

# **KAYAK**

## **MAGAZINE**



***November 1983***

**A FORTH CANOE CLUB PUBLICATION**

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C O N T E N T S

Front Cover: Scottish Men's Kayak Champion, Tony Leaver, showing his skill  
at the Grandtully Championships 17-18 September 1983.  
Photograph by Val Adamson.

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FORTH CANOE CLUB

Commodore

R. KELSO RIDDELL,  
24 Hartington Place,  
EDINBURGH, EH10 4LE.  
Tel: 031-229-9586

HON. SEC. & TREASURER

GORDON H. CUTHILL  
2, Merchiston Bank Ave.,  
EDINBURGH, EH10 5ED.  
Tel: 031-447-3954.

KAYAK EDITORIAL ADDRESS

Mrs. B. CUTHILL  
2, Merchiston Bank Ave.,  
EDINBURGH, EH10 5ED.  
Tel: 031-447-3954.

KAYAK EDITORS

DAVID CUTHILL  
3 Ashburn Gardens  
GOUROCK, PA19 1BT  
Tel: 0475-36487

T. DOUGLAS WILSON  
24 South Grange Ave.,  
PRESTONPANS  
Tel: 4-810198

F.C.C. SLALOM  
EQUIPMENT HIRE

A. SCOTT RAMAGE  
61 Watson Crescent  
EDINBURGH.  
Tel: 031-337-1840

SCOTTISH CANOE ASSOC.

HONORARY SECRETARY

RON DAY,  
81 Main Street,  
RATHO, Midlothian.  
Tel: 031-333-1429

S.C.A. ADMINISTRATOR

MRS. MARGARET WINTER  
Scottish Sports Council  
18 Ainslie Place,  
EDINBURGH, EH3 6AU  
Tel: 031-226-4401

Also at the above:  
Secretaries of SLALOM,  
COACHING, MARATHON,  
SURF AND CANOE POLO.

## E D I T O R I A L

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It is with some sadness that we have to report that this will be the last edition of KAYAK magazine in its present form. The burden of having to compile, edit, print and circulate around 200 magazines each quarter has become more than the editors are able to cope with. "KAYAK" will still continue in the form of a quarterly Forth Canoe Club Newsletter which is the way it started back in April 1974.

One of the major factors influencing this decision has been the difficulty of getting contributions in time for publication. A magazine like KAYAK is dependent on information coming from people who are directly involved in canoeing events. None of the editors are now in that position and so, without the enthusiastic support of active canoeists, we cannot continue.

Our thanks go to our regular contributors who have consistently kept us informed over the last 10 years. Also, we wish to thank our advertisers whose support has enabled us to have a professionally printed cover.

And so.....the old order changeth..... it will now be left to the active canoeists of today to write their chapters in the history of canoeing.

Canoeing in the U.K. has changed greatly over the last 10 years. In slalom the invincibility of the Continentals was challenged and overcome and now it is the British Teams who are the ones to beat.

And what of Scotland's contribution? The last 10 years produced notable individuals and teams, but.... surely our time is yet to come?

There will be the usual set backs, but the real winners will not be put off. Their success will not only be the winning run but their determination to overcome the hardships along the way, and if enough people have that determination, they will achieve the results.

Perhaps when that time comes, someone will remember to take a photo and write down the story.

WORLD  
UNITED KINGDOM  
SCOTLAND  
EDINBURGH  
GRACEMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL  
1 CLASS

3

A.Scott Ramage of the  
Scottish Stallion Stable.

Out of that one class at Gracemount came James Dolan and Stuart Fitsimmons; respectively they became British Canoe Slalom Champion and British Downhill Ski Racing Champion. This was not coincidence pure and simple. Each had that ingredient that makes a champion, but they also had the backing of a growing outdoor pursuits development in Edinburgh in the 1970s. How many more potential champions lie dormant for the lack of stimulation? How many lads and lassies, doomed to the dole, could be shown they are capable of succeeding at something, if only they could be given the chance?

I remember dropping off another Gracemount boy after a weekend's canoeing and watching all his friends standing at the street corner with nothing to do but get into trouble.

Where would James Dolan be now if he hadn't been given the opportunity to start canoeing? we will never know, but let us remember all the other Jimmy Dolan's waiting for a helping hand.

One of the people who helped Jimmy was Graham Smith, and I asked him why he thought Jimmy had ended up winning a gold medal in the Slalom Team event at the World Championships. The reply was "He can't stand being beaten by anyone or anything."

His younger brother Andy agreed and said that he always beat Jimmy at everything they played at and because of this Jimmy learned determination to succeed. We'll let them argue about this, but let's get some ideas from Jimmy and then some from his wife Julia (who lets him do all this canoeing).

Q.1. WERE YOU PLEASED WITH YOUR TEAM GOLD AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS?

Yes. Our result was a good one considering we had very little practice beforehand. (The team had changed following the Czechoslovakia trip and Roger Manwaring's illness).

The only thing that would have made it better would have been that our team was the fastest as well as going clear.

Q.2. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS YOUR GREATEST ASSET AND YOUR GREATEST WEAKNESS?

Assets - Reasonably cool on heavy water (still concentrate on the gate rather than worrying about the water and what could happen to me if something went wrong).

Strength and fitness are a great asset to me as well. I always work very hard on fitness/strength because you get a clear idea of how well you are going. Unlike when you consider how you're going following a skill session. (this could be my greatest weakness).

Another asset I think I have is having the ability to compete under pressure (unlike some of the youngsters). Adaptability is also an asset - being able to change your plan. Only weakness is complete lack of skill and appreciation of other people's ideas.

Q.3. WHAT MAKES A GOOD SLALOMIST?

Physiologically - speed, strength, flexibility, co-ordination - but none of these are good enough on their own. A good slalomist must have all the above attributes as well as being mentally stable and alert. Ability to overcome pressure situations and do your best is a must. I don't believe many people actually perform at their best in a competition. In training they perform at a much higher standard. Dedication a la Richard Fox also comes in handy (he is too single-minded as far as I'm concerned, but maybe that's what it takes to be slalom World Champ.)

Q.4. /

## Q. 4. WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE SLALOM PLANS?

I would like to improve my individual placing in the World Champs. (I feel I have never actually performed at my best, e.g. 1981 I had penalties; 1983 I lost time on the first part of the course. I would like to do another world champs but question whether or not I can motivate myself to train and give up so much time as I know is required.

## Q. 5. WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT "PADDLES UP"?

I didn't think it was particularly good, but it has got quite a bit of publicity for the sport. Possibly next time we can get rid of the tyre and ball and make it more like slalom (but we must start somewhere and get a foot in the door).

Personally I've had a lot of recognition, but I don't know if that's good or not for slalom.

The Presentation of 'Paddles up' I thought was bad. It could have been so much better e.g. - split times - better commentary on each of the paddlers - a build up at the finish to create some atmosphere.

## Q. 6. WHERE DO YOU SEE SLALOM GOING IN THE FUTURE?

I hope it remains the same as far as rules are concerned; but I'd like to see a far more professional approach - similar to the approach of the Europeans; encourage people to come and watch; try to involve local people, shops, businesses etc.; make it a far bigger affair socially, possibly spread over a longer period.

I know people will disagree at the moment, but we must aim towards the future and greater recreation time.

## Q. 7. WHAT QUESTION WOULD YOU LIKE MOST TO BE ASKED? AND THE ANSWER?

Why do you canoe?

Answer - Pass!

JULIA

## Q. 1. DO YOU THINK JIMMY WAS PLEASED WITH HIS TEAM GOLD AT THE WORLD CHAMPS?

Yes, he was very pleased with the team gold although I think he was rather disappointed with his individual result.

