.26.14	1.13.14	2.36.59	5.16.27
3.	Knox/Liddon	Scot	1.25.24	1.16.02	2.39.05	5.20.31
LADIES K1						
1.	J. Mongan	Aus	1.52.15	—	2.53.26	4.45.41
2.	L. Morrison	Scot	1.46.08	—	3.01.03	4.47.11
3.	J. Robbie	Scot	1.47.55	—	3.01.18	4.49.13
JUNIOR LADIES						
1.	H. Brough	Eng	1.53.58	—	3.02.36	4.56.34
JUNIOR MEN K1						
1.	R Howell-Jones	Eng	1.30.46	—	2.36.37	4.07.23
2.	D. Haws	Eng	1.35.46	—	2.36.36	4.12.22
3.	T. Matthews	Eng	1.31.20	—	2.43.57	4.15.17
JUNIOR MEN K2						
1.	Morley/Peatfield	Eng	1.31.40	—	2.36.22	4.08.02
2.	Blacklaws/Barrie	Scot	2.02.27	—	3.02.07	5.04.34
TEAM POINTS						
1.	ENGLAND	53				
2.	SCOTLAND	33				
3.	WWR	26				

A thoughtful water study at Grandtully





Surf Committee Chairmen contemplates.

Montrose Beginners' Surf Day!

On an unusual day with warm weather and some small surf, Montrose Beach was open to beginners to learn the art of Canoe Surfing. Twenty paddlers arrived wondering what could be learned on waves not much larger than the height of their canoes, but were surprised to see how quickly they improved after only a short session on learning surfing skills.

It was good to see canoeists from all over Scotland: Aberdeen, Fife, Dundee Sea Canoeists, Arbroath and Linlithgow getting a lot of enjoyment from trying to master their crafts in Scottish surf.

In the afternoon half the group tried their hand at a Novice Surf Competition and by this time the Surf had increased by at least six inches. All tried to transfer their newly acquired skills into competition, some showing off by trying them while standing on their heads on the shallow sands below.

Hopefully more newcomers to surf will appear on the

Scottish scene and coaching days such as this will show a new light to enjoying canoeing in a fun environment.

SCOTTISH SURF CHAMPIONSHIPS

Fraserburgh Beach, 24th
to 25th October 1981.

Events:
NOVICE Slalom
JUNIOR Surf/Slalom
LADIES slalom
OPEN Surf/Slalom

For further details, please
contact Dave Shearer
(03587 207).



*Above — Dave (Geronimo) Shearer off Aberdeen beach.
Below — Paul and Neil dispute a wave.*



LOCH INSH CANOEING & SAILING SCHOOL
INSH HALL | KINCRAIG INVERNESS-SHIRE PH21 1NU
TELEPHONE: (05404) 272

BALLINDALLOCH STATION HOSTEL

There are showers, toilets, electric fires, kitchen with calor gas stoves, pots and pans, plates, mugs, cutlery etc. The bunk beds have mattresses only, so visitors must bring own sleeping bags. The electricity for fires and hot water is run off a 50p meter, and there is an open fire for burning wood and coal in the main sitting room. Accommodation available for sixteen persons.

Visitors would either come to Insh Hall to collect the key if travelling up the A9, or write in advance if coming from your side. When we see what the demand is like we may make arrangements with someone locally to be a part-time warden responsible for checking people in and out.

The prices are as follows:

1 to 2 night stay, per head £2.50
3 or more nights, per head £2.00

We have a lease of the ground along the railway track to the bridge, which has been rebuilt to carry the Speyside Way, and access to the river at the bridge. We have constructed landing steps in the bank on the river bank. Canoes can be left on the railway embankment overnight quite safely, to save the 200 yard walk to the Hostel.

We would be grateful if you let your canoeists know of its existence as it is in a good area for the best water on the Spey, the Avon, the Findhorn and it is only 25 miles from Lossiemouth and Sandend for surfing.

We hope skiers will use it in winter as it is only 14 miles from the Lecht.



Loch Insh Canoeing & Sailing School is owned by
the Cairngorm Canoeing & Sailing School Ltd

Director: Clive Freshwater

Registration Number 72941 Edinburgh
VAT Number 266432062

GRAHAM TISO

**Canoes supplied at factory price
NO CARRIAGE CHARGE
on canoes collected from our shops.**

stockholding agents for

- VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS
- McNULTY CANOES
- NOMAD CANOES

JAVLIN . wet suits, long johns, vests
and "J" boots.

HARISHOK . buoyancy aids and paddle jackets.

ACE . helmets, canoe tape.

paddles from

LENDAL · ACE · MARK GEES · W.W.

GRAHAM TISO 13 Wellington Place, Leith, Edinburgh
031-554 0804

also accessories stocked at Thistle Centre Stirling
Rose Street Precinct, Edinburgh

"Bonny Banks—But can they remain so?"

When thinking of Scotland the first tune to come to mind is "The Bonnie Banks of Loch Lomond"! Loch Lomond has that special magic for millions of people the world over and conjurs up a romantic Scottish scene of rugged grandeur, dark waters extending to the snow capped mountains of the Highlands. This is the image of the loch, but can it remain so?

The Regional Councils of Strathclyde and Central and the District Councils of Dumbarton and Stirling have taken a positive step towards conservation of this beautiful asset for future generations. A Local Subject Plan has been produced, sponsored by these bodies to cover such diverse subjects as road access, architectural aspects around the loch and the use of the loch as a recreational facility. One of the recommendations in the Subject Plan was that a Water User's Management Committee be instituted. Following a series of public meetings the Loch Lomond Association was formed at a general meeting in the Balloch Hotel on 30th April 1981 and the Management Committee elected to represent Angling, Sailing, Cruising, Water Skiing, Rowing, Scottish Sub Aqua Club, Canoeing, Hotel Owners, Boat Hirers, Land Owners, Statutory Bodies and three individuals.

Those elected members represent all participants of their sports using Loch Lomond.

The Association has as its basic tenets:

"To preserve and improve the use of the water of Loch Lomond and its immediate environs for the enjoyment, convenience of those using it for sport or recreational activities; the conservation of the flora and fauna, on and in the vicinity of Loch Lomond and to liaise with the statutory bodies and others."

