

# **KAYAK**

## **MAGAZINE**



**August 1982**

**A FORTH CANOE CLUB PUBLICATION**

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E D I T O R I A L  
\*\*\*\*\*

In this issue we have managed to piece together the accounts of our club members as members of British and Scottish Teams. 'KAYAK' as the Forth Canoe Club magazine will continue to give backing to any Scottish canoeist, especially F.C.C. members. Competition canoeists need more publicity and it is up to all concerned to do the best possible job. Top canoeists have a responsibility to make as much as possible of any success, so that they can build up the status of the sport and attract public interest and therefore sponsors.

Many of you will be reading this at Grandtully slalom. This is a Home International in addition to being a Ranking Div 1 and Premier event. The Kayak Magazine Editors wish the Scottish Team the best of luck and hope to record successes by the Scottish Team in the next issue. One would also hope that the S.C.A. magazine 'SCAN' will feature successes on its front page rather than the flop of soggy cardboard - a race which placed unnecessary strain on community relations at Grandtully.

The principal virtue of participatory sport is the building of character and the gaining of self confidence as goals are set, and then achieved by dedication. It is good therefore to see the efforts made by canoeists in helping at Grandtully, and with the construction of the new F.C.C. building at the Canal. I am glad that we are not grant-aiding and labouring towards the production of selfish Prima-donna parasites.

Most competitors come to realise that fitness and technical skills alone will not win races against someone technically equal. Training need not just be physical. It is the training of the mind to control the body which is just as important as being fit. As technical standards continue to improve, winning will be even more a test of character. There are many techniques of controlling the mind and I believe strongly that mental training should become an important feature of competition preparation. I hope that from among our number those skilled in this will come forward. I have several reading references for those interested.

D.H.C.

It is no exaggeration to say that this time next year, Marathon Racing in Scotland could be a thing of the past.

Entries have been so low this year that organisers are having thoughts about continuing with their events, and already two have been cancelled. Others have taken place with a ridiculously small number of competitors who all come away with largely meaningless prizes.

The situation could be said to be the result of demand. If more people wanted L.D., more people would do it. True - but if more people found L.D. attractive, more people would do it. A lot of fun has gone out of it - a lot of "characters" departed the scene.

The competitors arrive at the last minute, do the race and whip off because they (or often their parents) want to be elsewhere in the evening. Compare this with other sports where the competition is the prelude to an equally enjoyable social occasion among fellow competitors.

The slalom folk have more fun, and while it is recognised that we could be considering two different types of person, the main reason is because they spend a night at each venue.

Speaking to a New Zealand paddler some time back, it was interesting to hear that in that country they run at least some of their Marathons on a two day basis. Of particular interest was the fact that the second day's race is a handicap event based on the first day's results. (That sounded familiar!). Might not the Marathon Committee consider this format for use here? Fewer events (the present 16, cut to 9 or 10) - less travelling - more entries - and, hopefully, more fun.

Meantime it is misleading and irresponsible to give breathless accounts of races taking place as if all is well in the sport. More relevant is the fact that of the last six Marathons, one was cancelled through lack of response, and an average of 15 competitors contested the remaining five - and that includes the K2 Championships.

Something must be done.

\*\*\*\*\*

The K2 Championships, organised by Strathclyde University and held on Loch Lomond (13th June) resulted in an easy win for Gilbert Spiers and Gary Young (Trossachs) from Denny/Wilson (Forth) and Bryce/Meikle (Strathclyde). There were six senior starters.

\*\*\*\*\*

Good luck to the Scottish Racing Team in the Commonwealth Championships in Australia in October. The Squad is:- Lynda Morrison, Gary Young and Gilbert Spiers (Trossachs), Robert Montgomery (Irvine) and Lou Barrie (R.A.F.).

\*\*\*\*\*

A reminder to those of you who did the sponsored paddle on the Tay that your money is now overdue.

By the closing date Ron Day had received about £1,500, but hopes to be nearer his record "take" of £2,000 by the time everyone settles up.

\*\*\*\*\*

We are sorry to learn that Anne Davidson has had to resign her position as Sprint Secretary for reasons of health, and we wish her a speedy recovery.

\*\*\*\*\*

SPRINT/MARATHON (contd.)

The last thing Marathon Racing needs is dissension in its controlling body. It is disappointing, therefore, to record that when invited to report any recent developments for this issue, Alistair Denny (Marathon Secretary) felt obliged to decline. Apparently all is not sweetness and light in the Committee, and Alistair, naturally, doesn't want the dirty linen washed in public.

It would be too much to expect to form a number of individuals into a committee and get unanimity on every issue. Nor would that be desirable. But, reading between the lines, it appears that at the moment there is considerable disagreement for the sake of it, vested interests being pursued and personality clashes intruding into proceedings.

Undoubtedly the Sprint/Marathon Committee is comprised of a dedicated group with the interests of racing at heart. They devote a large amount of time and energy to that end. Human nature being what it is, they cannot be blamed for attempting to further their own interests, either personal or club. But when these interests conflict to the extent that opposing factions cannot work together for the common good, the sport will suffer - and the sport is suffering.

It has been said that the Committee have devoted most of their time to Sprint matters this season and it is here that most contention has arisen. Has the time come to form separate Sprint and Marathon Committees?

\*\*\*\*\*

STOP PRESS Nice to be able to end on a more optimistic note by reporting a greatly improved turnout at the Forth and Clyde Marathon (15th August) notable for the rare appearance in a "K" boat of Neil Baxter, even rarer, that of Jock Young, and, rarest of all (first and last!) of Gordon Anderson; it also saw the welcome re-appearance of Pete Easson. Kenny Bryce swelled the ranks with a Strathclyde University group making their debuts in racing, and we even had a sprint C2 (Willie Reichenstein and Gavin Douglas) complete the 'short' (8 miles) course.

Principal Results:-

Men's K1	Div 1.	Andy Morton	(Forth)
	Div 2.	Steve Murphy	(Irvine)
	Div 3.	Tom McLean	(Indep.)
K2		Easson/Baxter	(Forth)
Ladies K1	Div 1.	Margaret Kinninmonth	(Kirkcaldy)
	Div 2.	Drusilla Riddle-Black	(Strath.Uni.)

\*\*\*\*\*

A STORY: Andy Morton told a nice wee story the other day, which might be appropriate to recount here.....

When H.M.S. Yarmouth came back from the Falklands and was making its way up to Rosyth, it was met by something like 100 yachts of all shapes and sizes, and ONE CANOE. Yes, you've guessed. Andy Morton with canoe dressed overall with Union Jack and slogans of welcome.

He said it was an amazing scene - the Fire Boats with high jets of water making patterns against a back drop of the two Forth Bridges, and the Forth Road Bridge packed with people.

That was some welcome home!

