

CANOEING

Vol. 8 Number 4 March 1968 one shilling & ninepence

SPECIAL FEATURES

Adventure Holidays
Down The Rhone
International
Canoeing



"BABEL"
Photo: J. Gruning



K.W. KAYAKS

DESIGNED FOR THE ROUGH WATER

David Mitchell won his Silver Medal at
the 1967 World Slalom Championships
paddling a
STREAMLYTE K.W.7. Slalom kayak

K. W. 4. WILD WATER KAYAK
K. W. 7. SLALOM KAYAK
K. W. 9. WILD WATER RACING KAYAK
K. W. 'STRIKE'. SLALOM CANADIAN DOUBLE

NEW FOR 1968 - THE K.W. 'DART' W'W RACER

WRITE FOR DETAILS OF OUR CANOES, KAYAKS AND BLACKS
CAMPING EQUIPMENT. H.P. ON ALL CANOES AND EQUIPMENT.

STREAMLYTE MOULDINGS (Marine) LTD.
124, BRIGHTON ROAD, SHOREHAM-BY-SEA, SUSSEX.
tel: SOUTHWICK 2108

AVONCRAFT

WE SET THE PACE IN 68 WITH THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF BRITISH HARDSKIN RACING AND TOURING KAYAKS.



Stephen Kitson, K1 class winner 'Liffey Descent'. "Invader" Mk.2 K1

NEW FOR 1968

- 1) "PHANTOM" Mk.3 K2 racing kayak. Fastest yet, many new features. Prototype, 1st British Army Championships L.D. Highly suited for Devizes - Westminster L.D. race.
- 2) Worlds First Hardskin Touring Collapsible double into single canoe. Prototypes, 1st Senior and Junior D-W race 1967.
- 3) "INVADER" Mk.3 K1 racing kayak. Improved design features. Faster than the Mk.2 which was 1st in the International 'Liffey Descent' against stiff foreign competition.

Further improved developments have been added to the "U.K.3" and "U.K.4" racing craft, supreme in their class.

Craft built from scratch include:-

"Rapide" Mk.3 Tourer. "Hustler" Mk.3 Tourer. "Gnat" Slalom.
"Mini-Rapide" baths boat.

Write for full details of our range of racing and touring canoes, complete or in kit form to:-

R. H. VARDY
30, CAVAN ROAD.
REDBOURN. HERTFORDSHIRE. TELE REDBOURN 303

Suppliers to H.M. Forces, Schools and Education Authorities etc.

MOONRAKER

BRITISH RACING AND TOURING

CANOES

ALWAYS AHEAD IN DESIGN & PERFORMANCE

A MOONRAKER K.2.

PADDLED BY G. HOWE & B. STRICKLAND IN
THE 1966 DEVIZES - WESTMINSTER RACE
WON THREE MAJOR TROPHIES

THE DEVIZES - WESTMINSTER CHALLENGE CUP.
THE DEVIZES - WESTMINSTER SERVICES TROPHY.
THE DESIGNERS TROPHY.

UP - TO - DATE RANGE OF VENEER OR GLASS - RESIN
SPRINT RACING, LONG DISTANCE & TOURING KAYAKS
& ACCESSORIES

WE ARE THE SOLE DISTRIBUTORS FOR ENGLAND &
WALES OF

Lendal
SCOTLAND

RACING & TOURING PADDLES

By ALISTAIR WILSON

THESE BEAUTIFULLY MADE BLADES ARE EQUAL
TO THE BEST IN THE WORLD, YET LESS EXPENSIVE.
POPULAR LENGTHS IN STOCK, & QUICK SERVICE
FOR BLADES MADE TO INDIVIDUAL REQUIREMENTS.

SEND FOR FREE CATALOGUE

JENKINS & LANCEFIELD

CANOE DESIGNERS AND BUILDERS

PICKWICK · CORSHAM · WILTS

Save money by buying direct from the manufacturer
SUPPLIERS TO H.M. SERVICES & EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

CANOEING MAGAZINE

Vol. 8 Number 4 March 1968

Editor: Mike Clark
Treasurer: Maureen Dawson
Circulation Manager: Ernest Clark

Editorial Office: 25, Featherbed Lane,
Croydon, Surrey, CRO 9AE.

CONTENTS

Adventure Holidays	3
The Month Ahead	9
L-D Racing Report	10
Down The Rhone	11
News in Brief	16
International Canoeing	19
Comment	22
Result Round Out	22

CANOEING MAGAZINE is published 25th of each month by Canoeing Press and printed by Kingprint Limited., Teddington.

Subscription rate: Twenty-one shillings per year, in U.K. U.S.A. and Canada, three dollars.

editorial

B.C.U. CANOE CONFERENCE

The B.C.U. Canoe Conference at Crystal Palace on 27th January was certainly a great success with some 2000 persons having a good look at the sport. The accent was on YOUTH and judging by the number of Sea Scouts and youth parties wandering around we certainly "packed them in". As for the demonstrations and lectures, on these it is difficult to comment for having a stand to man I was rather preoccupied but when ever something was on the trade exhibition stands were almost cleared - so I assume all created great interest.