The Management Committee has met on two occasions since the inaugural General Meeting and members have noted several conflicts of interests amongst the loch users. Committee has decided that perhaps the most useful way to alleviate these problems is to publicise the comments from each organisation involved in the Association. This article will, hopefully, be repeated in the magazines or newsheets of those sports which use the loch. I hope that as an angler, water skier, diver, sailor, or whatever your chosen sport, you will read the following comments and understand the problems which you may cause (however inadvertently!) to other loch users. I realise that every problem cannot be resolved to the satisfaction of all, but hope that you will assist the Loch Lomond Association to draw all sports together harmoniously in order that Loch Lomond remains the jewel it has always been.

ANGLING

Representative: Mr. A. Dunlop, Vale of Leven District Angling Club, Fisherwood, Balloch.

Anglers report that the major source of irritation is the failure of boat owners to give adequate clearance to boat trawling. A boat using this method can be easily recognised by rods protruding from the side of the boat. 100 yards stern clearance should be given with keeled boats increasing this. Divers have also been noted in water *without* any indication of their presence.

BOAT HIRERS

Representative: Mr. J. Sweeney, 26 Balloch Road, Balloch.

Boat hirers have experienced difficulty in the past with fishermen leaving their rods at the side when navigating the Leven. The wash created by some boats can damage craft moored against jetties.

CRUISING

Representative: Mr. J. Bryce, 55 Underwood Road, Burnside, Rutherglen.

Cruising craft moored in the various anchorages on the loch have experienced problems with speed boats intruding into these areas causing a wash which disrupts the cruising craft. Those using speed boats and ski boats are requested not to enter these areas at speed. It is recognised that the persons responsible for these practices are not normally members of local clubs.

LAND OWNERS

Representative: Mr. T. Scott, Inchmurrin, Balloch.

Litter on land on and around Loch Lomond is a major problem as in many other tourist areas in the UK. It is hoped that people enjoying the scenic beauty of the loch will assist by removing their litter and not leaving rubbish lying around to inconvenience other people.

SAILING

Representative: Mr. W.D.B. Cameron, Wester Leddriegreen, Blanefield.

The sailing fraternity feel that they co-exist satisfactorily with other loch users, but would stress the need for others to note that (a) the weather on the loch changes very quickly, (b) Loch Lomond is very cold and deep with numerous underwater obstacles, (c) boating and the consumption of alcohol can lead to serious problems, and (d) make use of commonsense when approaching other loch users.

WATER SKIING

Representative: Mr. D.. Henderson, LLWSC, 12 Sydenham Lane, Glasgow G12

The comments from other loch users highlights the problem of casual visitors to the loch disregarding a commonsense usage with the result that all have been "tarred with the same brush". The loch boasts a number of sensible ski clubs who try as far as possible not to interfere with other loch users. It is hoped that visitors will assist the resident and semi-resident clubs to enhance the reputation of skiing. One major problem experienced by water skiers is the vandalism of the slalom course in Drumkinnon Bay. Following discussions with other users, this course has been moved out some 50-60 metres in order to give anglers, rowers etc. more room in the shallows.

CANOEING

Representative: Dr. J. Fryer, Scottish Canoe Association, Laurel Bank, Cardross.

The majority of canoeists in Loch Lomond are parties which include children and tourists, therefore, the level of competence is low. This makes them particularly vulnerable to the wash from powered craft and due to slow speed, avoiding action is not always possible. All craft should have a look-out with skiboats having two to alert the driver to the whereabouts of the small craft which are not always clearly visible. Powered craft should avoid passing within 50 feet and not pass between canoes in a group. Please operate all powered craft within the limits of visibility, thereby reducing speed at headlands and the narrows at Luss and give adequate warning to canoeists.

ROWING

Representative: Mr. H. Summers, Loch Lomond Rowing Club, "Bassendean", Smollett Street, Alexandria.

Rowing in racing craft requires calm water and all problems encountered stem from this. Racing craft vary in length from 20-60 feet depending on the crew and have a free board of 6-9 inches. These craft need lateral clearance of approximately 22 feet. Cross wave in particular provides a serious problem to rowers. There are two major areas of conflict between rowers and other loch users. Firstly, the reduction of one-fifth of available water used by rowers due to moorings on the lee shore (for safety reasons crews remain with a boundary between the mouth of the Fruin to the Southern tip of Inchmurrin and from there to the Boathouse at Boturich. Crews remain within 100 yards of above). The second problem is the wash caused by powered craft or skiers passing within 100 yards of a racing boat causes the crew to stop rowing. One point to be noted is that these rowing crews do not carry lifejackets and the only forms of floatation are small bags within the scull.

SUB AQUA

Representative: Mr. J.R. McLachlan, Scottish Sub Aqua Club, 24 Miltonhill, Milton, Dunbartonshire.

The representative is concerned at the lack of knowledge shown by boats powered manually, by sail or by power of the significance of the International A flag. This flag indicates the presence of divers in the vicinity and boat users are asked either to avoid the area or at the very least pilot their craft very carefully, keeping a sharp lookout for surfacing divers. A diver is very vulnerable in the water in respect of surface craft and serious injury can be inflicted by collision with boats or their propulsion system.

The Management Committee of the Loch Lomond Association have decided that a code of conduct will be published in the near future and it is hoped that all sportsmen and women will appreciate the need to follow the code. Should the Committee be informed that this voluntary code is not being adhered to then it will have no alternative but to approach the statutory bodies for bye-laws to be introduced. I do hope that the article will enable you to appreciate the problems experienced by other loch users.

JOHN R. McLACHLAN

GRANDTULLY DEVELOPMENT

In February of this year, after 18 months of negotiations with British Rail's lawyers, the Scottish Canoe Association took ownership of the old station yard at Grantully. The area owned covers 3.8 acres and was in a fairly overgrown state, since becoming one of the casualties of the Beeching cuts in 1963. Purchase of the site included a four roomed cottage which, despite having been vacant for 15 years, is still remarkably sound.

Competitive canoeing started in Grantully in 1961 when Cambridge University ran the first Slalom. Since then use of the site has escalated and it is now one of the best sites for canoeing in Britain. It has also become one of the busiest.

Officials in the Association were very aware of the problems that the increasing use of this stretch of water were causing and were anxious to do something about it. The station yard while not being adjacent to the river is essential for competitive events at Grantully. The main road in Grantully is not suitable for car parking as it is too busy and all cars must be directed to the only suitable car park within half a mile — the station yard. When, in 1978, British Rail put the yard on the market there was a general fear for the future of canoeing at Grantully and fund raising was urgently started. An offer which was narrowly successful, was submitted in August 1979. There followed months of legal wrangling over the terms of the sale, and finally in February this was agreed.