The Europa Cup is a championship held over three events in different countries and encompasses both slalom and wild water racing. In each individual class i.e. Men's K1, Ladies K1, C1 and C2, points are awarded for placings with 1 point going to the winner and maximum points to the paddler placed last. Although six paddlers from each country can be entered in each class, only three nominated paddlers count towards the Europa cup and these must be the same for all events. At the end of the competition, points are added up and obviously the country with the least points wins. The results for the whitewater team are then pooled with those for slalom and the overall winner decided.

This year, Forth C.C. had three members in the G.B. Europa Cup slalom team: Jock, Bluebell and Jane Wilson; and Gill Robbie paddled in the G.B. white water team although unfortunately not as a nominated paddler. Gill did very well in her events, coming around the 12th/13th position in them all.

On the slalom side, the first event was in Tacen, Yugoslavia on a semi-artificial course with a rather hair-raising top section involving three very large stoppers. Photos of Jock and Bluebell going through gate 3 showed one foot of boat at the back and a suggestion of a helmet elsewhere - the rest was white! Results for the G.B. team here were fairly good with every member receiving a medal either for the individual or team events.

The next event for the Cup was at Lofer in Austria. Here the water was not as big and the course very fair. This event Richard Fox won with a brilliant run 9 seconds faster than anyone else. Liz Sharman won her 2nd Europa Cup event, once more in a convincing style.

The third event and the one that F.C.C. members did best in, was at Augsburg in W.Germany. Augsburg is the artificial slalom site made for the 1972 Olympics and involves some exciting, if rather boily, water. Here in the Ladies K1, once more Liz won, but this time Jane managed to stay calm and come 6th (4th Europa Cup as two girls were not nominated paddlers). The Ladies won a second silver medal for team events. Jock and Bluebell had a great second run that brought them into a silver medal position, their best position in the Europa Cup.

Overall in the Europa Cup, G.B. won out of the slalomists, but when combined with the white water results, we came 3rd. West Germany won overall. Richard Fox and Liz Sharman both became European Champions.

The 4th event for the G.B. 'A' team and also this time, the 'B' team were the Pre-Worlds, held in the year between World Championships. Susan Ward of F.C.C. was a member of the 'B' team this year at Merano, in Italy. Despite course changes at the last minute due to the high water, Jock and Bluebell had an exciting second run (see Bluebell's account on page 6/7) only to be beaten by 0.8 sec. into 2nd place. Sue Ward also did very well, coming in 12th, the second-placed British Lady. As hoped, Liz and Richard both won.

The only other comment to make is about the rain - it rained every weekend but, not only did it rain, it poured. So, be warned, take your brollies to watch our F.C.C. members at the World Champs next year.

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BRITISH TEAM COMPETITORS - CONTINENTAL TOUR - 1982. SCOTTISH MEMBERS.EUROPA CUP TEAM: Events competed - TACEN, LOFER, AUGSBURG, MERANO

K1 MEN JIM DOLAN  
 K1 LADIES JANE WILSON  
 C2 JOCK/BLUEBELL (Young/Munro)

PRE-WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS TEAM - MERANO

K1 LADIES - SUSAN WARD

BRITISH YOUTH 'A' TEAM - SPITTAL

K1 MEN - TONY LEAVER

BRITISH YOUTH 'B' TEAM - MEZZANA

K1 MEN - ANDREW BARKHAM

BRITISH 'B' TEAM - LIPTOVSKY MIKULAS

K1 MEN - NEIL BAXTER

RESULTS:-

K1 MEN 1st overall Richard Fox G.B.  
 K1 LADIES " Liz Sharman G.B.  
 C1 MEN " David Hearne U.S.A.  
 C2 MEN " Struder/Rudin Switzerland.

BRITISH RESULTS - EUROPA CUP

		TACEN	LOFER	AUGSBURG	OVERALL and No. competing
<u>K1 MEN</u>	Richard Fox	7th	1st	2nd	1st of 41 kayaks
	Roger Manwaring	6th	32nd	24th	20th
	Jim Dolan	8th	22nd	19th	13th
<u>K1 LADIES</u>	Liz Sharman	1st	1st	1st	1st of 18 kayaks
	Sue Garriock	2nd	11th	10th	5th
	Jane Wilson	14th	12th	4th	12th
<u>C1</u>	Martyn Hedges	7th	3rd	4th	4th of 23 C1s
	Jes Taylor	19th	8th	8th	11th
	Robert Doman	12th	18th	14th	14th
<u>C2</u>	Young/Munro	8th	10th	2nd	5th= of 19 C2s
	Jamieson/Williams	15th	2nd	14th	12th
	Smith/Smith	11th	16th	15th	15th

PRE-WORLDS - MERANO

K1 MEN 1. Richard Fox C2 1. GARVIS/GARVIS (USA)  
K1 LADIES 1. Liz Sharman 2. Young/Munro  
 12. Susan Ward (2nd GB lady)  
 29. Jane Wilson

FOR YOUTH TEAM RESULTS SEE TONY LEAVER'S STORY p. 10.SLALOM EUROPA CUP WINNERS

1st G.B. 157 points  
 2nd Checkoslo- 284 "  
       vakia  
 3rd W.Germany 324 "

SLALOM/W.W. (combined)

1st W.Germany 547 points  
 2nd France 636 "  
 3rd G.B. 988 "

Although G.B. showed their dominance in the slalom field, West Germany proved to have a stronger overall team.



Fifteen minutes to go. I get the paddles and walk down the gravel slope to the river. Most of the other crews are on the water. As I reach the bottom of the slope Jock passes me down the boat and we both carry it to the launching platform. Neither of us speaks.

We place the boat on the water and get in carefully, making sure that every detail is attended to.. We take our blades and paddle across to the other bank and pick up some gravel to clear the grease from our hands, arms and paddle shafts.

Ten minutes to go. Paddling about we loosen up without a word being spoken. We both know what we have to do. We think about our first run and how we almost missed gate 6 and fiftied gate 7. A slow time was no help either.

Five minutes to go. The seeding means that all the other British crews have gone. The start of a World Championships or even a Pre-Worlds is a lonely place. We paddle to the side and Jock speaks us down the course with all the alterations from our first run added. I look up at the walkway beside the river and I see Neil Baxter and Graham MacKereth and temporarily I relax.

The Garvis brothers leave the start. Reigning World Champions they attack the course from the start and I watch them past gate 6. They're going well. "Thirty seconds" says the starter and with this I turn to the start clock watching the seconds tick by.

I quickly run through the course in my own mind once again. A loud bleep brings me back. Ten seconds. "Good luck" I say out loud. Some for Jock but mainly for me.