As for the trade exhibition most of the canoe manufacturers were there and by all the broad smiles after the show, good business was done!

The B.C.U. AGM was held in the evening and quite well attended. However, the meeting is becoming just a formality with minutes being read, comments on the annual report that appeared in "Canoeing in Britain", and declaration of the result of Council Election and the presenting of trophies.

The President closed the meeting with a few words of news on a proposed Cadet Class to be introduced to canoe racing - news indeed and something of a bombshell to L-D in my mind! The B.C.U. proposed to introduce a one design Cadet Class Canoe to Sprint and L-D racing to cater for and interest schools in racing. The Cadet Canoe has to be easy and cheap to build, and be of a design suitable for the young paddler. If this class is to be run on the youth championship formula it means another THREE events to be raced in L-D and Sprint. In Sprint this is not vital but in L-D..... For heavens sake we have only just

pruned the number of classes in L-D because events were getting too many classes to control. Now we are asked to include more?

The President's remarks on the Cadet Class bring us full circle back to Spring 1956. A canoe, easy and cheap to build that can be used for racing and touring... Sounds like an N.C.K. (National Chine Kayak).

"Here we have at last a craft which is cheap and easy to build

and can be used for both racing and touring and therefore is a boat which should be most suitable to introduce canoeing into schools, youth clubs, etc. And it should be noted that in order to make the new class available to as many youths as possible, the BCU paddling Racing Committee has decided to declare the class open to all, including non-members of the BCU," quote from "Canoeing in Britain" No. 23, Autumn 1956....



CANDIDS AT THE A.G.M.





ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS



The beginning of March, the start of a new competitive canoe season, but what have you been doing for the past winter months? No doubt many will have been lazing in front of a warm fire surrounded by dozens of holiday brochures and wondering just where you will spend those two weeks in the sun away from work. If you have not yet decided on where to go and what to do, read on....

Glide across the still waters, float peaceably along in the current, pass quietly through lush green pastures or through deep valleys where the river banks are clad with thick fir forests. Race down the wild rapids - free from slalom poles - steep falls, rocks and excitement everywhere, or thrill to surfing up wide sandy shores on the back of giant rollers, escape from the hub of modern day life, far from the din of traffic and the rat race of our age. Take your canoe and journey. Journey anywhere. No more competitions for two weeks, but stay on the water and explore new rivers, creeks, isles and lakes. Pack your camping gear and take-off for the British waterways, the quiet or rapid rivers of the continent, the beauty and wilds of Ireland. Take off with a few members of your canoe club, or maybe you are interested in meeting new faces who share the same likes - then for you one of the organised trips, the ADVENTURE HOLIDAY.



Canoeing at Pinmill



Caving with P.G.L.



Canoeing on the Ardeche

The C.C.P.R. (Central Council of Physical Recreation) offer by far the widest range of courses, including Canoeing, Sea and Surf Canoeing, Surf and White Water Canoeing, Sailing, Sub-aqua, and Water Skiing. Plus many other courses ranging from Mountain Climbing to Fly Fishing, from Pony Trakking to Table Tennis. Courses suited to the complete beginner and courses for the expert. Canoeing, Camping and Surfing courses are held at the Plas-y-Brenin Centre in Snowdonia and range from £14.5s. for a week to £28.10s. for two weeks. Here also you can take one of the Mountain Activities and try the whole range of outdoor activities. (Your Editor can well recommend all the activities at Plas-y-Brenin for I have tried most of them and it was here that I started my interest in canoeing).

Still on the water other canoeing courses can be found at The Hamble Sailing and Canoeing Centre, situated on the River Hamble within easy reach of the Solent with its many quiet inlets on the mainland and the Isle of Wight. Plenty of sea and estuary canoeing here, while Canoe Camping expeditions are run for those who have sufficient experience. Individuals may join the course of bookings may be made by youth organisations or student groups. Prices here around £2.15s a day.

Basic Canoeing or a Combined Holiday and Sailing where one can use the full facilities of The Pinmill Centre at Clamp House on the River Orwell, Suffolk. At Clamp House you can learn canoeing in SL5 or Dipper or try handling something bigger in the shape of a 35 ft Gaff Cutter. Holidays at Pinmill are around £21 to £26 per week.

How about cruising the waterways in something bigger than a canoe? Well the canals of our country offer a really unique holiday. They offer that now rarest

of pleasures - tranquillity. No need to hurry, there's time to enjoy the sights, the sounds and the scents of the countryside; to call at a farm for fresh eggs; to visit peaceful villages, centuries old; to enjoy the rich beauty of old canal architecture, quaint hump-back bridges and mellow warehouses. At the end of the day, refreshment and relaxation in some pleasant canal-side tavern, where a welcome awaits those who come by water.

You still want a canoeing holiday? How about going foreign, down the Ardeche, the Limm or Drina in the care of P.G.L. Holidays. Here it's a holiday in the sun, pure canoeing or a mixture of sailing, surfing and underwater exploration. Drift through the spectacular gorges of the Ardeche river to the sun-soaked Mediterranean coast at La Couronne, an unforgettable superbly different holiday. Stay in this country? Okay stick with P.G.L. and try a 15 day Mixed Adventure Holiday canoeing the Wye, Sailing, Pony Trekking and Caving. Prices range from around £27 for two weeks on the Wye to £44 to £46 for two weeks on the Ardeche. However there are many more P.G.L. Holidays to choose from.