## Q. 2. WHAT DO YOU THINK IS HIS GREATEST ASSET AND HIS GREATEST WEAKNESS?

His greatest asset is his determination. Once he sets his mind on achieving something - that's it.

His greatest weakness - not being able to say NO to food!!

## Q. 3. WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD SLALOMIST?

High level of fitness and technique, strength, determination, intelligence: has to be a bit of a daredevil.

## Q. 4. WHAT DID YOU THINK OF "PADDLES UP"?

If I hadn't known any of the paddlers, I wouldn't have watched it after the first programme. The course was too long and there wasn't enough excitement in it. If it had been filmed on the Tryweryn in high water, 'paddles up' would have been much better. The commentary was also unexciting and biased and on the whole "Paddles Up" was a bore.

## Q. 5. /

Q. 5. DOES JIMMY EVER HELP WITH THE HOUSEWORK?

Not very often - a typical Scot!! He thinks a woman's place is in the kitchen!! As I am a "lady of leisure" I do the housework and cooking and look after our little horror Gemma. Occasionally he might do a bit of housework but he always does the windows, jobs on the car, odd jobs about the house and decorating.

Q. 6. DO YOU THINK SLALOM HAS HAD ANY GOOD OR BAD SPINOFF ON YOUR MARRIAGE?

Mainly good - canoeing at such a high level has helped in good job promotions and also in having a nice home.

Bad spin-offs - the amount of time Jim has to devote to canoeing, training and competition e.g. 5 weeks away for Internationals can be a bit lonely for me. Also he doesn't spend as much time with Gemma as I'd like.

Q. 7. WHAT QUESTION WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE ASKED (BY JIMMY OR A JOURNALIST) AND THE ANSWER?

Question from Jim: Shall I give up canoeing next year?

Answer from me: Yes, please!!!!

Back now to Scott.....

Well, much as I hate to argue with a lady, a lot of people hope he doesn't, and on behalf of everyone in Scotland....

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GOLD MEDAL JIMMY, AND GOOD LUCK TO YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY IN THE FUTURE.

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A.S. RAMAGE

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1973

TEN YEARS AGO

'KAYAK' magazine was still known as 'FORTH CANOE CLUB NEWSLETTER' and the offer of a quarterly copy to Scottish canoeists for the price of 10p met with no response.

The best equipped slalomists were paddling Prijon Olympia Mk 1, Lettman Olymp IV and V, KW Scorpion and Toledo. It is interesting to note the change in boat volumes from the extremes of the Olymp IV before and during the 72 Olympics, the shift to much lower volumes immediately after the Olympics e.g. Olymp V and VI and the gradual reduction to the ultra low volumes of today.

The Scottish Slalom & Whitewater Teams competed at Lipno in Czechoslovakia and Skopje in Yugoslavia. Team Manager was Andrew Manwell and the Captain was Graham Smith. Notable names included A. Morton, D. Cuthill, G. Cuthill and S. Ramage and the team was given a grant of £1,400 from the Scottish Sports Council for this the first trip of its kind.

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A recent conversation with John Young Senior turned inevitably to Canoe Touring and, in particular, West Coast Tours. Besides the feeling of envy his words aroused making me regret a youth mis-spent on perhaps less worthy pursuits, it made me realise what a great opportunity these tours afford to all you active paddlers. I mean, canoeing isn't all about training sessions, winning times and getting promoted, no matter how satisfying competition can be.

We are fortunate in Scotland in having on the West Coast some of the finest scenery in the world. A lot of its attraction is in its remoteness. I can think of no more suitable and satisfying method of access to these areas than by canoe in which your progress is entirely inoffensive and completely dependent on your own efforts.

Touring provides a chance for paddlers of all disciplines to partake in a joint activity. If you are reasonably experienced in paddling and enjoy camping, why not think about joining the Club tour next summer?

T.Doug Wilson.

---oOo---

---oOo---

---oOo---

We have heard on the grapevine that Neil Baxter is planning a tour round Britain and Europe with the object of making a canoeing film to show how exciting canoeing can be when done by enthusiastic experts. It will be from the canoeist's point of view and, when completed, will be released in video and cinema forms.

Neil will be planning a selection event soon. Apply now if you think you can cope.

---oOo---

---oOo---

---oOo---

On reading in the S.C.A. Newsletter of the successful progress being made by West Lothian Canoe Club in the creation of their permanent slalom site on the R.Almond, it has been noted that they intend to use steel fencing wire as main bearers, to combat vandalism. We would like to put in a word of caution here regarding the dangers to wild fowl and especially swans. One of our club members was distressed to witness a swan taking off from the water near the FCC Jack Cuthill building and flying straight into the string bearers and falling back down. Imagine if it had been steel?



1. Following a survey of Stanley Weir, the White Water Committee have decided to prohibit the use of the extreme left hand chute on the weir at any of the Stanley-Thistle events. Competitors using this chute will be disqualified from that event.
2. Following last year's successful Teith Marathon, it is hoped paddlers will turn out in force again on the 9th January for this massed start fun White Water event from Callander to Deanston Distillery. Entry Fees are only 50p and there will be a class for Slalom and White Water boats.
3. Efforts are being made to organise a similar event on the Tay or Nith on Wednesday the 28th December. For further information, contact Andy Morton (050684-2423).
4. The W.W. Committee are organising a training weekend for 10 of Scotland's top paddlers on the Trywerwyn on the last weekend of January. A Minibus will take the paddlers to Wales where they will be coached by Melvin Swallow for two days. Selection will be based on results obtained at the Clyde W.W. race in December. If paddlers are unable to compete on that day, they will be considered on the basis of other results. Kenny Fraser, Gill Berrow, John Anderson and Alistair Denny are already selected.
5. During this season, an experimental Ranking list will be made available to competitors. After each race it will be updated to include the latest results.
6. The first W.W. race of the season, Royal Dee, saw a larger entry than in recent years for this event. Kenny Fraser won the Open class from Alistair Denny in second place. A White Water Marathon was staged in the afternoon instead of a team race. This event was also part of a triathlon training day organised by Andrew Manwell. There was a good entry in this event with a wide variety of craft on the water including 2 open C2's! Just as well that the water level was low.

THISTLEBRIG W.W. RACE 20th November REPORT

David Wolfe

This was a most successful event with up to 110 paddlers taking part on a sunny, but very cold day. STANLEY - THISTLEBRIG.

Men's K1 OPEN	1st Kenny Fraser	Roxburgh	14.18
	2nd Alistair Denny	Roxburgh	14.43
Div 3 Men	1st Neil Davidson	Kirkcaldy	15.01
	2nd Roderick Macdonald	Str.Uni.	16.12
	3rd D. Morgan	Strath.Uni.	16.32
Ladies K1 OPEN	1st Gill Berrow	Stirling Uni.	15.20
	2nd Cynthia Berry	Forth	15.44
Div 3 Ladies K1	1st C. Gillies	Strath.Uni.	18.48

Note: We were sorry to hear that David Wolfe was involved in an accident on his way to the race, when a learner driver ran into his car. Fortunately David was unhurt and eventually turned up at the race.

Seven paddlers went to this event as a Scottish team. They were: David Wolfe (manager), Peter Maycock and Alistair Chisolm (jun.K2), Stewart McCartney (jun.K1), Grant Wilson and Alistair Denny (sen.K2) and myself (ladies sen.K1). In addition to this, Catriona Denny came as support crew/sane influence for the team.

We left on the Thursday and drove in two cars to Cairnryan to get the evening ferry to Larne. Our B & B in Larne was cosy, especially for Pete and Alistair who had to share a bed! In the morning, after a breakfast of assorted fried breads, we drove south to Dublin. Dublin isn't very big, but Alistair Denny managed to get us lost there for a considerable time. Arriving in Lucan we installed ourselves in our sumptuous quarters in the Lucan Spa Hotel and spent the afternoon looking at - or more often for - the eleven weirs on the 17 mile course.