Access

In the meantime negotiations were going on with owners of the North and South riverbank at Grantully as it was obviously desirable that an agreement over the use of this land for competitions and training be reached. The terms of these agreements were reached in February this year and these broadly allow free use of the riverbanks and thereby easier use of the water for training and competitions except on Mondays and Tuesdays during the fishing season. The Association have to persuade canoeists in general to minimise their use of the Grantully stretch of water at these times and while there is no question of 'banning' canoeing, Clubs, Outdoor Centres, Schools etc. are asked to plan their programmes to comply with these proposals as far as possible. In any case the ground used for access/egress at Grantully is private and one of the terms of the lease the Association has taken is that it should monitor the access taken over this ground and to this end all intending users of this facility should contact the Association's Office. There have been several 'incidents' involving either thoughtlessness or bad behaviour over the past year and only by displaying a more responsible attitude can canoeists hope to maintain the generally good, but sometimes strained, relationships with the local community, without whose co-operation canoeing could not continue at Grantully.

After these agreements were reached contracts were immediately placed to instal removeable stanchions on the riverbank and to manufacture a complete set of international slalom equipment to be kept permanently at Grantully. This was done in record time by our contractors and the work was completed and delivered by the time of the Easter Division One Slalom. The same occasion saw the first and very successful use of the new slalom timing equipment. This has been built over the past couple of years by Dave Shaw and Dave Cuthill with the help of a grant from the Scottish Sports Council.

Apart from installation of a Control Cabin sometime in the future, all the riverbank work is complete and the Association now has a well equipped International Slalom site at Grantully.

Station Yard Development

In the year before the purchase of the land was concluded negotiations were going on with Perth & Kinross District Council over the resale of an area (0.68 acres) at the entrance and the subsequent erection of toilets and construction of a car park. A month after the Association's missives with British Rail were concluded this area was sold to the District Council.

One of the problems with running events at Grantully in the past has been the toilet facilities. The existing toilets which were installed several years ago, have proved all too inadequate at the large events and the patience of the caretaker



K1 paddler approaches top fall

in coping with queues of wet canoeists, empty water tanks and blocked drains cannot be praised too highly. The new District Council toilets will have treble the capacity of the old units, but even this will not suffice for the larger events. One of the top priorities of the Association, therefore, was to instal its own toilets and a second-hand portoloo was bought, is now on site and will be plumbed in to the District Council services.

The other priority work was to landscape the entire area. The yard itself was a bit of an eyesore and use could only be made of a very small proportion of land. A bulldozer and chainsaws were brought in resulting in a trebling of useful area. The whole yard has been grassed and after this takes, it may prove to be an amenity to the local community.

The cottage is also being worked on. While at the time of purchase it was structurally sound, it had suffered a substantial amount of superficial damage. The walls and roof are in excellent condition and need no attention. It has been inspected by Rentokil, and apart from some woodworm in the floors, they could find no trace of dry or damp rot. The electricians have also been inspected and have been declared sound. The existing mains plumbing connections while primitive are also serviceable and will be renovated. Glass has been installed in all windows and substantial amounts of plastering and painting have been done and as a result the cottage is beginning to look respectable once more.

All work on the yard has been paid for with the money obtained for the sale of the entrance area of the yard to Perth and Kinross District Council.

Future Plans

The work being done on the cottage at present is seen only as interim to enable its use as a bothy. The intention is to add a single storey extension to the rear of the building, to contain showers, toilets, changing and drying rooms, an eating and lounge area and some bunk space. This hostel will cater for 15-20 people and will be used for Scottish and British Training Squads in both Slalom and White Water, Coaching Courses, and as a control centre for the various events run at Grantully. After these priority, uses have been accommodated, the hostel will be let out to both homebased and visiting canoeing groups.

At present the work at Grantully is being co-ordinated by a small committee which is composed mainly of people who are heavily involved in other areas of canoeing. It would obviously be much better if they were free to get on with organising the sport itself. However, there has been a vast investment in the Grantully project, both financially and in manpower and to slacken off the pace of the Grantully project at this point could jeopardise the whole scheme.

We are, therefore, looking for volunteers to come on to this committee. There is no need for experience of canoeing, the main requirement would be just plain enthusiasm. We are especially keen to encourage anyone who has connections with the building profession. Being on the committee does not mean turning up at Grantully to dig holes etc., but will be more involved with the administration of the project and final management of the site.

If you don't feel that committee work is right for you but would still like to help, regular working weekends are arranged at Grantully and anyone interested in these should contact me either through the S.C.A. office or at my home, 03552 49871.

*George Cleland, Convener,
Grantully Development Committee*

ACCESS

Following the publication of the River Guide containing agreements with landowners there was some opposition from members of the Association. Although those members have been partially assured that their rights have not been discarded there still exists a justifiable worry that we may give too much and receive too little in return.

So far there is no evidence of this and access and facilities on the Tweed and Findhorn have been extended following these agreements. Should members find that such agreements are unduly restrictive or being misinterpreted by landowners then they should inform headquarters as soon as possible. There should be free access to all rivers in Scotland outside the fishing season and on Sundays. This should include convenient parking sites as well as access and egress points. This is the view of the Scottish Canoe Association and the Scottish Landowners Federation. Within the fishing season, then difficulties arise as the two sports can conflict and the agreements get more detailed, but if the river is in spate then the landowner should permit access to it.

Please note that we do not relinquish at any time our contention that there is a right of navigation down all rivers, but that we agree to exercise that right in exchange for access over land.

Mutual discussions between the Scottish Landowners Federation, the Salmon Angling Association and ourselves have been taking place. These discussions have concentrated on areas of agreement with a view to reducing conflict between the various interests. So far they have been productive, but firm proposals have not been fully agreed and would require ratification by the separate Associations.

Much less co-operation has been received from the Nature Conservancy, The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the North of Scotland Hydro Board. These bodies refuse to enter into discussions about canoeing and therefore any suggestions from members about our relationships with these bodies would be welcomed.

SCOTTISH CANOE OFFICE

While many non members of the SCA are making good use of our office in Edinburgh and are keeping our Administrator, Margaret, Winter busy, it is surprising how little contact SCA members have with the office.

Undoubtedly the office must provide a service to non-canoeists and non-members of the Association, but its main purpose is to look after the interests of its members and as a sizeable part of your subscription goes towards running the office, in general (and Margaret's salary in particular!) you should not hesitate phoning or calling in if you have anything you want sorted out, or want advice or help on any aspect of canoeing.