Fancy going under the water for your holidays then why not join "Divers Down!" Here you can explore a completely new world under the personal supervision of ex-naval Expedition Divers, and all you need is bathing apparel and a towel. Wet Suits, Fins, Masks, Snorkels, Weight Belts, Air Tanks and Regulators at the Divers Down Centre is all supplied by leading water-sports manufacturers, Cost of five day course is around 10 to 14 gns. Where is it - Swanage, Dorset.

Well I hope I have interested you in taking a holiday with a difference this year, where will I be going? Two weeks in Ireland covering The Liffey Descent!



Canoeing at Plas-y-Brenin



Pony Trekking in Wales



Sub-aqua with Divers Down



Sub-aqua with Divers Down



Water Skiing with C.C.P.R.



C.C.P.R. Centre in Snowdonia
Below: Canoeing at Pinmill

For further information on holidays mentioned in this article write for full details:- C.C.P.R. 26, Park Crescent, London W.1./ The Hamble Sailing and Canoeing Centre, "The Moorings", Rope Walk, Hamble, Hampshire./ Pinmill Sailing Company, Clamp House, Pinmill, Ipswich, Suffolk./ The British Waterways Board, Melbury House, Melbury Terrace, London N.W.1./ P.G.L. Holidays, Adventure House, Station Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire./ Divers Down, 10, Park Road, Swanage, Dorset.



JAYCEE COUGAR SLALOM KAYAK COBRA C1 CANADIAN CANOE



THE JAYCEE COUGAR is an all-British slalom kayak built in glassfibre and designed to meet the needs of the really top flight slalomist, yet handled as easily by the novice or lighter paddler. The Cougar is highly manoeuvrable yet has adequate buoyancy in the bow and stern. The careful design, avoiding all sharp edges and flat sections, plus our new method of construction that gives as near as possible a true one piece moulding, makes The Cougar a kayak of extreme strength.

FOR SLALOM & W'W ENTHUSIASTS

First in the field of Canadians again, John Critchley is proud to introduce THE JAYCEE COBRA, a slalom C1 canoe built with the improved glass-fibre technique as in the Cougar. This highly attractive single seater Canadian canoe is easy to roll and has great manoeuvrability. One of the features in this craft is the moulded seat that gives efficient grip and a comfortable paddling position. Much study has been given to produce an extra lightweight hull.



JOHN CRITCHLEY

PLUS A FULL RANGE OF MENDESTA
KAYAKS - GILLCO CRASH HATS &
SPOON-BLADE PADDLES. SEND FOR
ILLUSTRATED LEAFLETS.

268a, NORWOOD ROAD, WEST NORWOOD,
LONDON, S.E.27

tel: 01-670-1234

Ottersports LTD.

BROAD STREET, NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND. PHONE 39405 and 39161.

Service
FOR THE CANOEIST

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED 48 PAGE FREE CATALOGUE



OTTERSPTS LTD. 8-10 BROAD ST.
NORTHAMPTON. PLEASE SEND FREE
48 PAGE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE.

NAME
ADDRESS

C. M.

Come canoeing on the waterways-start anywhere

From London to Lancashire; Wiltshire to Yorkshire you can canoe for one mile or a hundred on the canals and rivers of the British Waterways Board. The navigations offer quite canoeing within easy reach of many towns - and a wide choice of longer trips when you have more than a weekend to spare.

Explore the charm of the countryside and you'll find a kaleidoscope of scenery - wild life too, and ancient buildings have their own fascination. Interested? Then do take a 12 months licence and use the waterways all the year round.

*Inquiries to British Waterways Board
Pleasure Craft Licensing Officer,
Willow Grange, Church Road,
Watford, Herts.
Tel. No. Watford 26422.*



THE MONTH AHEAD

.. 2 9 16 23 30
Mon. 3 10 17 24 31
Tue . 4 11 18 25 ..
Wed . 5 12 19 26 ..
Thu . 6 13 ..

WHERE TO GO - WHAT TO COMPETE - WHAT TO SEE

MARCH

- 3rd. OXFORD L-D RACE, B11 P4. Details: John Hudson, Queens College Oxford.
- 10th CANCELLED LUNE SLALOM
- 10th KENNET WINTER SERIES L-D (C) Honey Stree to Newbury, 26½ mile
Details: Waterside Youth Centre, Northbrook Street, Newbury.
- 17th RIVER CRAKE CRUISE, Lakeland CC. Details: R. Marsden, Nearer Light Ash Farm, Bilsborrow, Preston, Lancs.
- 17th MEDWAY RALLY. Details of all events: P. Antwis, Four Admirals Canoe Club, 38, Hill Road, Rochester, Kent.
- 24th KENNET WINTER SERIES L-D (D) Devizes to Newbury, 34 miles.
Details: Waterside Youth Centre, Northbrook Street, Newbury.
- 30th URE CRUISE, Leeds CC. Details: R. Briggs, 176, Gladstone Street, Bradford 3.
- 31st LEAM RIVER L-D RACE, B10 P4. Details: R.A.Sowman, 4, Lander Road, The Cape, Warwick.