Race day arrived and having had a final look at some of the big weirs we drove to the start at Straffan House. The Liffey is well known as a tough race - particularly for the boats. Straffan weir, one of the most difficult, is only 500 yards from the start. The various classes were mass started with delays of five, three then two minutes between classes (numbers were smaller in the last classes). The debris from one class had almost been cleared by the time the next one came down.

First off were Grant and Alistair in the senior K2 class. They paddled well for the first 500 yards then bent their boat on Straffan weir. Undaunted, they sprinted back to the car for tape, did a quick repair job and continued the race. Maycock/Chisolm fared better than the senior pair, David, despite wimping out and paddling a whitewater boat, had to roll. Stewart and I had a clear run at the weir as we missed our start (just).

The next section is known as the jungle because of its overhanging trees. The river is narrow and twists a lot, making it treacherous for a K2. Denny/Wilson conquered this but Maycock/Chisolm had a swim when they were grabbed by a tree. Even less lucky was Stewart who was attacked by a lady swimmer and fell in trying to rescue her!

We hadn't looked at the second weir so it was a case of guessing who to follow. Alistair and Grant followed the wrong person and so ended the race for them. No amount of tape could persuade their two half boats to become whole again. Unfortunately, being so unaccustomed to swimming, they forgot to hold on to their paddles!

There were no further mishaps on this weir and none on the next. The flat section down to Leixlip dam seemed never ending and the 500 metre portage round it was the most killing part of the course. After the dam the river speeded up and there were some small rapids. The next trouble spot, the sluice weir, saw Maycock/Chisolm out of the race with a broken cockpit. Conveniently, they were 500 yards from our hotel so they went in and had hot baths! I avoided the 'chicken chute' which broke the K2 - only to swim on the main chute. My boat was undamaged so, having fished myself out I continued the race.

The next few weirs had big drops and attracted a lot of onlookers (who cheered if you swam and jeered if you didn't!). However, they presented no big problem to those of us still in the race. The water level was low and I was able to take the chicken run over the sill of Wren's Nest, the most infamous weir. Stewart and David took the centre of the V without trouble.

With Palmerston, the second 'V' weir over, we were on the home straight. Ashamed to finish with a whole boat, I managed to break the nose on the last (small) weir. The 3 miles from this to the finish are flat and seem never ending. Finally, though, there was the canoe club and I could stop paddling. My time of 2 hours 39 minutes, to my surprise, put me 3rd lady /

lady - but then I was 14 minutes behind the 2nd lady. David had already finished with a good time, but well behind Shane Kelly who broke his own record to do 2 hours 5 minutes in a whitewater boat. Stewart finished a short time after me, having stopped to set fire to his boat - and tape it together. Meantime Alistair had retrieved his two half boats - and thrown his car keys into the river in the process!

So ended an enjoyable race (for me!). My thanks must go to everyone on the Marathon Scene who enabled me to go. Particularly to Doug Wilson who lent me a boat which had, at best, a fifty-fifty chance of coming back! Thanks also to David Wolfe for organising the trip so well.

LIFFEY DESCENT 10th SEPTEMBER 1983 - SUMMARY OF RESULTS

SENIOR MEN K1

1. A. Williams G.B. 1.57.58  
 2. J. Pringle Salmon Leap 2.03.09  
 3. J. West Royal 2.03.09

SENIOR LADIES K1

1. B. Keating SLCC 2.22.25  
 2. C. Vetkins LCC 2.25.14  
 3. S. Ward Scot. 2.39.13

SENIOR MEN K2

1. Cornish/Lubout Richmond 1.57.36

JUNIOR MEN K1

1. P. Callier G.B. 2.16.16  
 11. S. McCartney Scot 2.47.13

JUNIOR MEN K2

1. O'Mahoney/S.Martin SLCC 2.13.14

WHITE WATER CLASS

1. S. Kelly S/Quinn 2.05.00  
 8. J. Ringwood SUCC 2.23.42  
 9. D. Wolfe Scot 2.25.07  
 10. L. Kirkpatrick Ind. 2.28.07  
 18. R. McDonald SUCC 2.40.35

It is good to know that the finances for the Scottish trip received a boost when the Irish Canoe Union kindly offered £100 IRISH (£80 Stg.) assistance towards the cost. Along with the money received from the S.C.A. this allowed for all travel costs and the cost of B & B to be paid. It remained for the team members to pay for their food.

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IMPRESSIONS OF MY FIRST MARATHON.

Matthew Harrison  
The Edinburgh Academy.

When I was invited by George Logie to take part in the first ever Radio Forth canoe marathon, I had visions of the running marathons you see on the television with only the best finishing and the rest scattered like leaves back along the course of 26 miles. However, after persuasion, I agreed to take part.

By a miracle the weather was clear on the Sunday and after about half an hour racing up and down the Tweed looking for canoeists, we eventually found the start. Not only was this my first marathon, it was my first competition, so the competitiveness surrounding the start came as a surprise.

My team mates and I thought up our tactics which were: keep paddling, for none of us knew what to expect. At the start, the wash produced threatened to capsize us all, but eventually the competitors spread out and by some fluke all three of us were near the front. After about a mile we got into a rhythm and we could admire the scenery on a bright September day.

At two miles we were passed by the marathon boats, which made us look as if we were going backwards, but they soon disappeared out of sight.

The race turned into a battle between myself and another boy at the front. Concentrating on his back made the miles go quickly. But when I passed him and he was behind me, the miles started to take their toll on my arms and legs so that they felt like dropping off.

I went through the finish before I knew I had, so it was a pleasant surprise to stop the muscle ache after the 8 miles. We had won our first marathon and it definitely made us want to go on and compete in other marathons and competitions.

Thanks to George for giving us the chance to compete and for making the race such good fun.

SCOTTISH K2 CHAMPIONSHIP AND RADIO FORTH CANOE MARATHON  
SUNDAY 25th SEPTEMBER 1983                      RESULTS

WALKERBURN TO MELROSESCOTTISH K2 CHAMPIONSHIP

1st	A Morton/N Davidson	FCC/KCC	1.38.05
2nd	A Denny/G Wilson	FCC	1.45.55
3rd	A Davidson/ Andrews	KCC	1.46.27
4th	S Ward/D Marshall	LCAC	2.05.43

DIVISION 1

1st	K Fraser	RCC	1.46.53
2nd	R Christie	ICC	1.51.04

DIVISION 2

1st	J Knox	RCC	1.51.09
2nd	D Wolfe	FCC	1.52.55
3rd	K McNair	Strath UCC	2.05.29
4th	A Morrison	GUCC	2.05.45

Special Additions

1st K1½	E Fraser and daughter	1.04.07
1st Touring Double	K Riddell and son	1.11.43

RADIO FORTH CANOE MARATHON /FAIRNILEE TO MELROSEDIVISION 3

1.	P O'Brien	KCC	50.21
2.	A Manzie	Strath UCC	52.04

DIVISION 4

1.	A Armstrong	Gateshead	50.58
2.	C O'Brien	KCC	52.35
3.	D Armstrong	Gateshead	56.07
4.	G Wooler	FCC	1.10.05
5.	P Cuthbert	FCC	1.10.07
6.	S Gow	FCC	1.11.27
7.	F McNicol	FCC	1.12.03
8.	G Fraser	Ind.	1.13.02