If you are in Edinburgh during the day at any time feel free to drop in to discuss what's happening in canoeing in your part of the country, or more to the point, what's not happening and what you would like to see done about it!

The other members of the executive of the SCA are also available for comment and/or criticism of canoeing matters:

SCA Office: 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AU. Tel: 041-226 4401.

MEMBERSHIP

Most of you will now have received the Autumn '81 issue of Canoe Focus which contained a British Canoe Union 1982 membership application form. Despite repeated promises from the hierarchy of the British Canoe Union that Scottish members would not receive these forms this year, it would appear that once again, the request has fallen on deaf ears. Please ignore the British Canoe Union form; you will receive a Scottish Canoe Association renewal form in early November along with the notice of the Annual General Meeting. The Scottish Canoe Association membership year opens in October and runs until December of the following year and, therefore, all 1981 cards are valid until December 31st 1981. Those of you who have already returned the British Canoe Union form will have their memberships processed as soon as the new membership year opens.

COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING COACHING

COACHING COMMITTEE

STANDARDS SEMINAR 1981

Blairvadach Outdoor and Sailing Centre
Saturday 7th November 1981

The Coaching Committee has made arrangements for the Second National Standards Seminar to take place, as a one-day working conference, on Saturday, 7th November 1981. The Seminar will be time-tabled from 9.30 am to 9.30 pm, approximately, and is open to all members of the Coaching Scheme in Scotland.

Presently, the programme is intended to include working groups on Star Tests, Instructor's Awards and Canoe Life Saving Awards, but the Coaching Committee will be pleased to consider any additional areas which members of the Coaching Scheme feel should be included in the programme. The cost, to each member, will be £5.00 which will include lunch and an evening meal, also morning and afternoon tea/coffee breaks. Arrangements can be made for members who wish to book overnight accommodation for Friday 6th November 1981.

Forty places have been booked for the Seminar and it is hoped that each Regional Coaching Panel will have a good representation. Members wishing to attend should complete the attached pro-forma and return it to: John Hall, Coaching Secretary, 4 Main Street, Heiton, Kelso.

*Elwyn S. Rees
Chairman Coaching Committee*

**GRAMPIAN, NAIRN & SPEY VALLEY
REGIONAL COACHING AREA
MEET ON 26th/27th SEPTEMBER 1981**

Twelve members of the Coaching Scheme from Grampian, Nairn and Spey Valley Regional Coaching Area attended a very enjoyable sea canoeing meet at Loch Eil OB Centre, Corpach, Fort William on the weekend 26th/27th September 1981. This meet was led by Anne Williams, celebrated authoress, and initiated by Sam Crymble, RCO, Glenmore Lodge. Thanks must go to these for their efforts and also to Richard Townsend and Alan Kimber from Loch Eil for the provision of equipment, accommodation etc.

The Saturday provided an opportunity to sample a variety of boats, from the nippy Loch Eil Nordkapps to Anne's own friendly little tub, the "ice floe". This took place on Lochs Eil and Linnhe in atrocious weather. An evening discussion and slide show followed.

On the Sunday a longer trip was undertaken around the Lismore/ Appin area, again in inclement conditions.

The meet which was a very informal "get together", rather than an intensive course was on the whole successful and is to be followed by a surfing meet on the Scottish East Coast sometime in the future.

*Ron Woodwork
Temporary Correspondent*

STANLEY WEIR, RIVER TAY, PERTHSHIRE

A recent nasty accident to a paddler at the above weir has highlighted the great amount of care which must be exercised by paddlers using this stretch of the River Tay.

The weir was blown up approximately 10 years ago, leaving three distinct chutes through which the paddler can pass. The weir was constructed of concrete reinforced with metal spikes, many of which still protrude from the rubble on the river bed, and are particularly dangerous in low water conditions. The right hand chute is the most badly affected by this hazard, but ironically it also appears to be the easiest for beginners to negotiate.

The Scottish Canoe Association is looking into ways of eliminating the worst of these hazards, but until this is done, groups and individuals should exercise extreme care when negotiating this stretch of river.

NAVIGATION COURSES FOR CANOEISTS

Blairvadach Sailing and Outdoor Centre is running two weekend navigation courses especially designed for the sea and touring canoeists, the first from 20th to 22nd November 1981 and the second from 23rd to 25th April 1982.

The courses will be mainly theoretical although practical sessions may be employed if they prove useful to the course.

The fee for a weekend is £20 for those aged 18 and over and £10 for those under 18 (minimum age 15), and the content will include: chart and map study; use of coastal pilots; weather and forecasts; speed and distance; tides and making allowances; compasses and their uses.

Further details and application forms are available from The Warden, Blairvadach Sailing and Outdoor Centre, Rhu, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire G84 8NN.

GRAMPIAN REGION COURSES

In order to make realistic plans for next season's coaching courses the LCO Speyside would like to hear from anyone in Grampian or Highland Region who is likely to require any of the following:

- Proficiency Assessment
- Senior Instructor Training

He would also like to hear from any Trainee Instructor in either Region who has not received a questionnaire form regarding their plans and wishes for Senior Instructor Assessment.

Contact: Allan Bantick, The Warren, Woodside Avenue, Grantown-on-Spey, Morayshire. Tel: 0479-2263/2794.

TOURING TOURING TOURING TOURING TOURING

CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE SHETLAND ISLANDS

Have you ever explored all or part of the Shetland coastline? If you have, Charles O'Connell, 9 The Green, Kirksanton, Millom, Cumbria, would like to hear from you. He is planning to circumnavigate the Shetlands next year and would welcome any information about previous trips and if in fact there has ever been a circumnavigation before. Mr. O'Connell is anticipating TV coverage for his trip and is keen to ensure that all his facts are correct — so come on all you lone touring types, rack your brains and contact Mr. O'Connell with any titbits of information you may possess.

TOURING COMMITTEE

CRUISING SHIELD — LOG COMPETITION

1. The Cruising Shield of the Association shall be awarded annually to the Author/Co-Authors of a Log, Essay or other written or Graphical account which is judged to be the best record or description of a tour by Canoe.

1.1 The competition is restricted to members of the Scottish Canoe Association.

1.2 Entry is by submission of the material together with a note of name, address and membership number to: The Secretary, Scottish Canoe Association, Touring Committee, 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AU.

1.3 Entries are to be received at the above address by 30th November 1981.

1.4 The tour described must be factual, have taken place in the 12 months ending in 30th September and must describe a tour in which the Author/Co-Authors have taken place.

1.5 Entry to the competition shall be free of charge. All postage, insurance and other like costs are to be paid by the entrant.