"Bleep, Bleep, Bleep, Bleep - GO"

I drive through the electronic beam and we're away. No nerves now. I watch the first fall coming up with gate 1 on the lip of the fall. We drop over the fall and I crossbow as we drive into gate 2 under the red pole and into the breakout. One stroke and we clear the gate. I feel good but I think ahead to gate six....Gate 3 Reverse cleared and high into 4 breakout. Again we drive together down towards gate 5. Line up for 6. I must take the boat further right - we're going to miss it. I keep pulling and I hear the sound of metal hitting rock as Jock punts off a boulder and the boat shoots into the eddy. We've made it. Exit six and surf the wave. Drive back through Gate 7R and we clear it.

Then all I hear is "Up, Up, Up" and I can feel a crowd of people running down the bank. I hear them shouting and I work harder and harder. We fly through Gates 8, 9, 10.

Everything starts to become very painful. We clear 11 and leave the helping shouts behind. "Concentrate on the gates" I speak to myself. The next gate I recall was 15 breakout. As we approached we were off line and I had the choice of a) chicken out and keep the gate clear, or b) have guts and go harder at it. Since a) would have meant thinking, I chose b) and my life's best breakout just happened.

Out of 15, driving through 16, we were now confident, but at 17R we stuck in the eddy and lost two seconds. 18, 19, 20 and 21 passed quickly and we broke out into 22. I put my bow rudder in and pulled. We went under the red pole but the boat kept slipping downstream away from the gate. The crowd on the bridge knew we were on a good run, but all I could see was my gate, and time slipping away. We worked for an eternity and drove out of the gate.

23 passed. 24 was just another gate. There were no more problem sections, 25, 26R. We were on to a clear run. Position for 27, 28, 29. Drive for the finish through 30.

"CLUNK"

I knew the sound. Our tail had just come up under a pole on gate 30.

The finish was only 20 metres away and I felt like crying or screaming but I worked harder trying to make up the five second penalty in the last four seconds. Impossible.

We crossed the light beam and I beat my fist on the front deck. If only we hadn't hit the last gate.

As I stood on the podium at the medal ceremony I thought "just what does 0.84 of a second look like?"

Canoeing at world level I find often exciting, seldom satisfying and always frustrating, but it's an experience which has changed my life and I feel has given my life something of a purpose. Maybe it might change yours?!

Editor's Note: Anyone who has ever competed cannot fail to have identified closely with this account of that strangely unreal state of existence you enter when you are on a competition run. The event was MERANO PRE-WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1982 - ITALY and the C2 Event medals went to:

GARVIS - GARVIS - USA - GOLD  
 YOUNG - MUNRO - GBR - SILVER  
 STRUDER - RUDIN - SWISS - BRONZE.

The event was upset by torrential rain which raised the water level by four feet. The team event was cancelled and all the competitions were held on the Sunday, after the water had subsided. In the ladies event Susan Ward was 12th and Jane Wilson 29th.

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#### CANOEISTS' COMPENDIUM OF MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

A new book is soon to be published which includes details of not just expeditions, or mammoth distances, but details of rivers and seas that the average paddler may wish to undertake. A section of the book deals with the new designs now on the market, also with the host of new equipment that can compliment the paddler; another section deals with the history of the canoe, the earliest known expeditions, and an intriguing chapter on the use of canoes in warfare in the 19th and 20th centuries.

The book already has over 200 entries, but the editors feel that there are many canoeists/kayakists all over the world who have undertaken significant trips or even have unwittingly broken a record, yet have received no recognition of their achievement. The Editors are looking for claims in the following categories.

1. Major Expeditions. Also any first descents and record attempts on rivers and inland waterways.
2. Sea canoeing, also major journeys, open sea crossings etc.
3. Surfing and Tidal Bores.
4. Exploratory and transcontinental journeys.

All claimants must complete a questionnaire which can be obtained from The Editor (U.K.) 238 Birmingham Road, Redditch, Worcs B97 6EL. Please send a 4" x 9" envelope and include a note which briefly explains your claim so that the relevant documents may be sent to you.

Tony Leaver, Andrew Barkham, Jock and Tina, who had been abroad for two weeks previously, met the minibus in Vichy. Those travelling in the minibus from Scotland (on Friday 23rd July) were - Morag Boyd, John Young Sen. Alistair Currie, Wee Bruce frae Brechin, and wee Gordon Clark - oh, and a French student who cadged a lift.

The following had been abroad for four weeks previously on the S.U.S.F. trip to Spain, and had been dropped off in Vichy..... Susan Ward, Gareth Davies, Sheelagh Malone, Keith Brown, Gordon Anderson, Mark Stoddart, and John Reid M.C.P. (wasp exterminator extraordinaire).

On the journey out, the minibus exhaust had to be repaired - this is where John Young senior came in handy. He was on the trip as 2nd driver and, with his vast experience of such things, sorted the exhaust, a wing mirror and the driver's seat.

When the minibus reached France, the French student was asked to ask for directions (or something) and believe it or not, without thinking, she asked in English.

After a 14½ hour trip from Augsburg, our group in the car reached Vichy after dark. Having followed the directions to the slalom site, they paused at the side of the road to ask for directions from a 'local guy' who seemed to be out jogging. The 'jogger' turned out to be Gareth, sporting a Spanish suntan, who had seen us from the campsite.

Vichy turned out to be an ideal holiday spot - sorry - training site.....(if you have steel tips on your paddles). The water was not too big or boily, with some reasonable falls and eddies, and a couple of stoppers that ate Andy and Bruce. The water could be (but probably shouldn't have been) turned off by anyone, at the top of the course, by raising a metal barrier at the push of a button. Training was carried out in two groups, each group on the water an hour at a time. Each person in the first group was being coached and timed by someone in the other group, and they swapped over for the second hour.

Video was used, but the vital car battery lead, with which to power the portable T.V., was missing. We were able to use a room in the Vichy Sports Centre one night to watch the video, but the video was useless for the rest of the holiday - sorry - trip, without the telly to play back the film.

The squad next made an unplanned trip to Austria to paddle the Otztallerache, the Inn and the Sanna. The weary mini-bus occupants arrived at the campsite in Imst around midnight, after an 18 hour journey across France, Switzerland (not forgetting Lichtenstein) and Austria.

At 9.00 the next morning they set off for the village of Otz. The spectacular Grade 6 torrent upstream of the village was inspected and photographed, then 9 boats got on the water, watched by 2 dozen assorted tourists and locals. Further downstream, below a weir (which the 9 portaged) Sheelagh, Mark and Wee Bruce joined the others. Next meeting place with the 'back-up team' was just above the confluence of the Otz and the Inn. Poor Wee Bruce had been gobbled by a stopper not long after the weir. He had gallantly rolled, but the stopper won. His boat was 'swum' down to the confluence and W.B. walked "over a' these hills" to the minibus. The rest ploughed on down the Inn to Haiming.