DIVISION 5

1.	C Berry	FCC	51.48
2.	T Lynch	FCC	1.14.01
3.	G Gaffney	FCC	1.26.54

RADIO FORTH CANOE MARATHON

1st team	The Edinburgh Academy	A Simpson D Thomson M Harrison	1.09.06
2nd team	Forth Canoe Club	S Rose A Jenkinson F Gaffney	1.13.01
3rd team	The Edinburgh Academy	R Bruce A Honeyman D Penrose	1.13.18
4th team	Selkirk High School	G Nicol K Robertson A Johnston	1.16.39
5th team	Daniel Stewarts and Melville College	M Clark R Chalmers C Mackay	1.21.13
6th team	"	D Gray P Mackay B Howard	1.24.44
7th team	"	A Manderson T Brown S Petrie	1.32.46

FORTH CANOE CLUB TROPHY

1st	FORTH CANOE CLUB	65 points
2nd	KIRKCALDY CANOE CLUB	37 points
3rd	ROXBURGH CANOE CLUB	20 points
4th	STRATHCLYDE UNIVERSITY CC	15 points

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TAY MARATHONAndrew Morton

Our event has run for seven years now. Every year we have attracted a very high quality entry with the fastest Marathon paddlers in the world competing for first place. In K1 the winners list reads like a "Whos Who" in the Marathon world - R.Pennifather, T.Cornish, B.Greenham, C.Greef, J.West, P.van de Merve. Robin Belcher, twice winner of the World Cup at Copenhagen has entered the event many times and has yet to win! Sadly, the total number of Scottish paddlers who have completed this event could almost be counted on the fingers of two hands and the toes of two feet! In Gudena over a thousand paddle each year. In Spain, hundreds paddle in the Marathon events and at the Liffey, two hundred or so paddled this year. For some reason, the average Marathon paddler finds this event unattractive. It may be the fact that a weekend trip is not enough to cope with the event which starts at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday. It may be too long, or it may be too rough. I suspect all these factors reduce the entry.

The S.C.A. has funded the event every year at a cost of at least £300 per annum. Many put in a lot of effort to run the event, and yet each year, only a handful of hardy perennials turn out.

The event is too good to drop altogether from the Calendar, but a change in format is needed to see if the numbers of entrants can be increased. I propose a one day event next year as there are many advantages.

1. The cost would be halved as no rescue boats would be needed, and accommodation costs would be much reduced.
2. Organisers would not need to commit themselves to a whole weekend.
3. Paddlers could travel to the event at leisure on Saturday and even get some practice in at Grandtully or Stanley.
4. The fishermen would be less affected on Saturday.
5. Fewer officials would be needed.

Before /

Before you all get too enthusiastic, let me outline the course! Forty seven miles in one day, from Kenmore to Perth, with one 30 minute stop at Dunkeld for Seniors. Juniors and Ladies would paddle from Dunkeld to Perth with a 30 minute stop at Stanley (if they are lucky!)

Going on the results of the past seven years, an average paddler (me!) would complete the course in under six hours at very low water, plus a half hour for a break at Dunkeld. With a 9.30 start at Kenmore then, most paddlers could be in Perth by 4.00 p.m. Those wishing to complete the course rather than actually race it, might be given an earlier start.

Andrew Manwell of Aberdeen University has already made his views known to me and I would be pleased if others could comment on the alternative format - are YOU more likely to paddle next year because it is a one day event? - are YOU attracted or horrified by the task of paddling the Tay in one day?

S.C.A. 7th TAY MARATHON 3/4th SEPTEMBER 1983. Selected Results

SENIOR MEN K1

1. P.vd Merve	Mec	7.03.27
2. B.Reynders	Mec	7.04.24
3. T.Cornish	Ric	7.05.47
4. G.Viljoen	Mec	7.08.37
5. R.Belcher	Eng	7.10.45
6. G.Watters	Mec	7.22.49
7. R.Kinch	Wal	7.25.01
8. A.Morton (V)	SCO	7.41.04
9. J.Lee	Mec	7.47.49
10. P.Wright	Eng	7.58.19
11. R.Ward	Eng	7.59.54
12. A.Penders	Mec	8.31.13
13. M.Lund (V)	Hav	9.19.49
14. E.Davidson (V)	Kir	10.41.37

SENIOR MEN K2

1. Greef/Lubout	Mec	6.51.22
2. Bennett/Thorogood	Eng	7.18.02

LADIES K1

1. Y.Allison	SCO	5.24.17
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JUNIOR MEN K1

1. S.Morley	Eng	4.28.44
2. N.Davidson	SCO	4.31.46
3. D.Elwood	PrB	4.41.23
4. S.Bibby	Eng	4.43.20
5. S.McCartney	SCO	4.50.53

<u>TEAM POINTS:</u>	Mechlin	16
	England	12
	Scotland	10

Next year's race will be a one day event from Kenmore to Perth with one stop.  
SUNDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER 1984

Organiser: A.Morton, 8, Jock's Hill Crescent, LINLITHGOW  
Tel: 0506 842423

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RIVER CLYDE MARATHON - 23rd OCTOBER 1983

Drew Manzie

The final marathon of the '83 season saw 25 paddlers on the start line. The Ladies and lower men's divisions had their start moved to below Garrion Bridge as a result of trees being lodged in the chutes at Garrion Weir. The right hand one being completely blocked, the traditional route down the left, close into the bank, having just a boat's width of clearance. (Inspection is now vital before paddling this section of the river).

A cold wet morning, dried just on start time and a good level of water provided a challenge to all paddlers. The hot showers at Strathclyde Park were very welcome at the end of the race. I was most impressed to see Kenny Fraser paddle his white water racer in Div.1 and finish 2nd, just 39 secs down on Andy Morton. The Davidson brothers paddling K2 failed by less than 30 secs. to break the course record.

<u>RESULTS</u>	Div. 1.	Andy Morton	Forth	74.39
	Div. 2.	Alistair Denny	Roxburgh	78.52
	Div. 6.	Neil Davidson	Kirkcaldy	75.15
		Allan Davidson		
	<u>Short Course</u>			
	Div. 4	Eddy Fraser	Roxburgh	44.43
	Div. 5 (1)	Cynthia Berry	Forth	45.53
	Div. 5 (2)	Josie Bevan	G.U.C.C.	49.57

No doubt it will not have passed entirely unnoticed that this column has been a lot less critical of the efforts of the Marathon Committee this year. Probably also there are those who have been able to hazard a pretty shrewd guess as to the reason for this. For any others who might be interested, we confess to having had a personal involvement in the Committee's activities for most of the season. Having been a leading advocate of the divorce of the Sprint and Marathon bodies, one felt obliged to contribute to the establishment of the independent Committee in its first year.

It is satisfying to report that the transition has taken place smoothly and, it is felt, satisfactorily. The biggest difficulty has been that of knowing exactly who the Committee consisted of, which may seem a bit ridiculous, but that will rectify itself at the A.G.M. when the new members are elected and take over the reins. Continuity will be available by the welcome intention of Andy Morton and Alistair Denny at least to seek re-election, and the new incumbents can look forward to inheriting a reasonably going concern. Routines have been established and precedents set which, though perhaps minor in themselves, should help towards the smooth working of the Committee and, it is hoped, obviate past criticism from within Scotland and further afield.

May we take this opportunity to wish those who will be devoting so much time and energy to administering Sprint and Marathon next year, all the best as they pursue their independent aims.

#### TWEED L.D.

Forth C.C. can be reasonably satisfied with the result of their attempt to get a large number of paddlers on the water for their 'Tweedledee'. There were 36 starters from Faimielee and race organiser George Logie was duly rewarded when one of his Edinburgh Academy teams became the first recipients of the Radio Forth Trophy. Less satisfying was the entry in the K2 championship event run concurrently from Walkerburn. Only four crews took part and Andy Morton/Neil Davidson proved to be in a class of their own, winning by nearly eight minutes from Alistair Denny/Grant Wilson.