1.6 Copyright on the submission will be retained by the Entrant.

2. Judging shall be by a panel of three Judges who shall be The Chairman and one other member of the Scottish Canoe Association Touring Committee and a nominee of the Scottish Canoe Association Executive, who in reaching their decision shall take account of the following:

2.1 The nature and relative merit of the tour described.

2.2 The quality of presentation of the submission.

2.3 The suitability of the submission for publication.

2.4 Any other factors the panel may deem relevant.

3. The object of the competition shall be to encourage the recording and publication of accounts of canoe tours so that the widest possible benefits in educational and entertainment terms are made available to canoeists and to the general public.

1982 TOURING CALENDAR

Anyone intending to offer open trips in the Touring Calendar for 1982 should notify the Touring Secretary at the Edinburgh office before 31st October so that a calendar can be prepared for the AGM.

Details of organisers' name, address and telephone number as well as trip standard should be included.

David Shaw
Touring Committee — Chairman

**SEA CANOEING CONFERENCE
6-7 FEBRUARY 1982**

This conference is for sea canoeists of all standards from beginner to expert to meet together and discuss the many varied facets of this sport.

The conference will run on very informal lines and ample time will be left for canoeists to meet and talk among themselves. A number of slide lectures have been arranged in order to stimulate discussion and a selection of canoes will be available on the Sunday morning for anyone wishing to try a particular design.

It is hoped that course members will bring along their own equipment for others to see, especially any unusual items of gear which they have found valuable, also any sea boats which are different!

The fee for this course will be £13.80 — to be paid at the time of booking. (Cheques and postal orders to be made payable to Strathclyde Regional Council).

Application should be sent together with fee of £13.80 per person to The Warden, Blairvadach Sailing & Outdoor Centre, Rhu, Helensburgh, Dunbartonshire, G84 8NN.

VICE-PRESIDENT

The Vice-Presidency is a curiously ineffectual position. Possibly its nearest equivalent would be court jester as a proponent of ideas without the responsibility for carrying them out. In this vein I propose to release some suggestions that may — or may not — be taken seriously.

The 'Guardian' described the Bala World Championships as a cross between a mini-Olympics and a Rotary club raft race. In view of the expense and effort that had been put in — as well as our splendid C2 representatives — this is not flattering, but is it justified? In terms of organisation no, but we must look deeper than this. For the non-canoeist slalom and white water are incredibly boring. The excitement wanes after the first three have passed down the course and by the time number 107 comes . . . For skiing a major part is the apres ski, but apres canoeing is generally a fairly dismal occasion. Therefore, as a spectator sport we must change our events. The slalom could consist of heats with possibly 10 canoeists setting off down a course of 20 gates of which they only have to pass through 10. Certain sets of upstream and reverse gates being made mandatory with compulsory right of way being given to downstream contenders. Not really suitable for lowline highly pointed slalom boats, but the excitement as the entrants contested over gates set on various and equal courses down the river would be considerable.

This is the Year of the Disabled and there is continuing interest in encouraging children to take up the sport. However, the biggest problem that we have to face in the future with automation and unemployment is the vast increase in leisure time of the older person. Canoeing is primarily a recreation sport rather than competitive and therefore is ideally suited to the less than perfect reflexes and muscles of parents and older people who also have the material assets to purchase their own equipment and transport. Should we not encourage the formation of clubs and promote coaching for this group of the population as well as the children? Furthermore the promotion of canoeing as a family sport would do more to aid its development and popularity than concentrating on a much more limited age group.

When did you last cross Scotland? This year a group of cadets from Hull are hiking and canoeing from Killcrankie to Mallaig and a brief look at the map shows that Scotland is crossed in many places by chains of lochs and rivers that with a little portaging can be made into a route. Let SCAN know your route, time and miles covered — together with commentary and photographs if possible. It might be possible to persuade the Scottish Canoe Association to give an award for the best each year. A silver midge trophy?

Did you know that the Scottish Canoe Association has a budget of many thousands of pounds each year? This is for development of your sport so are you missing out somewhere? Whether you live in Thurso or Dumfries you not only have a right to question how the money is spent, but also to make a case for some to come to you. Coaching, competition, touring or forming new clubs are all entitled to their share and it is up to the individual as a representative of the Association to make his or her voice heard. This, I hope, will give our Treasurer something to think about as he paces the floor at nights with his new daughter!

John Fryer

**ITEMS ON SALE FROM THE
SCOTTISH CANOE ASSOCIATION OFFICE**

	Members	Non-Members
British Canoe Union Coaching Handbooks	£5.75	£7.50
British Canoe Union Log Books	75p	£1.00
Scottish Canoe Association — Pin/lapel/ brooch types available	£1.00	—
Scottish Canoe Association ties	£2.00	—
Guide to Scottish Rivers	Free	75p
'Start Canoeing' by Anne Williams (Comprehensive guide to the sport)	£3.95	£3.95
Star Test badges	50p	50p
Star Test certificates	50p	50p
Proficiency badges —		
Cloth	80p	£1.00
Metal	40p	50p

FOR SALE

Commonwealth Championship T-Shirts. Medium size only: £2 each. Contact Margaret Winter, 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AU. (Tel: 031-226 4401).

SPRINT AND MARATHON COMMITTEE

Sprint and Marathon Committee, invite all paddlers past, present and future to an open day at Stirling University on Sunday, 13th December 1981, at 11.00 hours until 17.00 hours.

Video film from the World and Commonwealth Championships will be shown.

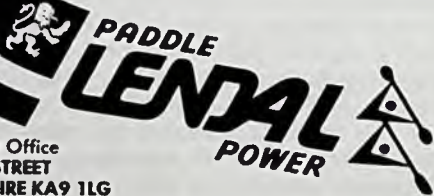
Water is available at Airthry Loch for Crew and Canadian Canoe Boat training and also use of the conditioning room is available.

Lendal Products will have available different types of blades to try on the water as well as other products.

In attendance to offer help and guidance will be Scottish and British Canoe Union Coaches, Drew Samuel, Andy Morton, Dave Maycock, George Miell, Harold Young and Ed Davidson, ex-Olympic paddlers Alastair and Marianne Wilson and for general fitness and diet Nigel and Maureen Pennie and Anne Davidson.