After a long lunch break, back at the Imst campsite the group got ready for an early evening trip down the Sana. Unfortunately a heavy traffic jam in the Landeck direction made this plan impracticable and it was decided that we would turn back and do the Imst to Haiming section of the Inn. By good luck the Inn had 'come up' slightly, which apparently made the river so much more exciting that they didn't stop talking about 'that wave' all evening.

Next morning we packed up and drove to Augsburg. The slalom site

at Augsburg is a 'canalised' river which is fast, narrow and boily, with walls which "jump out and stoat ye on the heid" (says Tony), "and you swim next to them at times."

By this time various limbs attached to members of the squad were showing signs of stress. There were the usual wrists, elbows and shoulders, but the injury to beat all others was Keith's knee. The first we knew about it was when he started walking like a member of the Ministry of Silly Walks. He decided that he had better get it seen to, so we took him to a hospital. Nearly 3 hours later he emerged in plaster from the tips of his toes to 6 inches above the knee. What was wrong with it? Well, the doctors appeared to be saying it was bruised, and the 'stookie' was there to stop him bending his knee. But Keith reckons it was poisoned by a wee bit of fibreglass.

I wish I had been there when the litter bins were emptied in a certain layby in Germany, and they discovered a white, leg-shaped object made of plaster and bandages.....

\*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*                      \*\*\*

### Tony's Story about the YOUTH TEAM

Tony Leaver.

Neil, the Pix, and I left - oh sorry - Neil, the Pix, Muttley and I left for a weekend's training on the Washburn at the beginning of July. Neil and I were then left in Leeds (without the Mutt!) for a week's training before leaving with the Youth Team. Well, after a week of Roxy music, coffee, bars of chocolate, a crazy cleaning lady and not an exceptional amount of paddling, we set off for Augsburg.

The group consisted of 7 English paddlers, 2 coaches and yours truly. We arrived in Augsburg 26 hours after leaving Leeds, and 2 days later we moved to Spittal via Rosenheim where we gained a manager, a coach and a flashy new trailer.

It was hot in Spittal, and there were a couple of lakes nearby with topless beaches, hence we all decided to rest up early for the event!

Next came the event, along with an organisation which was not unlike a low key novice event. The course was hard, physically, i.e. it had sprints in it which might have merited W/W racers rather than slalom boats, and only one 3 stroke break out, out of 8.

The day of the event was great.....good wet Scottish weather. First runs went well barring me being late for my first run. Second runs made no improvement, however, but we won the team event in fine style - 19 seconds ahead of the rest.

The following day we left Spittal and began to go our separate ways.....see Tina's wee piece about the Scottish trip.

#### MEN'S K1 YOUTH

1. Miso Cizman	Jugo poof	216.1
2. Mel Jones	GB	218.3
3. Rob Wright	GB	220.4
4. Tony Leaver	GB	220.5
5. Rob Welsh	GB	222
7. Brian Melia	GB	
15. Andy Gladwin	GB	

#### LADIES K1 YOUTH

1. Clare Pallet	GB.
3. Gail Allen	GB

#### OPEN AUSTRIAN SLALOM K1 CHAMPS.

1. Neil Baxter	GB
----------------	----

TEAM EVENT was won by 3 GB Youths.

#### Editor's note

Neil Baxter went with the Youth Team as Team Coach. He told us that he had not intended to paddle, but when he saw there was an Open event, he entered, and won it! What a star! (his own words!)

By the way, just who are Pix and Muttley? We may be wrong, but Jane Wilson and Gerry Moffat were there.

During the month of May this year a new type of canoe club in the Forth area was launched by Ron Day and Neil Black of Dunfermline College of Physical Education. It was a canoe club especially for disabled people.

The first aim was to introduce them to the sport by inviting them along to the college every Tuesday for four weeks to teach them the very basics of canoeing, in the swimming pool. Then sometime in the autumn we hoped to start a canoe club which would run permanently every week including perhaps a trip down the Tweed. Some of those attending showed great potential to go on to sit Star Tests, if given the chance.

The response from the disabled people was very good for the first four weeks, then it seemed to drop altogether, either through lack of interest or lack of publicity. Another cause of the fall in attendance could be attributed to the few numbers of instructors.....

When helping disabled people in a sport such as canoeing, an almost one to one ratio must be applied. This, for many of the weeks, was not possible. This was a great disappointment to many of them because it meant that they could only have a short time in the canoe each evening.

In the February "KAYAK" Ron Day asked for volunteers to help and it is a great pity that paddlers in Forth and the Edinburgh area did not take up this challenge.

Please, if you do have the odd Tuesday evening free, telephone Ron Day at 333.429 and he will tell you all about it. Also, if you are disabled and wish to try canoeing, just telephone Ron and he will advise you.

*~~~~~*

#### CRAIGLOCKHART RAFT RACE AND DISCO

SUNDAY, 31st OCTOBER, 1982. 1.30p.m.

This Forth Canoe Club event will take place on CRAIGLOCKHART POND adjacent to Craiglockhart Sports Centre, Colinton Road, Edinburgh.

There will be two types of race; the first will be a straight sprint of 120 metres, and the second an obstacle race.

The obstacle race will consist of a slalom course during which one of the lady members of the crew must be lifted over a 5 feet high rope which will be stretched over the pond.

The first heat will be at 1.30 p.m. and the Final at approximately 5p.m.

Entry forms and regulations etc. can be obtained from Craiglockhart Sports Centre, or from the Secretary, F.C.C. (ENTRY FEE £10 per event.)

Help will be needed from F.C.C. members on the day for marshalling, judging, etc. so please keep the date in mind.

DISCO This will take place after the raft races, in the sports centre. It will be licensed and will start at 7 p.m. and finish at 11 p.m.

All prizes will be presented during the disco.

Disco cost will be £1 payable at the door.

ENTRIES FOR THE EVENT CLOSE 1st OCTOBER.

## SOCIAL, PERSONAL &amp; OTHERWISE

\*\*\*\*\*

Neil Baxter has vividly recounted how, on a continental tour, one is surrounded by English voices and, of course, the clamour of Continental tongues. Neil continues....."One day while putting canoes on the trailer I said 'Och Bert, a cannae git this bo-at in!'.....Andrew Barkham came running out between some cars and threw himself down on his knees..... "Neil"....."say that again,....gasp" "What?" I said.... "Och a cannae....." so I did.....he was so overcome after not hearing a Scots voice for two weeks we had to bring him round with smelling salts."

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Graham Tiso shows what a discerning businessman he is by employing two of our club members in his establishment - the Luscious Louise (Belle of St.Clements) and the Fabulous Fiona (Pride of the 'Pans).