Although canoe racing is starting once again it is requested that all paddlers who live in areas that are still restricted to cattle movement should not attend or compete in the above events. The L-D events are definitely on but competitors should check that the last White Water races are being run.

CANOE ROLLING

LONDON, Seymour Hall Baths, Seymour Place, London W.1.
Every Tuesday and Friday from 9 to 10 pm.

BRENTFORD BATHS, Clifden Road, Brentford, Middx. Every Thursday from 9 to 10 pm. Everyone welcome along with members of the Isleworth Canoe Club.

WIMBLEDON BATHS, Latimer Road, S.W.19. Rolling with the Wimbledon Young Mariners every Friday 7.30 to 8.30 pm. Age limit of 14 to 21 years 1s 6d per session all year round.

NORTHERN, Almshouse Lane Baths, Wakefield. Every Monday from 9 to 10 pm. Organised by the West Yorkshire Canoe Club.

WAKEFIELD ROAD BATHS, Bradford, 4, Every Thursday 8 to 9 pm. with Leeds Canoe Club.

LEEDS CANOE CLUB at Leeds, Kirkstall Road Baths, Leeds 4
Every Friday 8 to 9.30 pm.

LONG DISTANCE RACING REPORT

To me the start of the season appears very bright with a record number of interesting and exciting venues to wet the appetite of anyone considering participating in this sport. In the International field the most exciting news is that Danish Canoe Federation is starting a series of National L.D. races and also hopes to hold an International race in 1968. For anyone who might be interested in thinking of taking their holidays in Denmark to incorporate one of the races the dates are 19th May, 4th August and the International on the 21st September. Erik Wilche, the Chairman, has written to me to say that they would very much welcome any British Canoeists who care to go over to participate, and they hope to attract entries from Norway and Sweden for their National L.D. There is great interest also expressed in the Spanish series of National and International races which start on 4th August. I understand that Bradford on Avon Rowing Club intends to send a strong contingent. The Irish International in September also expects a record entry and I, together with many other canoeists who have attended the Spanish and Irish races, can recommend these events to anyone thinking of going.

Peter Lawler is a friend of mine and I do not want to enter into the controversy concerning his recent suspension for fear that my views may be regarded as biased. To try to look at the matter impartially however, the affair looks to me rather like the old story of the thief who chopped off his own right hand to punish himself for stealing. The top class competitors in all sports are difficult to come by. They need special attention because

usually they have a prima donna streak in them. They are rather like a well-bred pedigree horse - subject to temperament. Of one thing I am certain, there is not a single top flight canoeist that we can do without and to alienate their affiliations to sport is completely wrong in my opinion. I hope that this sad affair can soon be righted, and that Peter Lawler will be eligible for selection in International competition this year.

From my observations I would say that British rivers are the cleanest in the world. They must be for I have seen acres and acres of detergent floating on them over the past few years?

I hope you attended and enjoyed the one-day Conference and Annual General Meeting at Crystal Palace, I know I did. It was a pity that more members did not attend the Annual General Meeting which I feel should be regarded as the main event of the day. The start was scrappy and people seemed to be wandering in almost up to the last minute. The Conference appears to me to be something we need and has now reached such a height of popularity that it might be policy to consider that the Conference is in future staged as a separate event and that the Annual General Meeting reverts to its old form whereby technical Committee Meetings were held prior to the Annual General Meeting.

If you require a personal diary of 1968 events please contact me at 25 Binswood Avenue, Leamington Spa.

J.M. Woolley
Hon. Secretary L.D.R. Committee.

If our Adventure Holidays Afloat article has got you interested in spending your holidays on the water, maybe this first part of "Down the Rhone" will wet your appetite even more.

"Down the Rhone" with Joe Gruning, her two daughters Barbel and Claudia, and Renate Gath, all from the Wiesbaden Canoe Club. Every year this family tour down a different river and I first met them in August 1965 when they canoe camped down the Thames - one year I hope to be able to find time to take their offer to accompany them on one of the trips.



Claudia and Barbel on the Ain

DOWN THE RHONE with joe gruning

Ours is a family of water-lovers. We have a little cottage on the banks of the Rhine, where we spend the week-ends and where we keep our canoes, and ever since my daughters have been old enough to enjoy such a trip, we have toured some European river during the summer holidays. In this manner we have seen some of the most beautiful parts of Europe, including the Danube from Ulm to Vienna, the Loire with its famous castles, and also the river Thames.