PADDLE POWER

LENDAL meet the needs of all canoeists from beginners to Olympic standard paddlers. They have introduced a completely new range of fibreglass bladed paddles for 1981 including the POWERMASTER. The polyester blade is of sandwich construction, giving exceptionally high strength with low weight. A completely new construction technique has been developed for this range and they can be supplied with glassfibre, carbon or alloy shaft. Asymmetric blades with stabilizing rib and contoured back, suitable for marathon, sprint, river racing, sea paddling etc. Available in safety colours for sea canoeing and can be supplied with a centre joint if required. The kit range comprises a flat and curved fibreglass blade which can be supplied separately or as an assembled paddle. In addition there is a Slalom kit paddle with multi laminate wooden blades with contoured back and PVC covered aluminium shaft. The blades can be tipped with aluminium or radiused with wooden tip. The tube can either be ovalled or plain, giving a maximum length of 212 cms. If damaged the blade can easily be replaced by post. The canoe shop run by canoeists for canoeists — look out for our van — we will be at most competitions throughout the season.



Showroom and Office
30 HUNTER STREET
PRESTWICK, Ayrshire KA9 1LG
Telephone 0292 78558

SPRINT AND MARATHON

SCOTTISH SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS Strathclyde Park Sunday 24th September, 1981

After the worst weather we had seen since leaving Denmark, Saturday's heavy rain turned to high winds and drizzle just in time for Sunday's racing. The weather caused much heart searching with the rivers in flood, "do we go for the Gold or risk running the rough water". Fortunately, most paddlers attended the Sprint Championships and a very competitive event it turned out to be with Gibby Spiers in great form. Thanks to Gibby, Paul Dimmock and Trevor Mairs from Nottingham who added to the high standard of paddling.

Garry Young and Neil Davidson had a hard day, competing in both Senior and Junior Classes, a sort of self-enforced handicapping and Garry pipping Neil for the Gold.

Allison Edwards, still glowing from her success in the Tour de Gudena, was not to be caught winning both Senior and Junior events.

Kenny Bryce showed his versatility by winning the Novice Men K1 and then racing C1, which was won by Gavin Douglas. Canadian paddling has taken off with Gavin Douglas showing the way at Nottingham recently. The young paddlers are all set to train for next season.

Promising Juniors

Shortage of C2s did not deter the young crew of Peter Maycock and Mark O'Brien from competing, being small they just used a C1 instead.

In the Espada B Class, Lindsay Blacklaws put it all together this time and won the 500 metres K1 and repeated his success in the K2 partnered by Paul O'Brien.

Andrew Maycock won the Espada A and Frazer Kinnaird had a race with the girl Espada C paddler, Fiona Smeaton, in the K500 metres.

In the open C2 500 Kenny Bryce and Kenny McNair showed the juniors how it should be done and are looking good for the future.

Ladies Excel

One of the closest finishes of the day was the Ladies K4 500 metres, in which the crew of Mille/Little/Morrison/Cowie just pipped Edwards/Kinninmonth/Robbie/Bryce, amid much cheering from the supporters.

The Espada B / C K4 3000 metres race was very close for the first 1000 metres, where the leading two crews broke free until the 2000 metres mark, when Blacklaws/O'Brien/Maycock/Brown burned for home and won convincingly. The same crew also won the Espada B & C 500 metre event.

The Open Ladies K2 was well attended with the second closest finish of the day, when Mills/Edwards narrowly beat

Kinninmonth/Little, with the new partnership of Morrison/Robbie looking good for next season.

The Veteran K1 500 was won by Colin Dunlop from the K4 Veteran Men's Bronze Medalist at the British National Championships, Ralph Duffus.

Eventful 10,000

Perhaps the most eventful race of the day was the Open Men's K2 10,000 metres final, in which four crews had to retire. The race was closely fought with four crews well together for the first 1500 metres: Mairs/Dimmock — Spiers/Young — Davidson/Christie — Montgomery/Batchelor; by the second turn with 4000 metres under their belts Montgomery/Batchelor dropped out and Fraser/Knox moved into fourth place with the field spreading out, Mairs/Dimmock 100 metres ahead of Spiers/Young and Davidson/Christie chasing hard. This position remained unchanged to the top turn with all crews now committed and no wash hanging possible. After 6000 metres, Davidson/Christie retired with cramp and Fraser/Knox moved into third place by the Grandstand turn and Bryce/McNair came into the picture. Up the back straight to the final turn with Mairs/Dimmock increasing their lead over Spiers/Young to 250 metres by the finish line.

Undaunted by their efforts in the 10,000, Young and Davidson jumped into the waiting K2 and just made the start for the Junior Men 6000 metres. Recovering their breath on the first 1500 metres, they gradually stepped up the pace to win from their clubmates, Blacklaws and O'Brien.

Trophy Winner

The prize giving followed with Maureen Pennie presenting the medals. The Young Salver for the Senior Lady and the Maureen Pennie Trophy for Junior Ladies were both awarded to Allison Edwards of Kirkcaldy amid very hearty hand clapping from the paddlers.

A vote of thanks to the organisers was proposed by Gibby Spiers and was much appreciated.

SPRINT AND MARATHON RACING COMMITTEE
Please note that the postponed K1 10,000m. Scottish Championships will take place on Saturday, October 31st, 1981 at 2pm.
For details of venue please contact Anne Davidson on telephone No. 0592-266920.

WHITE WATER RACING

MANAGER'S REPORT ON JUNIOR AND LADIES WHITE WATER RACE TEAM TOUR OF SPAIN

Team tours tend to serve two purposes. Firstly, and perhaps most importantly, they encourage competitors to train for selection and so improve the general standard of domestic competition and secondly they provide those who are selected with a wider experience than is available in Scotland. Thus, having selected the team, our aim was to provide them with international competition and training on good water.

The team consisted of Linda Morrison, Gill Robbie, Miles Forde and Ian and Alan Bownes with Kenny Fraser and Tim Liddon as competitors/coaches and David Wolfe and myself as drivers and manager.

Spain was chosen as the venue because previous experience suggested that there would be ample water and the reliable weather should encourage training.

Three events were attended at Seo D'Urgell, Grauss and Sort.

Seo D'Urgell

This was our first event and provided our first problems with organisers since they decided to change the programme order and brought the river race forward from the Monday to the Saturday. As a result myself and the two Bownes brothers missed the event by arriving on the Sunday evening and the others, after arriving at the campsite in the early morning, were awakened with the joyous news that they were due to compete in a few hours.

Anyway, they got to the start in time and raced the course blind, which proved a bit damaging on boats, but very exciting. Unfortunately, Tim and David both had to retire with damaged boats but Kenny came first and Miles ninth in the Senior men's event and Gill won and Linda came second in the Ladies event.