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Thanks to Louise Henderson and Fraser Simon for providing instruction at Craiglockhart on Monday evenings, enabling so many to pass their star tests, and to Scott Balfour for conducting them. Tuition is continuing with a view to having another test evening at the end of August.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

We don't claim to know what this is all about, but we print it as requested:-

"Alastair. Cheque received - letters & photos destroyed. G."

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

It was disappointing that only one entrant in the Tay Leukaemia Marathon was sponsored, the remainder chosing to pay the £2 entry fee (one of them actually commenting on the cost).

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Neil Baxter claims to be the first person ever to paddle BACK UP Stanley Weir. Also from Grandtully Bridge to Aberfeldy campsite. Any challenges welcome!

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Under consideration by the S.C.A. is a proposal from the B.C.U. to raise the subscription considerably for next year - an increase of 40% being mentioned. Not too deadly when the suggestion is that the new sum would include comprehensive canoe insurance. This should actually amount to a large saving for a lot of people.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

It has been good to see Jane Wilson finding time at her own training stints on the canal to do a bit of coaching. Would that more of our 'stars' would pass on some of their knowledge and experience to the young hopefuls in the Club.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Met by chance on Rhum, while on holiday, John McArthur-Moir asks to be remembered to all his old paddling pals from the sixties. After a bit of globe trotting, John has put down roots (literally!) at Balmacara on Loch Alsh.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

We were interested to hear that the old Minute Books of the S.C.A. have turned up in "someone's" attic. Duncan Winning, Hon.President of the S.C.A., has most kindly offered to photo-copy these valuable books and papers. That is indeed a noble work Duncan.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

And now an announcement about Brian Chapman and Sherrie Carnegie .... wait for it.....

## SOCIAL, PERSONAL &amp; OTHERWISE (contd.)

\*\*\*\*\*

We are very happy to announce that Brian Chapman and Sherrie Carnegie have indeed become engaged to be married.....we've all been waiting for this, with bated breath, and now that we have recovered from the sudden shock.....we wish them both every happiness in their life together.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Congratulations to Gary Young of Kirkcaldy who has been chosen to go to Australia for the 1982 Commonwealth Canoeing Championships. We wish him every success and an enjoyable time. (See also page 3).

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

Whilst visiting in the Cotswolds this summer, David, Gordon and Betty Cuthill met up with John Dudderidge, President of Honour of the B.C.U., and his wife Evelyn. We wished them "Bon Voyage" on their journey to Australia where they will be meeting - and working with - Frank Whitebrook and his wife Doreen at the Commonwealth Championships.

All those who were at the Commonwealth Canoeing Championships at Grandtully last year will remember John and the Whitebrooks who did such noble work at the Opening Ceremony and at the prize givings.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

SCENE St. George's West Church, Edinburgh - 12.15 p.m. Saturday 24th July. F.C.C. members, paddles at the ready, milling about waiting for Alastair Williamson and Anne to emerge from the Church - spliced.

F.C.C. members, not having seen each other for some time, grouped about, some wearing shorts and tee shirts, others in track suits, whilst some were wearing suits! ..

12.30p.m. - maybe we should get ourselves organised? Right - everyone lines up paddles in hand, looking expectantly at the closed door of the Church..... a bit of a pause.....David and Neil start doing paddle exercises and stunts to while away the time, to the imminent danger of those around them.

Just then someone spied Brian Chapman hanging high on to some scaffolding across the road, manoeuvring himself to a good vantage point to take a long-distance photograph. Neil shouted over the passing traffic "what if a bus comes Brian?" and everyone collapsed in laughter.....another long pause whilst we looked expectantly at the closed door....."have you ever played the paddle game Dave?" "what's that?" "like this," and Neil proceeded to turn round on the spot holding his paddle vertically aloft. He stopped and said "you do that 20 times and then lay down your paddle and jump over it". Well, you can imagine, David never lets a challenge slip by..... he got to 18 and staggered about like a drunk whilst paddlers and onlookers alike cheered and hooted.

So it went on.....what would have happened if the bride and groom had been much longer is not to be thought of. At 1.10 precisely, out they came - a bit dazed but very happy - Alastair, probably astonished to see the Guard of Honour just as he had imagined, but never thought possible.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

We have just heard that Jane Wilson is leaving on 17th August to go to America for the Pan-Am Cup. There are three events, one in Vermont, N.America, and two in Canada. All major teams were invited from various countries. There will be about 8 British paddlers, and some Austrians and Italians, and of course all the U.S. and Canadian paddlers. We wish Jane a lot of luck on her adventure and a very happy time. Jane returns on 7th September.

\*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*                    \*\*\*

It is interesting to know that Graham Smith is now acting temporary Headmaster at Gracemount High School, Edinburgh, and rumour has it that he intends entering the Edinburgh Marathon in September.

Frustration yet again for 'Forth' at this year's Kirkintilloch Regatta! A share of the Honours with Strathkelvin "A" team was the best we could manage in spite of fielding three full teams from the Club. We even sneaked in two ranking paddlers, which is against our principles - (one was injured, but we needed his car; the other was press-ganged on his way home from an all night party - no gear and even less enthusiasm). Most managed to get on to the prize list and returned home festooned in Lendal jewellery. Thanks to Kirkintilloch District Council for their generosity in providing the prizes and hospitality, and Strathkelvin Kayak Club for organising the event and laying on the customary fine weather.

A similar sized party went through to Rowardennan the following week where they met with mixed success, but at least the water was an awful lot more pleasant to fall into. We were a bit frustrated by the fact that our fun craft had been "commandeered" for safety boat service on the accompanying K2 champs, and the programme was well under way before we could requisition them. Glasgow Kayak Club were responsible for organising these very pleasant proceedings.

Both events provided the opportunity for a good day's fun and should be remembered in future by groups looking for an outing with not too serious competition.

---oOo---

"TAIL O' THE BANK" MARATHON. 21st August

Report by Alistair Munro

Marathon racing in Scotland deserves to fade into obscurity if major clubs who take part in this discipline of our sport cannot make the effort to travel only 40 miles to take part in this exciting, challenging and well organised race. The R.W.S.A.B. club is hospitable, comfortable, and the prizes really good. Ask Andy Morton, who won for the seventh successive year. Congratulations to the old man!

1. Andy Morton (F.C.C.) 2. Kenny Fraser (Roxburgh CC) 3. I. Bownes (RWSABC)  
Best Swimmer: 1= G. Wilson/P.Easson (F.C.C.).

---oOo---

IRVINE MARATHON 22nd August

There was a good turn out at Irvine, even although the weather was not too good. Unfortunately the home paddlers were beaten by Richard Lucas of South of the Border who won the coveted prize of a television set.