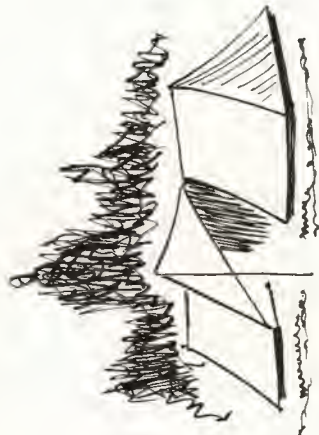
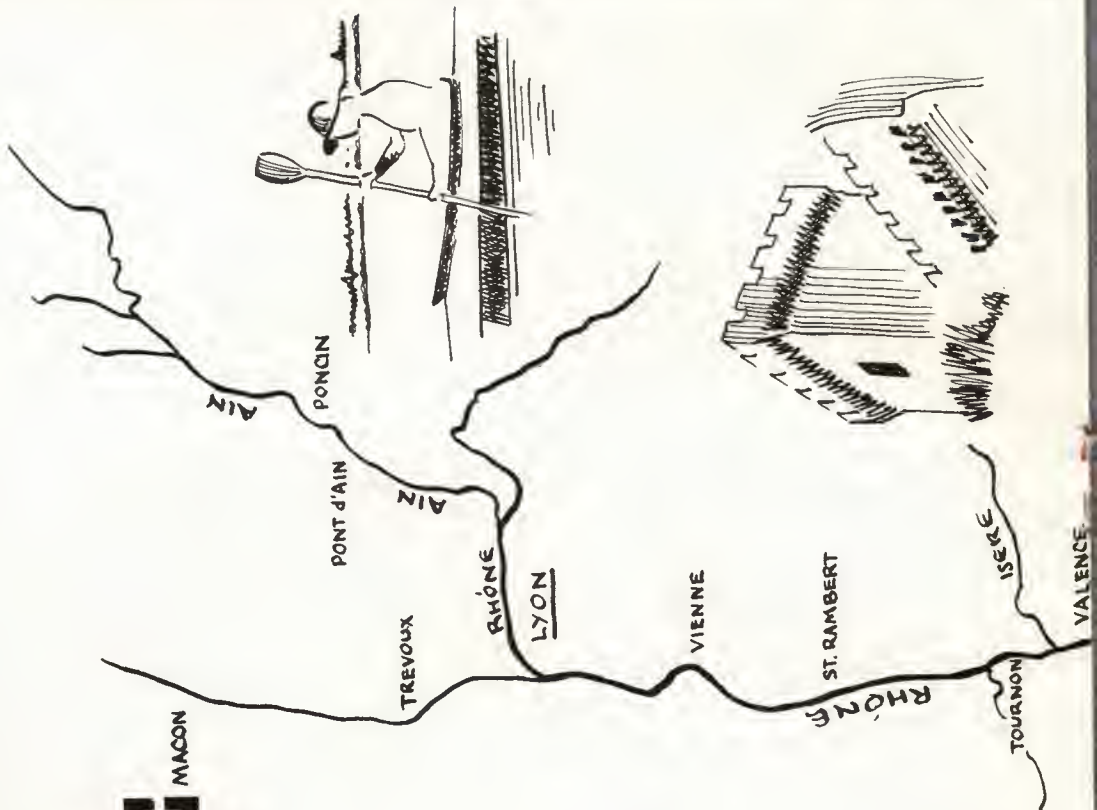
For 1967, we had chosen the Rhone as "Our" river. I started very early with the preparations for this trip because I like to plan carefully in order to be sure that we do not forget anything worth seeing. (Besides, it's great fun to prepare a canoe trip when winter is still on!) I got all the maps which I could find, in particular a nautical chart showing the river with all its bends, locks tributaries, cities and sights. Such charts are issued by the canoe