We spent a few more days at Seo to acclimatise ourselves to the water and rest after the trip out. These were achieved by having time trials and intervals on the race course and other rivers on the area.

Grauss

The Grauss 'Long' distance race was to take place on the next Sunday so we drove to the campsite nearest to the course and spent the next few days training on an azure blue lake. Whilst this training was on flat water it provided an opportunity to repair boats and try out different training techniques.

On the Saturday we travelled to Grauss to inspect the race courses, paddled the top gorge in the morning, which proved to be pretty exciting, and the race course in the afternoon.

The race on the Sunday was preceded by a meal with soft

drinks for the team and wine for the manager (we ought to do this at Scottish LDs!). The start was as confused as only the Spanish can arrange it with a mass start with river racers (and our team) upstream of the K1s and K2s. The result can be imagined especially since the river narrowed after about 200 yards.

Kenny Fraser won being passed only once and that by a K2, Tim was second and Miles fourth overall and second youth. In the ladies event Gill won and Linda came second.

Sort

And so to Sort, last year's Europa cup course and the big water with hopes of continued success. Unfortunately, Gill had to leave us at this point.

Numerous practice runs on the senior course soon convinced us that the water was big and wet, and a few swims soon convinced us of the need for care.

The first event was the team race so the day before we had a practice run down this course which proved to be basically flat apart from one stopper. Anyway, after a time trial to confirm our team selection we entered an 'A' and 'B' team since the event was for one class only.

Our 'A' team, Fraser, Liddon and Forde won followed in second place by the 'B' team, I & A Bownes and D Wolfe.

The next day saw Linda win the ladies event with lots of encouragement all the way down.

The senior men's event was held over the Ruopa cup course. Unfortunately, Kenny ran out of what had kept him going to now.

The results were:

MEN	
1. Varella (Esp)	22.58
2. K. Fraser	23.01
3. J. Lobo (F)	23.20
4. T. Liddon	23.38
A. Meikle (SUCC)	24.41
K. Bain (SUCC)	25.14

JUNIORS	
1. M. Forde	24.38
2. F. Weideman (D)	24.43
3. A. Bownes	24.45
4. I. Bownes	25.02

So we came home with numerous prizes and lots of hopes for the Commonwealth event.

Tom McLean

WHITE WATER RANKING LISTS

The official ranking list for the season 1980/81 has a familiar look to it, Andy Morton is on top solely because he has 5 results, despite having been beaten by Kenny Fraser on every occasion they met.

1.	A. Morton, Forth	244	(5)
2.	J. Liddon, Glasgow KC	236	(5)
3.	P. Gardner, Glasgow KC	228	(5)
4.	J. Knox, Roxburgh	227	(5)
5.	D. Wolfe, Forth	225	(5)
6.	A. Bownes (J), RWSABC	210	(6)
7.	K. Fraser, Roxburgh	200	(4)
8.	A. Murray, RWSABC	184	(5)
9.	K. Bain, Strathclyde UCC	174	(4)
10.	J. Turcan, St. Andrews UCC	173	(4)
11.	B. Scott, Roxburgh	173	(6)
12.	K. Bryce, Strathclyde UCC	161	(4)
13.	A. Eastwood, Glasgow KC	145	(3)
14.	K. McNair, Strathclyde UCC	117	(3)
15.	R. McKinnon, St. Andrews UCC	117	(3)

The figure in brackets shows the total number of races attended, although the total is taken from a competitors best 5 results. It is very evident that this system favours those attending the most events. In the case of equal points, the result obtained at the Scottish Championships has been used to decide the position. The results from Grandtully are not usually included.

Ladies K1 Ranking List

1.	G. Robbie, Forth	98	(5)
2.	L. Morrison, Forth	79	(4)
3.	D. Riddell-Black, Strathclyde UCC	72	(4)
4.	S. Craft, Strathclyde UCC	58	(4)
5.	S. Horrocks, Caldercruix	50	(3)
6.	J. Kirkland, AUCC	46	(3)
7.	S. Ward, Forth	39	(2)
8.	V. Taylor, GUCC	38	(2)

As has been reported elsewhere, the White Water Committee has decided to adopt the Melvin Swallow ranking system in an effort to overcome the shortcomings in the traditional system. The 'MS' system works in the following manner: standard race time is defined as 30 minutes, a multiplication factor is calculated which would correct the winners time to 30 minutes for each race. The times of all competitors are then multiplied by this factor and then 30 minutes is subtracted. This leaves a meaningful figure which is the time a competitor would be down on the winner after a race of 30 minutes duration.

Applying this method to the best 3 results obtained by each competition for the last season the ranking list looks like this:

1.	K. Fraser	0
2.	A. Morton	12.6
3.	A. Eastwood	46.9
4.	P. Gardner	53.7
5.	J. Knox	57.6
6.	T. Liddon	62.3
7.	D. Wolfe	82.3
8.	J. Turcan	101.4
9.	K. Bain	116.0
10.	A. Bownes	123.4
11.	K. Bryce	144.4
12.	R. Bell	146.7
13.	R. McKinnon	163.1
14.	A. Murray	172.1
15.	K. McNair	224.4

The ranking points are the average number of seconds slower than 30 minutes.

This ranking list certainly is an improvement over the previous system. However, in performing the calculations it becomes obvious that this system also has its weakness and can readily be affected by factors which do not relate to performance. Perhaps the most striking example of this is to take an event held on very flat water where the times between places become spread out such as Mackerston this year, and an event held on continuous White Water where the time differences between places are small such as at the Teith this year. If a competitor happens to have attended Mackerston (e.g.) and this is taken as one of his three events then he will be at a disadvantage compared with someone who did not attend Mackerston, but attended Teith.

The White Water Committee has several people looking into methods of preparing a ranking list and we now intend investigating using the 'MS' system in conjunction with a statistical technique which will allow for the time range of the results for an event. We are all keen to learn about variances and standard deviations and we hope to give a further report in the next issue of SCAN.

NOTES

The Wild Water Yearbook for the season 1981/82 should be distributed to all ranked paddlers within the next few weeks. Particular attention should be paid to the list of errata contained therein as it contains information relating to several Scottish events. Additional copies will be on sale through the Scottish Canoe Association Office (cost 50p and SAE) or from David Wolfe at races.

We also have on sale Wild Water Handbooks, a publication giving much useful information on training, paddling technique etc. and is to be thoroughly recommended for anyone taking part in White Water racing.