1st Richard Lucas 2nd Kenny Fraser 3rd Robert Montgomery 4th Andy Morton

---oOo---

FAIRNILEE SLALOM 21/22nd AUGUST

A successful Div 4 / Novice slalom organised by Selkirk H.S.C.C. The water was good for this level of competition and although the Saturday was a dismal rainy day, it brightened up on the Sunday. The Saturday judges are to be commended on their good work on a pretty wet stint. Congratulations to Wallace High School who won the overall club Trophy very convincingly and to Selkirk who were pleased to come 2nd.

Div 4 K1 Men S. Penrice (W.C.CC.)	Novice K1 Men R.Thomson (Indep.)
" K1 Ladies J.Marchetto (Indep)	" " Ladies A. Richley (Wallace)
Div 3 C1 Chris Lees ( F.C.A.G.)	" C1 Stuart Marshall (Garstang)
" C2 Colin Brown/Lynda Turner (Wallace)	" C2 Ian Simpson/ Ian Syme (Wallace)
Div 4 TEAM Heatherington/Garrity/Raitt	" TEAM Chalmers/Good/Young (W.Calder)

JUDGES was won by Tony Leaver F.C.C.

FOR SALE (cheap) BLACK'S 'KARA' TENT 30 years old  
5'6" high 6' long 5' across with wooden ridge poles (heavy)  
If interested please contact Secretary F.C.C.



Forth was going on a River Trip, so it rained.....The Sunday of the outing arrived and 14 'keen' paddlers appeared at the hut with shouts of "I don't have a boat" and "Dad, can I get money to go to the shops!"

We eventually got the 7 cars loaded and set off in convoy - which lasted to the end of Lower Gilmore Place, and after that you had to guess! We were all sure of where we were putting in - shame it took us two attempts to get to it! After a few battles with spray decks etc. the assembled multitudes "got on" the Tweed. We waved them off and dived for the shelter of the cars. Next stop Ashiesteel.

We arrived before they did, well, it was no wonder really; they did have veterans with them - Kelso and George - and you couldn't expect them to go fast. We, Dave, Sandy, the two wee Riddels and I, waved from the bridge - it didn't work; nobody fell in.....

The trip went on with great excitement.....no water meant you needed rescued from gravel beds! We left and went to the "fishing out point" - Fairnilee!

We had a while to wait so, for amusement - whose I'm not too sure - Dave put to river to paddle up Fairnilee horseshoe. After a few attempts - how many I'd rather not say - he got up and made attempts on the next fall, to no real avail, and eventually the entourage was seen steaming down the river. Dave quickly cleared the area!

Louise came down first to give directions, then came the rest..... First two OK, third one - oops, didn't stay left did he; unfortunately he hadn't heard about waiting until you're upside down to come out of your boat and he came out of it sideways. Result - canoe now a submarine. All through the top fall safely, now to horseshoe.

Alan Taylor got through this beautifully and sat in the eddy to watch the rest. Unfortunately he didn't see many as with an unfortunate shift of weight, he fell out of his boat; apparently the water was cold! The next trick was to get back up the fall.....

Kelso first, half-way up, oops, not quite, unfortunately he never made it and set off for the bank. Brian succeeded, but it took two attempts. Young Mr. S. Rose thought he would try; he got very wet, the wave got him and he floated down stream. For help he went to his dad and capsized him; how to ruin father-son relationships!!

Two members of the party decided to abandon their boats and swim. Chris went first followed, rather tentatively, by Alan Jenkison; after one swim, others followed and I restrained myself from tying something heavy round their necks....

And so the trip ended with a few minor capsizes and some very cold paddlers.

Who's game for next year.....?

#### CANOE COURSES IN SEPTEMBER

- 1) SCA/BCU approved Advanced Inland Training and Assessment  
17/19th September, 1982, Tayside.
- 2) SCA/BCU approved S.I. Sea Training and Assessment  
24/26th September 1982, Tayside.

Further details for both courses from the Duty Officer, Ancrum Outdoor Education Resource Centre, 10 Ancrum Road, Dundee.

COMMODORE'S COMMENT

With the introduction of the 'Europa Cup' series of international events throughout Europe, certain events both in Britain, but more seriously for our Scottish paddlers also on the continent, are now closed to Scottish Teams and only open to full British Teams. As a result of this it now seems virtually impossible to organise a summer tour on the Continent so that our teams can be assured of entry to traditional circuit events. It is quite clear to me that this makes economic madness of any proposal to send teams to the Continent at S.C.A. expense, since it appears that the handful of events available to them are also too spread about on the calendar. May I suggest that our funds would give us better value by being spent on domestic projects. At the same time, it is obvious that this gives our politicians an opportunity to press for recognition of Scotland as a full international sports country in its own right. Certainly we have the number of Scots now paddling at full international standard, as the composition of British teams shows.

Those of you who have been past our Lower Gilmore Place site in the last three weeks will have noticed considerable progress with our new Changing and Canoe Storage building, which I propose will be known as the 'JACK CUTHILL BUILDING'. We lost a wooden building on the Union Canal at Redhall (past Craiglockhart) in the late fifties when the owner sold it and it was one of his dreams that we should again have a full facility right beside the water in central Edinburgh.

The walls of the Jack Cuthill Building are now complete, including a large 'Up-and-Over' garage door and small side door at the front. To complete the shell we have to dress the walls for the top-plates, modify the ten roof-trusses to width, erect the roof trusses and fit purlins and eaves boards, and sheet the roof. We will then be 'lock-fast and water-tight' as they say in the trade.

Inside, we have the changing room, toilet and shower walls to erect, followed by plumbing in two toilets, showers and hand basins, wiring lights and water-heaters and screwing together bench seats. Lighter jobs which our girls can do include mastic-ing the wall joints, hosing down and Snow-ceming the walls, painting the windows and the internal walls. Jane Wilson has offered to make the curtains, but our budget unfortunately does not run to rails to hang them on. Good try, Jane, but you will just have to get your hands covered in whitewash with the rest, when you get back from the States.

The main times when we need you to work are:

- WEDNESDAY EVENINGS any time after tea to dusk
- SATURDAY ALL DAY
- ANY OTHER TIME YOU CAN GET A GROUP TOGETHER.

For Wednesdays, I am in charge ('phone 031-229-9586)

For Saturdays, Doug Wilson is in charge ('Phone 4-810198)

From now on, most of the work is in wood, so bring along a hammer, a solid screwdriver, and wear working clothes.

To complete the project we still need forty hours from every Senior Member in the Club. It is good to see several of you coming forward. At the time of writing Doug Wilson and myself have reached this, Grant Wilson has 33 hours, Louise Henderson has 21 hours, Gordon Cuthill has 22 hours, Neil Baxter has 12 hours, and the rest are in there somewhere. A few names have yet to appear on the timesheet. Next year's subscription could be rather expensive.....

I look forward to our completion ceremony, when we are hoping to have a party before we rack out the storage area for canoes. Please help to hurry it along.

KELSO RIDDELL.