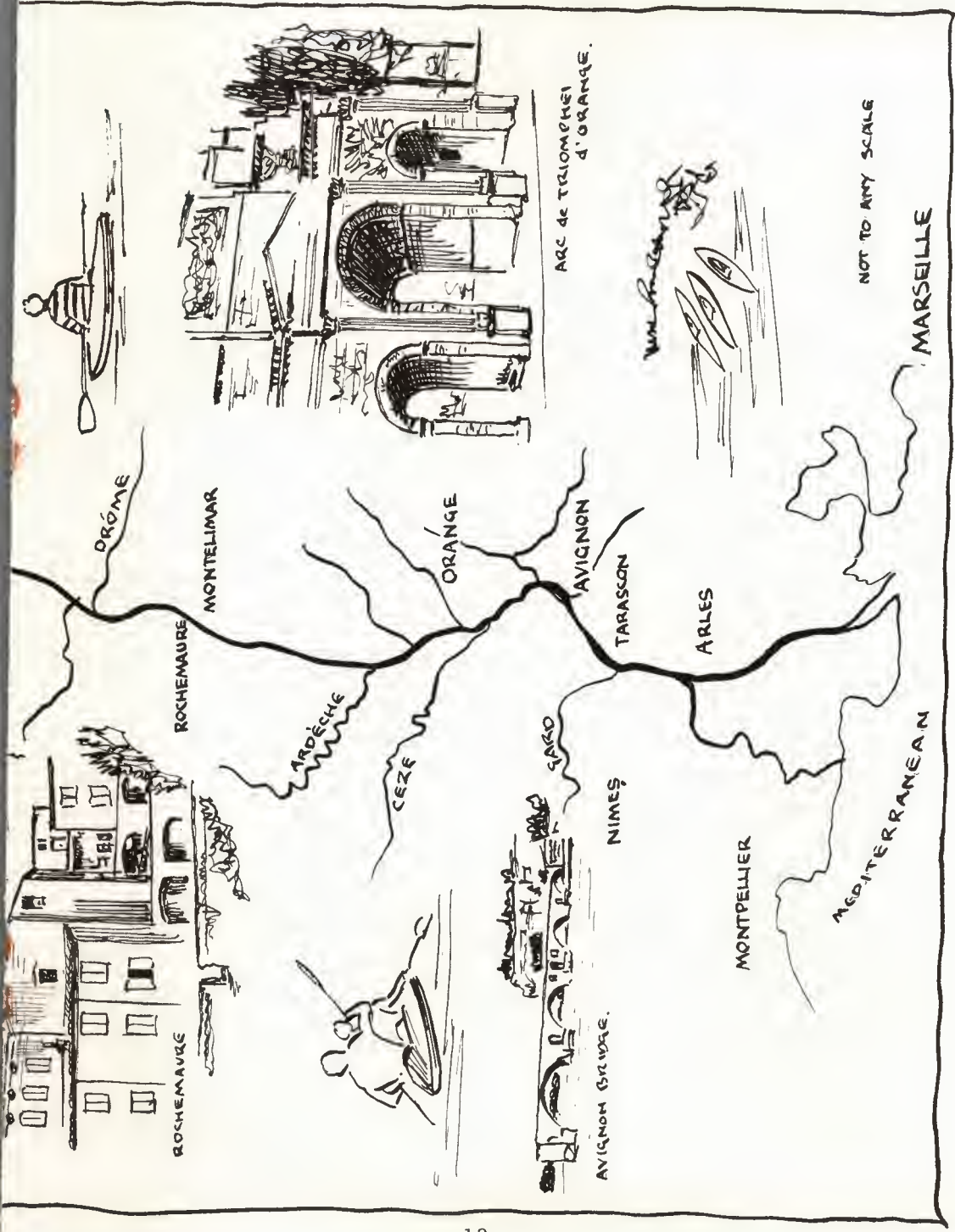


Claudia still on the Ain.

DOWN THE RHONE

MACON





ARC DE TRIOMPHE
D'ORANGE.

NOT TO ANY SCALE

MARSEILLE

federation of the respective countries and they can be bought either through one's club or in a bookshop. (Unhappily, our map was 9 years old and did not show all the locks which expected us, it did, however, warn us that there was something resembling a water-fall under one of the bridges of Lyon, so that we could land in time and inspect the chute from the bank, whereupon we decided to carry our canoes around!). Further, I tried to read as much as I could on the Rhone and that part of France through which it flows. I got all the illustrated books on the Provence I found in my library and bought a guide or two which not only listed the sights to be seen in all the places which we would pass, but also indicated the camping sites.

As a result of this preliminary survey, we decided that we would not go down all the length of the Rhone from the lake of Geneva to the Mediterranean Sea, but would start at about Lyon, so that we would have enough time to see all we wanted and to spend some days on the shore of the Mediterranean at the end of our trip. We agreed that it was not advisable to start the trip from Lyon itself, for in a big city like this you can hardly expect to find a place on the banks of the river where you can pitch your tent and build

up your boats, if you do not know of a camping site or canoe club where you can stay for a day or two. Therefore, we looked for a camping site upriver from Lyon where we would start. This site should be on the bank of the river and the town should have a railway station because we wished to travel there by railway. We decided upon a place called Pont d'Ain, on the river Ain, a tributary of the Rhone which joins the Rhone about 30 km before Lyon, sent our luggage there, and followed by train....

We reached Pont d'Ain easily, for it is near the great railway line connecting Lyon with Strasbourg and Germany, arrived early in the morning, fetched our luggage and drove to the camping place by taxi. First, we erected our tent and laid down to sleep for an hour or two - we had not slept very well on the train for fear that we would miss the station where we had to get out (at 5.22 a.m.!) Next, we looked for our companions a young couple from the Netherlands who wanted to meet us here in Pont d'ain and Join us in our trip. We found them easily, they were the only Dutch campers on the site at that time and the warden knew immediately whom we had in mind. After the usual welcomes, we built up the canoes which we had brought from Germany and by next morning were ready to start.



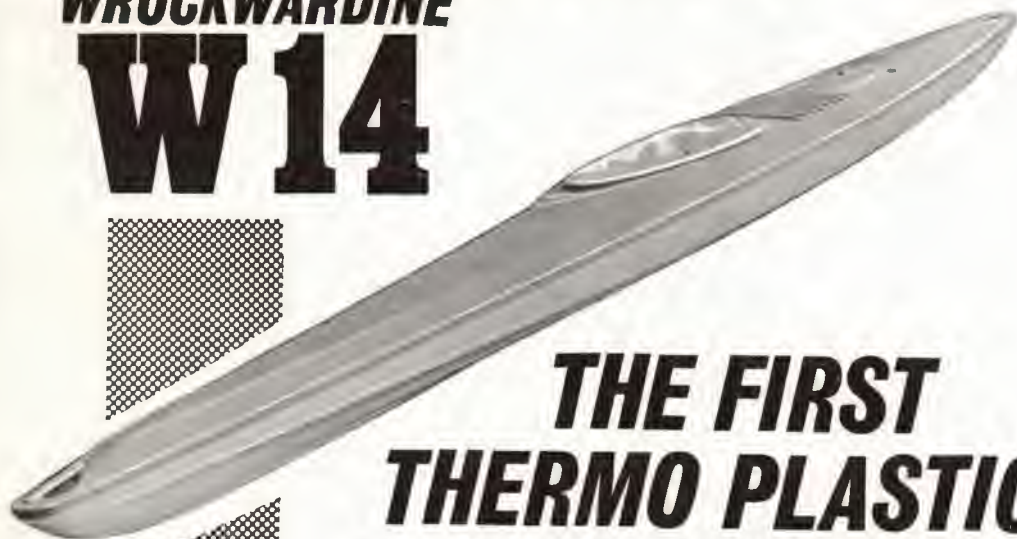
Claudia and Barbel take to the water on the Ain.