#### LEVEN & CLYDE MARATHONS

Good turn-outs were reported from Leven and Clyde Marathons, which is encouraging. There has also been a brisk trade in second hand K1's in recent months, several new owners being first time buyers.

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#### CLYDE MARATHON

David Wolfe.

The Clyde Marathon more than lived up to its reputation for thrills and spills (literally) this year. The water was at a moderate level but floods during the previous weekend had deposited trees in the chutes of Garrion Weir. First to fall in was myself at a comparatively flat bit not far from the start.

The real fun started at Garrion weir where the only route was diagonally through the stopper on the left hand chute. Even Andy Morton had some anxious moments here and Kenny Fraser gained ground in his W.W. boat. Both Garry Young and Roderick Christie thought that a portage may be better but this was not easy and they both lost a lot of time.

Angus Morrison finished the season with yet another capsize and Alistair Denny, obviously practising for a complete run in next year's Liffey, took the weir over the edge sideways, not very good for the boat in only 1 inch of water.

Anyone who knows Tony, knows how difficult it is to extract the worthwhile information from the jumble of nonsense he usually talks. However in one of his more sane moods I had a quick conversation with him and using words of no more than one syllable I managed to extract the following information:

- Q. When did you start canoeing and who with?
- A. "I first started when I was about 14 $\frac{1}{2}$  when I joined the school canoe club (Firrhill), then later Gill Berrow (nee Robbie) took me canoeing.
- Q. You were involved in squash at the time weren't you?
- A. "Yes, I was playing squash a lot then for Lothian schools, but I was getting bored. That's one of the reasons I took up canoeing."
- Q. At what point did you become interested in slalom?
- A. "Almost as soon as I started paddling I did some slalom and after a few months went to my first competition at Comrie. I was really bad, in fact I was last, because I swam on both runs. When I was 15 and in Div.3, I got asked to Scottish Slalom Squad Training weekends. The first one was at Grandtully when it was really high and I was all over the place. I was really nervous too, because all the "big boys" like Dave, Mickey and Neil were there and they all seemed so good."
- Q. Who do you think influenced your style and ideas in the early days?
- A. "Well, first of all I picked up a lot from Neil, mainly because I was paddling with him all the time, but then I realised this was a bad idea - Neil can be a bit unorthodox at times and often didn't try very hard when other folk were watching. Nowadays I don't necessarily pick up on anyone's style but watch people and read up different points of view and get my own ideas."
- Q. What do you feel is wrong about the slalom set up in Scotland?
- A. " There isn't enough provision for up and coming youngsters and no-one at all who is prepared or capable of taking on the elite paddlers. It really needs an injection of 6 - 8 ex-paddlers of a very high standard to try and run a really good coaching scheme" (This situation has now been remedied to a certain extent by some organisation by the slalom committee. Fay Faraday will be helping run the slalom squad and Jock Young has agreed to coach the elite paddlers at regular intervals. Bluebell too is putting in a lot of effort in trying to bring on the young paddlers who need to be given direction as well as coaching).
- Q. You are now ranked No. 11 in Britain and have won a 3rd in a ranking Premier event. How do you feel about this?
- A. "Well, it would be better if it was No. 10 wouldn't it?"
- Q. What are your ambitions?
- A. "To get the number down." How far? "Well, sort of like as far as I can, How about sort of well No. 1?"

For those who don't know Tony he is that "young sexy and oh so cool" (his own words) beast that wanders around Forth Canoe Club usually not quite hand in hand with that other not quite as young sexy hunk and ex-convict Keith Brown. All rumours about their friendship still require confirming.

Tony is now a member of the G.B. intermediate training squad and is hopeful of a place at least in the 'B' team going to the pre-Worlds in Augsburg in 1984. He is 19, a student in mechanical engineering at Edinburgh University (2nd year) and paddles for Forth, Edinburgh University and Rainbow II. (This latter 'club' is an elite group of 4 or 5 paddlers who have paddled together in team events)

Tony is better known to the general public as the one who took a "slow, safe run" in his heat in "Paddles Up". No guesses for who came last in his heat.



This year's second Awe slalom was the first organised by Central Region Canoe Club, so I would like to thank all those who attended, especially the judges, and helped to make the event a success.

The arrangement of the programme with all but the team events run on the Sunday was caused by the salmon season running to the end of September; so we could not guarantee access to the river banks to erect the course on the Friday.

The event seemed to run smoothly enough (that is it appeared to run smoothly for competitors) except for moments of panic caused by the inevitable equipment failures. "Why does the most inaccessible judge always have the faulty headset?"

I would like to be able to comment on the standard of canoeing but - like organisers everywhere - I spent much of the weekend negotiating late entry fees, judges' rotas and doing the results. Organising a successful slalom provides its own satisfaction - even although this is doubtful at 6.30 on Sunday after two hours in the rain clearing up the course.

The only sour note - to come to my attention - was the camp site owner's inability to collect payment from one group of campers; they always dispersed whenever he approached. In this case the owner was not too unhappy - but such behaviour by canoeists cannot be condoned, and next year we will be checking up more carefully.

Prize Winners

DIVISION 2

C1 1st Dougie Couston WLCC

MEN'S K1

1st James Gillies WLCC  
2nd Alan Bownes RWSABC  
3rd Stewart Robertson EUCC

LADIES K1

1st Sue Jardine Grantown-cn-Spey  
2nd Louise Henderson FORTH

TEAM

1st Sanderson/Courtier/Courtier

DIVISION 3

C1 1st Mark Delaney WLCC

C2 1st Lonie/Waring DWWC

MEN'S K1

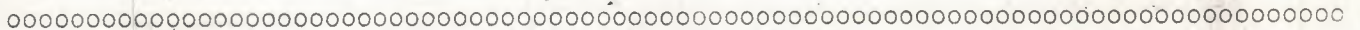
1st Colin Shackleton Leeds  
2nd Andrew Imrie Wallace  
3rd Kit NCCC

LADIES K1

1st Alison Young Wallace  
2nd Anna Richly Wallace

TEAM 1st Delaney/Young/Moore.

YOUTH 1st Ian Fraser WLCC



SLALOM RANKINGS AT END OF SEASON

MEN'S K1 PREMIER

Tony Leaver 11  
Neil Baxter 15  
Keith Brown 20  
Alan Meikle  
George Robertson  
Mark Delaney } may be  
Roddy Webster } promoted

LADIES K1 PREMIER

Jane Wilson 4  
Sue Ward 6

DIVISION 1 C1

Colin Brown  
Alistair Munro (Bluebell)  
Mark Laing

This event, sponsored by Fosters Draught, marked the end of the British slalom season and the start of the wild water racing season. Competitors from 14 countries competed for individual and team trophies, some paddlers having come from as far as Australia. A strong Scottish team of both youth and senior paddlers travelled down, hoping to take some of the major prizes.

On Saturday the individual international and regional slalom event and the wild water team event took place. The first international event was the Ladies individual slalom competition and after first runs, Liz Sharman, the World Champion, had already taken a conspicuous lead from Marie-Francoise Grange of France, the World Championship Bronze Medallist. However, lying in third place was Jane Wilson of Scotland, just 0.3 seconds behind Grange. After some exciting second runs down Llangollen's Town Falls, the position remained unchanged, only Sharman managing to improve on her first run time, with an incredible run that beat most of the men's kayak times.

Competing immediately after the Ladies were the Canadian Singles and this event gave an exciting battle between British Champion Martyn Hedges of Windsor and World Champion Silver Medallist David Hearn of the U.S.A. After first runs Hearn was six seconds clear of Hedges with 25 year old Alistair Munro of Scotland lying in fourth place. In the second runs, Hedges had a flying run, coming in 0.7 seconds faster than Hearn's first time. The atmosphere was tense as Hearn came down the course on his second run, going very fast, then disaster struck as he capsized in the white water. Despite a quick roll he had lost valuable time and was unable to beat Hedges' time. But this was not the only excitement as Sennelier of France and Munro of Scotland fought it out for third place, Munro winning the contest to come a very good 8 seconds behind Hedges in third place.