<u>Date</u>	<u>COMING EVENTS</u>	<u>Organisers</u>
<u>AUGUST</u>		
28-29	Grandtully - Open Premier 1 J Home International...	36
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>		
4- 5	Home International Tay Marathon ...	27
4- 5	N.E. Scotland Open Surf Competition, Sandend. ...	17
4- 5	Tryweryn Home International Premier 1. Bala ...	S54
11-12	Auchenrioch Regatta ...	43
11-12	Grandtully 2, 3, J. Scottish Championships ...	08
19	Tweed Marathon ...	24
25-26	Comrie - 4, N, J. ...	04
25-26	Serpents Tail - Llangollen ...	S84
<u>OCTOBER</u>		
2- 3	Awe - 2, 3, J. ...	41
10	Leven L.D. K1 Marathon Championships ...	28
16	Three Bridges L.D. (CANCELLED)	
16-17	Royal Deeside, 3, 4, J. ...	16
23-24	Scottish Surf Championships, Fraserburgh ...	14
24	Clyde L.D. ...	25
23-24	British Open & Youth Champs. Llangollen Town ...	S95
30-31	Seaton Park, Aberdeen. - N, J, Open Novice ...	23
30	International Slalom - Llangollen	
31	Craiglockhart Raft Race & Disco - F.C.C. see page 11	
<u>NOVEMBER</u>		
7	Royal Dee WW Race - B, C, Open ...	16
21	Thistlebrig I WW Race C, Open ...	18
28	Grandtully I WW Race B, C, Open...	22

	<u>LIST OF ORGANISERS</u>	<u>Tel</u>
04	GUCC: A.Watt, Competition Secy. Stevenson Bldg. 77 Oakfield Avenue, Glasgow.	
08	DWWC: Miss M. Soutar, 27, Baxter Park Terr. Dundee.DD4 6NR.	0382-455630
14	SCA: D. Shearer, Old Townleys, Ythanbank, Ellon ...	03587-207 (cancellation No.)
16	AUCC: Competition Secy, Butchart Recreation Centre, University Road, Aberdeen.	
17	SCA: Brian Mackie, 5, Kellards Avenue, Inverurie.	0467-20961 (cancellation No.)
18	FKC: Fred Nelson, 5, Howard Street, Falkirk, FK1 5JG.	0324-23421
22	GKC: A. McDonald, 19, Loskin Drive, Glasgow, G22.	041-772-1862
23	AKC: Ken Baillie, 62, Powan Drive, Westhills, Skene.	0224-741401
24	FCC: George Logie, 26, The Square, Kirkliston.	031-333-3086
25	S'clyde UCC. A.Manzie, Dept of P.E.Sports Centre, Cathedral Street, Glasgow.	041-552-4400
27	SCA: A. Morton, 8, Jock's Hill Crescent, Linlithgow.	Linl. 2423
28	S/kelvin KC. D.McWhirter, 70 Oak Drive, Lenzie.	041-776-3378
36	SCA: E.Paterson, 11, Torwood Avenue, Larbert.	0324-562727
41	Les Berrow, Dept.of Physical Recreation, Stirling Univ.	0786-3171 Ex2074
43	Elwyn Rees, Glenlochar School House, Castle Douglas.	055667 - 246.
S54	R. Hayward, Pen y Bont, Corwen	
S84	Mrs. J. King, 79, Overdale Rd., Romiley, Stockport,Cheshire.	
S95	E.P. Baskerville, Church Lodge, 72 High Street, Eccleshall, Stafford, ST21 6BZ.	

32, Buckstone Lea,  
EDINBURGH, EH10 6XE.

8th August, 1982.

Dear Editor,

With regard to Mr. Bryce's letter in the May issue of KAYAK, I would like to comment on some of his remarks.

Slalom squad training weekends were held every 4 or 5 weeks and as the W/W season is mainly in the winter, then something has to go. Booking, weather and accommodation are the major factors in deciding when these take place. Bat polo and W/W racing must be in a bad way if they are affected by 12 or so slalomists not being present. Perhaps his letter should read, "where is Scottish paddling without the slalom squad."

With regard to mixing disciplines within canoeing, removal from the squad was not discussed, but paddlers were strongly advised that to perform with distinction in slalom, W/W racing was not recommended. (Gill Robbie may be on the right course now. Is Alan Meikle?). If one wants to mix disciplines then people should, in my opinion, do W/W and Sprint - the paddling action is at least similar. M. Hedges would, in my opinion (and also in his now) have done better to stick to slalom where he was expected to do better than he did.

As Anne Plant does W/W and Sprint racing, this would be quite acceptable to my way of thinking, but.....does Fox mix? Does Sharman mix? Does Lugbil mix? Elizabeth who?

Is it a reflection on the fitness of W/W paddlers that a slalomist can do so well in the Scottish W/W championships?

As for the Commonwealth championships in C1, slalomists again come to the rescue of what has been a joke event in Scotland and perhaps England too.

One only has to look at the Sprint and Slalom successes this year in the G.B. teams to realise some disciplines cannot mix at a high standard.

Perhaps Mr. Bryce should have signed his letter "a keen paddler but never World Champion in most disciplines".

Yours etc.

JOCK YOUNG.

\*\*\*\*\*  
WINCHBURGH UNION CANAL SOCIETY : WATER FESTIVAL 1982 (near Kirkliston)

Winchburgh Union Canal Society is to hold its first Water Festival on Saturday 28th August, 1982. A full day of pleasurable activity is planned for all the family on the canal and its banks between the Old Brickworks (off the old A9) and Bell's Mill Wharf, Niddrie Road. You, your family and friends are invited to come along and make a real day of it. (That is, if you are not going to Grandtully. )

3 p.m. at the Old Brickworks: Winchburgh Crazy Boat Race  
'Paraffin Young' trophy from B.P. to winner.

4.15-4.30 Carnival of Boats proceeds through cut to Bell's Mill Wharf.

3 p.m. onwards at Bell's Mill Wharf, there will be Refreshment Stalls, Bottle Stall, Mini Treasure Hunt, Barbeque Available (bring your own food and cook it.

5 p.m. Carnival of Boats arrive and muster for prizegiving etc.

6 p.m. Barbeque and Disco (Music till Midnight)

F.C.C. Secretary has letter from organiser with rules for Crazy Boat Race.

The touring party, organised by Pete Easson of the Lothian Outdoor Education Centre, consisted of twenty paddlers of mixed sex, age and experience. It was joined by a small group from Telford College under John Young, and we paddled Anas Acutas or Cadets. We left Macdonald Road on Monday 12th July and camped the first night near Kinlochmoidart, ready to set sail next day.