NITH RACE

The date of the Nith race has been changed to the 27th December from the date advertised in the Scottish Canoe Association calendar. The organisers are: Strathclyde University Canoe Club, c/o Athletic Union, 90 John Street, Glasgow. Over the past few years, the Nith race has not been the attraction that it once was due to the low water levels. By moving the race to the new date, statistically we have a better chance of having a good water level in the river. It is envisaged that we have a phone-in service to check on the water level on the day before the race. Further details will be available in the race information sheet from the organisers.

David Wolfe



JACK CUTHILL

Sad farewell to the Association's 'father figure'

It is with deep regret that the Association records the sudden death of its Honorary President Jack Cuthill on 5th October 1981.

Jack was a founder member of Forth Canoe Club and the Scottish Canoe Association in the 1930s. Since then he has held many posts in Forth Canoe Club, being an office-bearer for more than 45 years. He was Secretary of the Scottish Canoe Association from its inception in 1939 until 1959, during that time being largely responsible for the introduction of slalom canoeing to Scotland, as well as being the first British Canoe Union Coach appointed in Scotland. In 1960 he formed the Compass Adventure Centre in Edinburgh for disadvantaged youngsters and was heavily involved in promoting canoeing activities with the Scout and Guide Movements in Edinburgh as well as with the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Latterly Jack and his family spent much of their time writing, editing, printing and circulating Kayak Magazine, the first ever Scottish canoeing publication.

Jack's death has robbed canoeing in Scotland of its "father figure" his contribution to the development of the sport being second to none. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Betty, Gordon and David.

A. S. Ramage

Slalom Canoes

Panache, Warhorse, Stallion, Unicorn

Diolen Hull £135

Kevlar Hull £150

Phone: 031 337 1840

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Dig out the Box Brownie, dust down the telephoto, pop the instamatic in your pocket and go forth. There will be plenty of action in the canoeing world this year and we are running a competition for everyone, no matter what type or standard of photographer you are.

The competition will be in three categories which must all depict canoeing:

- (a) Best action picture
- (b) Best family/recreational picture
- (c) Best reflective picture

Suitable prizes will be awarded for the first three in each category.

The rules are simple:

- (a) Pictures must not be smaller than 6" x 4" and not larger than 12" x 10".
- (b) Each picture must have the entrants name and address and category entered for printed clearly on the back.
- (c) No photograph will be returned and they may be used by the Scottish Canoe Association in future publication without claim by the entrants.
- (d) The judges decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- (e) Winning photographs will be displayed at the 1982 Canoe Exhibition.

All entries should be sent to Mrs. Margaret Winter, Scottish Canoe Association, 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AU, not later than 30th November 1981.

MARYHILL CANOE GROUP

This group started up about six months ago. It is not a Canoe Club in the conventional sense, but rather an 'umbrella' organisation which will co-ordinate the activities of the various organisations in the North West of Glasgow which are involved in canoeing. These include - Glasgow Kayak Club, several Boys Brigade and Scout Groups, Schools etc. Also involved are representatives of a number of community organisations - Community Education Service, Maryhill Resource Centre, Maryhill Community Central Hall, Manpower Services Commission as well as representatives from local Community Councils.

Apart from the members of Glasgow Kayak Club as yet the only canoe club in Glasgow, there are very few other competent canoeists in the area so one of the first priorities of the Group is to inaugurate coaching courses, primarily for the training of instructors. As Glasgow Kayak Club is already heavily committed to its own programme of development it is not reasonable for members of that organisation to commit a large amount of time, at least on a regular basis to such a scheme. For this reason talks are taking place with the Scottish Sports Council with respect to funding for a full scale training course to run over 9 months in 1982, and to extend into 1983. Such a course will require a substantial commitment from a number of instructors and these people will be paid both a coaching fee and travelling expenses. After the first year of operation of the scheme it should be able to look after itself as more people become qualified. During the first period most efforts will be concentrated on those individuals who have already shown an interest in canoeing and/or in Social leadership (eg Scout Leaders) in order to maximise the success of the scheme.

This does not mean that other people in the area will not be able to canoe - it is hoped to make increasing use of the Forth and Clyde Canal which runs through the heart of the area and with the help of Glasgow Kayak Club a number of 'Come and try it' and open low level training sessions will be run.

The main capital project of the Group is in the acquisition of premises. About a year ago Glasgow Junior Chamber indicated its interest in supporting the Canoe Group, which was then in its formative stages. This support to take the form of a

little financial help, but mainly with supply of materials, e.g. bricks, wood etc. for building projects, and professional assistance for such projects - architects, surveyors etc.

The Manpower Services Commission also was very keen to participate under its Youth Opportunity Programme (YOP).

Initially a scheme was considered where redundant temporary classroom units from the Strathclyde Education Department would be moved to a vacant site adjacent to the Canal. This scheme was abandoned, however, when the availability on old school kitchen was intimated. This building was almost ideally situated - right in the heart of Maryhill close to many public transport routes and only 50 yards from the Forth and Clyde Canal and 100 yards from the River Kelvin. The building is a large (45 yards x 20 yards) but in a fairly dilapidated state. As soon as a lease from Strathclyde Region's Estates's Department is negotiated a team of workers from the YOP scheme is ready to move in and start work. It is intended to divide a unit into a large workshop and storage area and a well equipped meeting area for up to 100 people. In addition there will be a committee room and shower and changing facilities. When completed this building should provide a superb centre for canoeing which will serve much of Glasgow.

If anyone in the Greater Glasgow area is interested in the scheme, either helping with the Coaching scheme detailed above or who would just like to canoe with the group they should contact me either through the SCA office or at my home - tel: East Kilbride (03552) 49871.

*George Cleland, Chairman
Maryhill Canoe Group*

SCOTTISH CANOE ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL OFFICE, 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh, 031-226 4401

EXECUTIVE

President - Fred Nelson, 5 Howard Street, Falkirk, 0324 23421

Vice-President - Dr. John Fryer, Laurel Bank, Cardross, Dunbartonshire, 038-986 2320

Secretary - George Cleland, 59 Shaftesbury Court, Calderwood, East Kilbride, (H) 03552 49871, (B) 03552 20222 ext 271

Treasurer - Alasdair Torrance, 4 Ladylands Drive, Selkirk, 0750 20800

Administrator - Margaret Winter, 18 Ainslie Place, Edinburgh EH3 6AU 031-226 4401

Newsletter Editor - Andrew Manwell, 2 Kildrummy Road, Aberdeen, (H) 0224-33306, (B) 0224-40241 ext 5544