Already two medals to Scotland as attention was focused on the men's kayak event where World Champion Richard Fox of England was out to prove he is the best. After first runs he was 4 seconds clear of Roger Manwaring of England with Micheler of West Germany in third place. Only four seconds behind Micheler (World Champion Bronze Medallist) in fifth place, was Tony Leaver of Scotland. Hope was high that Leaver would be able to improve this position on his second run but this was not to be, and he had to be satisfied with overall 12th position, the event being won by Richard Fox.

After the individual slalom events were over, the wild water racing team event took place. Competing for Scotland youth team in the Inter-Regional and International team event were Stewart McCartney, R. Williamson and S. Thompson. They had a very good race on a slightly shortened course to end up in 2nd place behind the North West 'A' team. Excitement was high as spectators saw the men's kayak teams shooting the rocky 'Town Falls' of Llangollen. (See David Wolfe's Report on next page).

The last event of the weekend and possibly one of the most exciting to watch was the Slalom Grand Prix run over a short course down the falls. Again the Ladies were first away and an early lead was set up by Susanne Erbers of West Germany. Last to go was Liz Sharman who once more showed her dominance of this event beating Jane Wilson into 2nd place by 3 seconds. In the Canadian Singles event, Munro of Scotland once again showed form to come third in an event convincingly won by Hearn.

#### SLALOM INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

MEN'S KAYAK	1. Richard Fox	ENG	CANADIAN	1. Jamieson/Williams	ENG
	2. Russ Smith	ENG		2. Keane/Wolkenstein	ENG
	3. R. Manwaring	ENG		3. Zatco/Tkac	TCH
LADIES KAYAK	1. Liz Sharman	ENG	singles	1. M. Hedges	ENG
	2. Marie Grange	FRA		2. D. Hearn	USA
	3. Jane Wilson	SCO		3. A. Munro	SCO

Overall, a good performance by the Scottish team, the final positions in the Nations Cup being: England 15 pts. France 79 pts. Scotland 87 pts.

Scottish Canoe Association - White Water Racing CommitteeTeam Manager's Report FOSTERS INTERNATIONAL W.W. RACE 28/30th OCTOBER 1983.Teams: SENIOR MEN'S K1

K. Fraser, J. Anderson, A. Denny    A Team.  
 M. Stoddart, K. Bain, I Bownes    B Team

LADIES K1 G. Berrow, C. Berry, R. Wolfe.

JUNIOR MEN'S K1 S. McCartney, S. Thompson, R. Williamson.

Travel was in private cars and most of the team arrived at Llangollen on the Thursday evening. Bed and Breakfast accommodation had been booked for everyone and all arrangements were satisfactory.

The whole of the river was available for practise for 4 hours only on Friday. The time available was put to good use and the team split into groups of a manageable size for their practice runs. The river was at a low level and a considerable amount of damage was caused to the boats at the Town Falls. The most common damage was to the bow of the boat, but Gill Berrow also went through her footrest. One point of concern was the poor state of repair of some of the boats even before the practice; patches hanging loose or not properly bonded to boats, and large amounts of sticky tape needed. All paddlers had more than adequate time to prepare their boats for this event.

The team event was held late on the Saturday afternoon. The last teams had less than perfect light as they went down the course, but the slalomists had started their practice runs at sunrise, such was the pressure of time. The Youth teams finished above the Town Falls. Our Youth team had an excellent run and took second place in their class to a strong North East team which was comprised of G.B. paddlers. The Men's A team was held back a little by Alistair Denny who was unable to keep pace with Kenny Fraser and John Anderson. The Men's B team had all paddlers more closely matched. It was very encouraging to have a ladies team, the first time that I can recall. Their result was a little disappointing but it was the first big competition for both Cynthia Berry and Rona Wolfe.

The individual event took place on Sunday starting at mid-day. There was a large entry (approx 200 boats) and starts were at 30 second intervals. As is often the case early in the season, there were some upsets in the results with some of the top WW racers only just starting their training programme. Most of the Scottish team produced results true to form with only Gill Berrow doing less well than possible, but she has only recently returned to training after various interruptions due to study, marriage and illness. Mark Stoddart capsized and Ronnie Williamson broke his footrest, both at the town fall, losing time.

SUMMARY OF RESULTSMEN'S K1 INTERNATIONAL

1. D.R.H. Taylor	England	12:10
2. J. Hibble	England	12:33
3. M. Swallow	England	12:41
4. S. Kelly	Ireland	12:42
5. K. Fraser	Scotland	12:50
6. J. Anderson	Scotland	12:55
7. A. Denny	Scotland	13:31
9. I. Bownes	Scotland	13:52
11. K. Bain	Scotland	14:00
12. S. Thompson (Y)	Scotland	14:20
16. S. McCartney (Y)	Scotland	14:36
20. R. Williamson (Y)	Scotland	14:56
22. M. Stoddart	Scotland	20:41

LADIES K1 INTERNATIONAL

1. A. Plant	England	13:37
2. S. Hornby	England	13:59
3. C. Helm	England	14:08
4. G. Berrow	Scotland	14:14
7. C. Berry (Y)	Scotland	14:59
11. R. Wolfe	Scotland	16:16

David Wolfe.

COMING EVENTS

<u>DECEMBER 1983</u>		<u>Organiser</u>
17	Canoe Polo 'A' League Tournament, Kirkcaldy, 5.30-8.30	10
17	Alva mini slalom series 1.	10
18	Clyde I WWR Div. C, Open	38
<u>JANUARY 1984</u>		
7	Scottish Canoe Polo Championships, Greenock (provisional date)	
8	Teith WW Marathon - Callander	02
14	Slalom Squad Training	01
22	Thistlebrig II WWR Div. B, C, Open - Stanley	30
28	Canoe Polo 'A' League Tournament - Fife Institute, Glenrothes 5 - 8p.m.	28
29	Alva mini slalom series 2.	10
28-29	White Water Squad training - Tryweryn (invited paddlers only)	
<u>FEBRUARY 1984</u>		
4	Canoe Polo 'B' League Tournament, Kirkcaldy 5.30-8.30	10
5	Clyde II WWR Div. C, Open - River Clyde, Stonebyres	04
11	Canoe Polo 'A' League Tournament - Kirkcaldy 5.30-8.30	10
11	Slalom Squad Training	01
19	Makerstoun WWR Div. C, Open - River Tweed	05
18-19	Crystal Palace Exhibition	
25	Alva mini slalom series 3.	10
25-26	University Open Surf event - North Berwick	
26	SUSF WWR (Confined) River Tay, Stanley. (provisional date)	

LIST OF ORGANISERS

01. S.C.A. Alistair Munro, 11, Springvalley Gardens, Edinburgh.  
Tel. 031-447-7938.
02. S.C.A./TROSSACHS: A Samuel, Auchengillan, Blanefield, Glasgow.  
Tel: 0360 70473 or 0360 70763
04. GUCC: Competition Secretary, Stevenson Building, 77 Oakfield Avenue,  
Glasgow.
05. ROXBURGH CC: K. Fraser, 2, Denholmhill Cottages, Denholmhill, Hawick.
10. SCA/FCAG: Brian Moore, 51, Station Road, Kelty, Fife.
28. STRATHKELVIN KC: D. Mcwhirter, 70 Oak Drive, Lenzie.  
Tel: 041-776-3378.
30. EUCC: Competition Secretary, 46 The Pleasance, Edinburgh.  
Tel: 031-667-1001.
38. STRATHCLYDE UCC: Athletic Union, 90 John Street, Glasgow. 041-552-5320.