Tuesday 13th The trip began in earnest when we headed west along the south channel of Loch Moidart, in pleasant enough conditions. Lunch was taken on a small island with a funny sounding Gaelic name like "Ailing Leg", but we had to press on to get the tide. This is a beautiful loch with its own castle-on-an-island....not as famous as Eilean Donan, but just as picturesque. It is called Castle Tioram and the island is where the River Shiel empties Loch Shiel into the sea. We camped that night on Eilean Shona at the mouth of Loch Moidart. It was an ideal site in contrast to the previous nights, with sandy beaches, places to "plummet", hills to climb, dancing girls! etc.

Wednesday 14th July saw us leave this paradise, heading north across the Sound of Arisaig on a cold, wet, miserable day. Only the porpoises, seals and occasional otter were enjoying these conditions. Luckily the sea was calm and it didn't put anyone off their lunch, which consisted of cold beans and a handful of raisins, taken on a beach at Back of Keppoch. - (who says you don't live well on these trips?). It was decided by the powers-that-be to press on to Camusdarrach for the night, but the delegate sent to the landowner there came back to say he didn't wish to know us. (Even 'though we'd carefully kept Miles hidden from him!)...Shalom, Camusdarrach! To an accompaniment of pleas, wails and refusals to budge, we re-embarked and eventually beached at Bourblach, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from Morar as the crow flies, but seven light years away on foot.

15th July Having come such a distance yesterday, Thursday was declared a rest day, much to everyone's relief. The chance was taken to ferry the mini-buses up from Loch Moidart, while the rest of us alarmed the local wild life by roaming the hills and "plummeting" the falls in the river at Morar. Most found their way into Mallaig in the evening to sample the night life - i.e. space invaders, pool tables and the fish auction. The chip shop was an obvious stop and Miles (who else!) found a way to con the man out of a scampi supper.

16th July Suitably rested, we headed north again, destination Loch Nevis. With a freshening wind we got our first taste of choppy waters and surfing in the heavily laden Anas Acutas and Cadets. We all coped and enjoyed the exhilarating experience. Beyond Mallaig and into the loch, it was odd to be looking up at the "Burma Road" making its way round the cliff (as I'd walked it the previous week while on holiday.) In choosing a camp site, John rejected a grassy slope above a nice wee beach in favour of a cliff face (well almost), approached over rocks. I have since learned that John is famous for this, amongst his many other talents. Mind you, it was the best cliff yet for plummeting and, in one lunatic case, diving off. It was cold, but it was worth it.

17th July Saturday was spent retracing our steps to Morar via Mallaig with some interesting waves and some even more interesting songs from, of all things, a teacher - (shock, horror!) A teacher from Portobello but a teacher none the less. Turned even my ears pink ....and I've been on a Rugby tour to Wales so dear knows what Clare, Diane and our other blushing violets were thinking.

Sunday the 18th saw us back in the mini buses and back down the road... and back to soap and water. I had really enjoyed the trip and am sure there would be no shortage of volunteers for a repeat performance. I'm sure too, that the party would join me in thanking Pete Easson, John Young (sen.), Jeanette, Ian Marshall and Jim Elder, for putting up with us.



The Club membership is now up to a healthy 95 .....WHERE ARE YOU ALL?  
We are in need of skilled labour NOW to help to install the services in  
our new hut, at Lower Gilmore Place. If anyone has a relation or friend  
who is a joiner, plumber, brickie or electrician, please encourage them  
to come along to help. Contact Kelso Riddell Tel. 229 9586.

MONDAY EVENING MEETINGS AT CRAIGLOCKHART end on Monday 6th September for  
the season. The winter season of baths sessions begins on TUESDAY 14th  
SEPTEMBER at SCIENNES PRIMARY SCHOOL from 7p.m. - 9p.m.

The Pool sessions will give you an opportunity to perfect your Eskimo Roll  
technique and perhaps some more advanced paddling techniques. Space is  
however very restricted and if numbers become too great then a rota system  
may be introduced. There will be experienced paddlers there to instruct  
and the cost will be similar to Craiglockhart.

PROFICIENCY TESTS Scott Balfour will be conducting One and Two Star  
Proficiency Tests at Craiglockhart on Monday 30th August. This will be  
your last chance this season to take these tests so make sure you get there  
and that you know your basic canoeing theory.

CLUB SWEAT SHIRTS Have you been feeling the weather a bit cooler recently? Well, the ideal gear to keep you warm is available exclusively from your club secretary:

Blue cotton sweat shirts with club logo  
(size M or L) ... £6.75

Blue Cotton Hooded Tops with club logo  
(size M or L) ... 8.00

SWEAT IN STYLE .....ORDER YOURS TO-DAY

'phone Gordon Cuthill, 447 3954.

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F.C.C. BARBECUE AND SURFING SUNDAY - 27th June 1982.

The venue for this event was Seacliffe which is a good sandy bay a few miles east of North Berwick.

An easterly wind had been blowing for some days and even on the day before, it looked as if the surf would be up. Disappointment was in store however, because on the day, the wind had dropped and the waves were generally pretty small. This, though, was to the advantage of several of our newer members for whom this was to be their first taste of paddling on the sea. Surfing can be a frustrating pastime when your paddling ability is limited and you can't roll. One or two had the uncanny ability to stay upright while doing all the wrong things, and others seemed to be swimming at almost every attempt, and shouting a few choice words at the instructor.

Meanwhile, over at the wild west end of the bay, some of the club stars were making the most of the slightly bigger surf. Richard Gregory had obtained a surf shoe and a surf ski which were in constant use, and the show offs tried some acrobatics for the waiting cameras.

After a couple of hours paddling, all were ready to tuck in to some lovely greasy barbecued comestibles. The majority were satisfied with the standard sausages and rolls, but the more adventurous culinary experts produced lamb kebabs avec garni, baked potatoes with various fillings, all washed down with a bottle of good claret.

The after dinner cabaret was supplied by Cuthill, Baxter and Henderson among others who were playing at "hitting the canoeists with a boomerang". The boomerang could not be persuaded to work as it should and Louise eventually found out that it was really only a stick after all.

Altogether it was a very enjoyable day at the seaside although the weather could have been a little more kind. Thanks to Richard Gregory for his very able organisation of a good social event.

It is unfortunate that it is only occasionally that the club organises such an outing for all its members, since it is only on occasions like these that members can meet each other. Perhaps next year it would be worth holding a social event every month or so to encourage more contact between members.

POSTSCRIPT: A key was found at Seacliffe during the clearing up. It is an ASSA key No.2N 68786. If anyone wishes to claim it please contact the club secretary.

LATE NEWS FORTH C.C. MEMBERS CHOSEN FOR THE TAY MARATHON 4/5th SEPTEMBER.  
Andrew Morton (Men's K1); Pete Easson/Neil Baxter (Men's K2);  
Lynda Morrison (Ladies K1); Grant Wilson (Junior K1). Congratulations all.





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