Next month Joe continues her trip "Down The Rhone".

THE REVOLUTIONARY

WROCKWARDINE

W14



THE FIRST THERMO PLASTIC KAYAK

The W14 is the toughest canoe available and is vacuum formed from a thermoplastic. Designed for Schools and Youth Clubs that want a tough all purpose kayak. Send for further details:

WROCKWARDINE CANOEING

**QUARRY LANE,
KELSALL, CHESHIRE.**

TEL: KELSALL 255

NEWS-NEWS-NEWS-IN BRIEF

THE LIFFEY DESCENT - BOOK NOW!

The racing calendar is out and one of the main events L-D paddlers will be noting is the National L-D and The Liffey Descent. The Events are again placed a week apart so that international paddlers can race both. However, for British paddlers our Irish friend request that as many cars as possible are brought over to the event with the increasing number of competitors every year the problem of transporting craft is causing concern. While it is easy enough to meet five persons and three boats a day during the week, the accumulation of five days arrivals on race day is becoming quite impossible. (I know the problem, last year I spent three hours along with Irish organisers, some of whom were racing - carting competitors and kayaks from the campsite and hotel up to the start on race morning.Ed.) It is suggested that at least one car per

ten persons and six canoes should be taken to Ireland. BOOK THE FERRY NOW, another month maybe too late.

Another snip of information from Ireland is that race organisers are going to be very strict on lifejackets and buoyancy this year. Competitors can expect to be checked at least twice before the race. The Liffey date - Sat. 14th September, 1968.

OVER THE WALL?

In a few weeks time the L-D season will open once again with the ranking event at Oxford but PLEASE, PLEASE let's have some strings pulled and some gates opened! Every year some two hundred competitors and countless supporters descend on Oxford, pull up in the car park, and then have to overcome what amounts to an assault-course to get to the start. Competitors, canoes, girlfriends, wives and children have to neg-



A pretty girl, a canoe, but no water. Could she be chatted up to join one of the canoe clubs? VITAL STATISTICS: name - "Sea Scout", price £16.2.0d always available from Ottersports Ltd., covered in a very becoming BREON PVC outfit supplied by Plastics (Bolton) Ltd. of Hampson Street, Works Horwich, Lancashire. We're talking about the canoe, not the model who JUST happened to be sitting in this craft of the Ottersports stand at the Boat Show!

otiate an eight foot wall, with a drop of fifteen foot one side into water, climb over, or crawl through an iron railing fence and then tramp some half mile before reaching the club-house - no wonder the Oxford boys always seem to gain a few victories at this event, all visiting paddlers are beaten before they are even on the water! Seriously though isn't it about time the Oxford University Canoe Club gained permission to open a few gates to enable all cars to get right down to the water, it is quite possible to have a serious accident as the arrangements stand at present.



This is the Richard Barrett Memorial Trophy that was presented to Dave Mitchell by Leeds Canoe Club chairman at the BCU A.G.M. It will be remembered that Dick Barrett was tragically drowned when leading a party of Leeds members on the River Ribble on 26th February 1966. Donations for the trophy was collected by members of various clubs and the balance made up by his mother.

FANCY A SKIING HOLIDAY?

Many of the continental paddlers abandon their kayaks during the winter months and head for the snow covered slopes of the Alps with a pair of skis.

Everyone needs an occasional break from the pressures and strains of working life - but it is a mistake to think that a switch from being busy, to doing nothing will prove beneficial. The best possible relaxation is a complete change of activity. And for those who ski, or want to ski, what could be better than ten days with a party of other skiing enthusiasts at one of the famous French resorts?

CCPR skiing holidays are for 16 to 30 year olds and the emphasis is on carefree activity with the rewarding bonus of becoming a proficient skier. It is a holiday which can cost as little as £50, and included in this is: train reservation, accomodation in modern UCPA chalets, full board, instruction by an expert, ski lifts and cable car trips, equipment (use of skis, sticks and boots) and insurance.

There are still a few places left in CCPR parties leaving for the French Alps in March and April. **BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW WRITE TO: CCPR SKI TRAINING HOLIDAYS 1968, 26, Park Crescent, London W.1.**

"BOB-KAYAKS?"

You just cannot keep those continental paddlers down, on the second day of the Two-Man Bob-Sleigh Championships at the Winter Olympics, Grenoble, "there was so much water flowing down the run that competitors considered using canoes!" quote from B.B.C. T.V. commentator.