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ARCTIC CANOE RACE 1984

We have received information that this race will take place from 29th July to 4th August 1984. It will be from Kilpisjarvi to Tornio in Lapland.

Classes and prizes K1, K2, C2, gold, silver, bronze  
WWR, Women's K1, Veterans' K1 and  
Tourist C2 - gold, silver, bronze.

All details can be had on request from ARCTIC CANOE RACE, Valikatu 3, 95400 Tornio, Lapland. (Telephone 980-40919). The closing date is 15th June, 1984.

SOCIAL, PERSONAL & OTHERWISE

We hope everyone is remembering the S.C.A. A.G.M. Disco at the Harwell House Hotel, Ettrick Road, Edinburgh, on Saturday 3rd December. It is from 8 p.m. to midnight. Come one, come all, you don't have to be a Scottish Canoe Association member. Tickets at £1 per head can be obtained from the S.C.A. office, or from Brian Chapman, 7 Greenbank Grove Edinburgh, EH10 5ST.

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We hear that Nanette Adamson has gone to South Africa and we send her our best wishes.

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Forth C.C.'s unsung hero Derek Newport revealed hidden depths when he performed nobly in Andrew Manwell's Loch Tay Triathlon to finish 13th out of 25 finishers. Well done, Derek.

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Congratulations to the Forth Canoe Club Team in the Leukaemia event last June, who raised the third highest amount of sponsor money. The prize was a Graham Tiso Gift Voucher for £50 for the Club.

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Congratulations also to Forth Canoe Club member Trevor Lunn who raised the largest individual amount of sponsor money for the Leukaemia event and won a Scott Ramage Canoe for his efforts.

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We have just heard that a wee boy was born to Anne and Fred Nelson on Bonfire Night! We also hear that they resisted the temptation to call him "Guy"! He is in fact, Michael.....nice for two year old Graham to have a brother. Two more canoeists for the future?..... Anyway, Congratulations from us all.

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SCATTI. Dave Cuthill is building a new slalom timer with the 1986 Commonwealth Championships in mind. The new unit will have Memory and will stand alone, but will be readable by computer. Features will be modularity of construction, ease of use and high reliability.

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We are glad to know that Jock Young has not been able to stay away from the canoeing scene for too long and is putting in a lot of time coaching our star slalomists in their winter training programme. Keith, Tony, Sue and Jane are benefiting from his hard work - we hear that during a recent weekend Jock spent 14 hours coaching from the river bank.

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We would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has helped in the production of KAYAK in the last 10 years. The collation, stapling, addressing and distribution of each issue calls for a lot of work which was always left to a small group of enthusiasts. We would particularly like to thank Doug Wilson who was always there when he was needed and Carol and George Logie who looked after the non-members' subscriptions etc. Without them the task would not have been possible.

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It is some six years ago that we became involved with S.I.W.A. (Scottish Inland Waterways Association) in a revival of interest in the Union Canal. The basin at Lochrin was drained back to 100 yards past Viewforth, and with several large diggers, a fleet of lorries and up to 100 volunteers up to their elbows in muck, some 4,500 tons of debris was cleared out over several weekends. The canal was cleaned down to its original clay bottom and re-watered. We all had high hopes of seeing the Leamington lifting bridge operational again under a project started by the Mechanical Engineers of Edinburgh University, but it seems that their money and enthusiasm fizzled out. Now we see that British Waterways Board are organising sand-blasting and repainting the bridge, and shortly the Lochrin Basin will be drained again to allow inspection and painting under the deck. If the winding mechanism is eventually replaced, this will allow easier access for the weed-cutting boats to keep the weed in check during the summer months

To paddle on the Union Canal requires a Permit from B.W.B. Glasgow. Since very few club members hold a Permit, they do not exist as canal users in the eyes of B.W.B. As a result, it is not possible for them to obtain additional funds from central resources to maintain the canal in our area. It would be much easier for Glasgow's Chief Engineer to justify expenditure on weed cleaning operations etc. if he received complaints from fee-paying users of the canal.

We have been renting some canoe spaces in the old building to Edinburgh University C.C. since the summer, and while this has swelled our coffers sufficiently to pay our astronomical rates bill, it has also been useful in putting more Edinburgh canoeists in contact with each other to arrange mutual outings. We have recently had a request for a similar facility to be extended to Napier College C.C., and we will try to accommodate them a little also. With any luck, they will all join Forth Canoe Club anyway, in the fullness of time.

R.K.R.

It is very sad to report that recently the money box for the electricity meter was removed, together with an estimated £30 - £40, being the takings for almost a quarter. As there were no signs of forcible entry, this appears to be the work of a key-holder or unauthorised keyholder.

Would the person responsible please note that the best time to steal money in future is just before tea-time on Mondays when we now empty the box every week. Also that typical takings are a mere £2 - £3. If you must steal this measley sum in future, please leave the box behind. Perhaps we could have the original money box back?

May we remind keyholders that keys are issued personally and are NOT TRANSFERABLE or for loan to others at any time. All items stored in the building are at your own risk. If you require insurance, your S.C.A. membership should cover this. Please SHUT THE MAIN GATE BEHIND YOU to prevent entry to the site by potential casual thieves.

Please report any lost key immediately. If you have an access problem, contact Kelso or Gordon.

The storage racks have been altered in the Jack Cuthill Building to increase our capacity to 34 boats. Lower slalom-type boats should be stored around the walls, while the higher sprint and river race boats may be stored in the middle. Gordon is still working out the economics, but we hope this will enable us to stabilise storage costs for 1984 at least.

1983 storage fees expire on December 31st, and new keys for 1984 will be available from January 1st. The new key will become operative during the last week-end of January, when old keys will no longer work and should be returned to Gordon Cuthill. On the same week-end, un-named equipment or boats and unauthorised boats will be removed. A 'Housekeeping' roster will be posted up.

#### FORTH CANOE CLUB NOTES

Gordon H. Cuthill,  
Secretary/Treasurer

Another year has almost gone by and the 'social' season is upon us again. It is also the time of year for annual general meetings and this year our A.G.M. will be held at the Offices of the Scottish Sports Council, 1, St. Colme Street (the western continuation of Queen Street) on THURSDAY, 8th, DECEMBER at 7 p.m. prompt. Other details are included with this issue and all senior members are expected to attend the meeting, bringing with them the Agenda. Apologies for absence may be conveyed to the Club Secretary before the meeting. PLEASE MAKE A REAL EFFORT TO ATTEND. IT IS YOUR CLUB AND YOU PAY TO BECOME A MEMBER. YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A SAY IN HOW THAT MONEY IS SPENT.

The F.C.C. CHRISTMAS PARTY is at MILLIONAIRES DISCOTEK, 57 Frederick Street on TUESDAY 20th DECEMBER 1983. Tickets cost £1 each and can be bought from Cynthia Berry (669 4161) or from Kelso or Gordon. Members and non-members are welcome to come - the more the merrier. If you can sell some tickets to your friends, please contact Cynthia.

SUBSCRIPTIONS It is hoped to hold subscriptions at the same level for 1984 and also the cost of storage in the Jack Cuthill Building. You will have read above Kelso's report of the recent theft from the electricity meter. As he says, the signs point to it being an 'inside job' i.e. the work of a keyholder or someone with access to a key. I would ask all J.C. Building users to be vigilant and to challenge any unauthorised person in or near the building. This has been a considerable financial loss to the Club which we can ill afford and steps have been taken to ensure that it will not happen again. I would remind keyholders that they have security keys for the building and these are issued to them personally. Unauthorised /

Unauthorised possession of a key is an offence and anyone found with one can be prosecuted. Keys remain the property of Forth Canoe Club and are rented to hut users annually. The locks will be changed during the 4th week of January each year and old keys must be returned to the Club Secretary.

Copies of the latest B.C.U. SLALOM HANDBOOK are available from the Club Secretary.

The handbook gives an introduction to the sport of slalom canoeing and is aimed at paddlers of little experience to help them through their early days. In general terms the advice given should help paddlers to make their way up to Division 2 but as they progress it will become increasingly necessary to learn by contact with other paddlers.

Some of the topics covered are Basic Strokes, Equipment, How to handle moving water, Slalom Gates, Your first Slalom and Training Advice.

It has a lot of good information and photographs and if you are thinking of starting slalom canoeing it is well worth the cost of £1.

### S.C.A. MEMBERSHIP

If you intend to do any competition paddling then you must join the Scottish Canoe Association. Benefits of membership include personal accident insurance while canoeing or travelling to and from a venue; Canoe insurance against damage whilst in use and theft while in store; the right to take part in competitions and coaching courses etc; a quarterly newsletter and copies of 'Canoe Focus'.

Full membership costs £12 and Youth membership costs £6. Devotees can take the plunge and get Life Membership for £150 which is quite a good deal if you think about it.

Cadet membership for 9 - 16 year olds is available at £3 for one year only.

Application forms are available from the Club Secretary or from the S.C.A. Offices at 18, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh.

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Some of you may remember the last issue of KAYAK in which we suggested that anyone who was thinking of purchasing a paddle or buoyancy aid should contact Gordon so that a bulk order discount might be negotiated. About 5 people did so, but we still need more to get the discount. Why not ask Santa for some money to buy equipment this Christmas? 'phone Gordon - 447-3954 - if you are interested.

The Club will be showing the video of 'Think Slalom' early in the New Year, for those members who are thinking of starting in slalom competition during 1984. More details will be available nearer the time.

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The Club Baths session is running successfully on Monday nights at St. Augustine's School from 7 to 9 p.m.

We still need people who are capable of instructing beginners in rolling techniques.

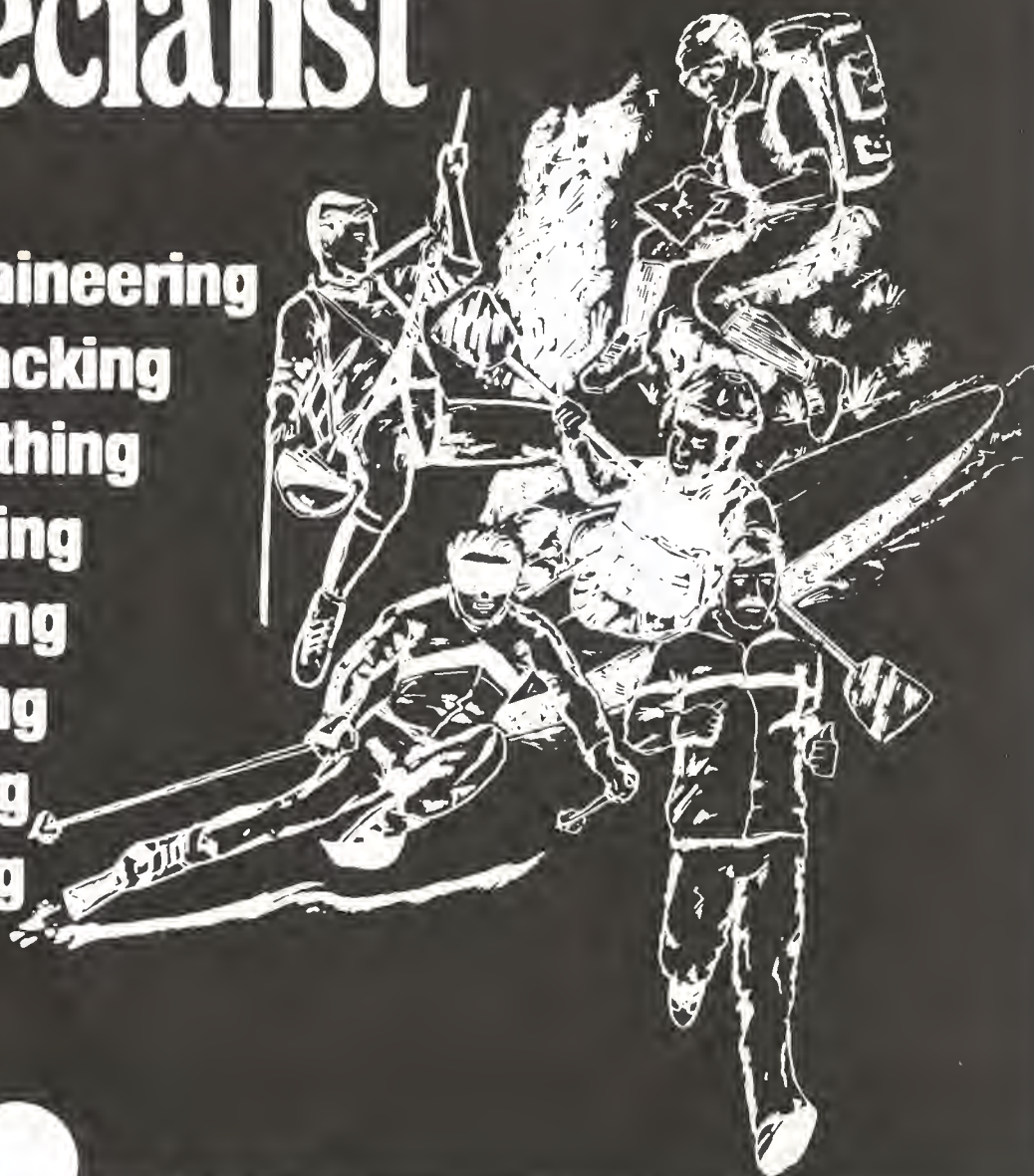
If you can roll, please come along and help teach others.

If you have difficulty in getting to St. Augustines then 'phone Gordon. We may be able to arrange transport.



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**LENDAL** is a privately owned company run by canoeists. Both directors have competed in two Olympic Games each and have each held National Sprint and Long Distance Racing titles. Both Marianne and Alistair Wilson have been active canoeists for the past twenty five years and have wide experience of competitive, expedition and sea canoeing. The company aims to produce high quality canoe paddles and equipment and has had several "firsts" in design. We continually seek to improve on our designs and to introduce new ideas on to the market.

From top to bottom:

**1. NORDKAPP** - Sea Touring Paddle  
Multi-laminate wood blade with contoured back and stabilising rib.

**2. PACEMASTER** - Racing Paddle  
Lightweight multi-laminate wood blade, contoured back and stabilising rib.

**3. FLAT KIT** - General Purpose  
Formed around a strong aluminium spine.

**4. CURVED KIT** - General Purpose  
Strong aluminium spine with basic slalom design for maximum efficiency.

**5. SLALOM**  
Suitable for all rough water paddling.

**6. SURF SKI** - Sprint and Marathon  
Developed specifically for Surf Ski enthusiasts. Racing design with contoured back. Blade widths: 17.5 cms.

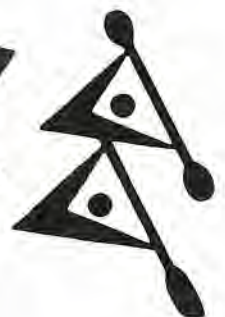
**7. NORDKAPP** - Sea Paddle  
Available in recommended sea safety colours. Blade width: 17.5 cms.

**8-10. POWERMASTER** - Racing Blade  
Suitable for sprint, marathon and down-river racing. Blade widths: 20.5 cms or 19.5 cms for Ladies/Junior use.

All models available with a choice of fibre-glass, carbon or aircraft alloy shafts.



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