NEWS-NEWS-NEWS-IN BRIEF



Making a really unbiased choice of kayak to race at the first Kennet Winter series race is J. Gmach - manufacturer of Accord fibreglass K2s - partnered here by D. Johnson and paddling a Kirton Mirage K2!

Solent Canoe Centre's Class 4 "Barracuda" designed and built by Bob Orchard was tried out at Newbury on Sunday, February 4th. Started last and finished 11th on time. On the way it passed 29 K.2 craft and there were some red faces at the finish. Danny and Wilbur of Southampton Canoe Club are to be congratulated on their splendid effort. They hope to race Bob's new K2 at the next stage.



NEWS-NEWS-NEWS-IN BRIEF

91 minutes of sheer joy is the only way to describe "The Endless Summer" a brilliant season at the Cameo Victoria in London.

The film is pure surfing - on a board, not with canoe - and follows two American surfers in their search of surf, and sun. What a thrill to watch some of the fantastic waves these boys ride.

Many of the white water canoeists in London have already seen this film, not once, or twice, but three times! You just cannot describe the superb photography of surfers riding the giant 25 foot waves of "The Pipeline" in Hawaii, the tremendous "wipeouts" and the classic waves of Cape St. Francis in South Africa.

The film is in London for some time yet so try and make the trip to see it - its just great!



INTERNATIONAL CANOEING

THE SOUTH AFRICAN CANOE MARATHON PREPARATIONS

"Passengers for flight B A 117 proceed to gate 19 for boarding your aircraft." Travelling as B. O.A.C. staff standby passengers, we were fortunate that there was sufficient spare seating on the aircraft to take us. It seemed too good to be true that after months of planning we were off, at last, to South Africa. The four of us expected to be away from England for 17 days. The four of us being Paul, Sally Dearling, Mike, Ann Sutton-Pratt. It had started with a magazine article about the canoe marathon. The race was described in dramatic phrases, and was illustrated with photo-

graphs of smashed canoes and swimming bodies. "Worlds toughest race" it said. "Rocks, rapids and physical exhaustion" Canoes smashed to smithereens, 110 miles with many hours of portages, passing through some of South Africa's finest scenery.

Soon we were in correspondence with Ernie Pearce, the secretary of the Natal Canoe Club, who organises the event. The race, we learnt was a three day event and it was competed for by pairs racing in either a double or two singles. The course was along the Unsindusi and the Umgeni rivers which wind through a Zulu reserve in an area called the "Valley of a Thousand Hills." In all waters considerable portage would be required to avoid dangerous rapids or to cut corners where the river makes a long detour. "Competitors must accept that at times of drought the race may become one long portage" said Ernie's letter.

During November and December walkers out for a stroll in my local woods must have been puzzled by the sight of two strangely dressed figures, far from water, running with a canoe! This in fact



Maiden voyage of the Attacker on Henley Dam, with Ernie Pearce looking on.



was the normal pattern of training, but hopes of gaining rough water experience in a K2 were dashed by foot and mouth restrictions.

January 5th dawned clear and Africa emerged, the upper Nile like a thin ribbon below. Exciting sights passed that morning, Lake Rudolf, Mt Kenya, Mt. Kilimanjaro, and to my mind the most thrilling of all, the mighty Zambesi. At 35,000 ft it was a huge, brown, splitting into channels on the way to the sea, suggestive of crocodiles and snakes. Later the gold slags of Johannesburg appeared and soon we were down and recording paddles, tent, sleeping bags, spray covers and other exciting gear on the customs form. Ernie Pearce, Chris Du Toit and Rowland Jones of the Natal Canoe Club had driven up from Pietermaritzburg to meet us.

That evening our voices came out over the South African broadcasting service in an interview about the race. The canoe marathon receives great publicity and we felt privileged to be the first overseas canoeists to take part.

Next day we spent recovering from the journey and in the evening attended a barbecue at the Natal Canoe Clubhouse. The Clubhouse occupies a beautiful position at the edge of Henley dam. The lake formed by the dam is about a mile in length, and lies in a bowl of mountains which form a catchment basin for the Unsindusi river. We met most of the other teams at the party, among them were Dick Wynn and Phil Reaney who, together with two Rhodesian S.A.S. teams had travelled down from Bulwayo by landrover. The remaining teams (about 75 teams, 150 canoeists) had come from all parts of the Republic, which means up to 1,000 miles away. Included among the South African competitors were

Willem Van Riet, Paul Chatupsky, Glyn Horton and Henne Greef, who many will remember from the springbok canoe teams visit to England last summer.

Talking to veteran competitors we learnt more about the race, like our D.W. race it has a faithful band of fanatics. Every year they declare "never again" but return the following year for yet another "last time". The accent was on running fitness and the need to preserve the canoe in the rapids. Many of the competitors take part in the "Comrades Marathon". This is a 54 miles road race run in July, which is during the South African winter. Concern on all sides was expressed at the state of the river due to the drought. Later I came to the conclusion that African rivers are either a trickle or raging torrent, with a few hours separating the two conditions!

The barbecue set a high standard of hospitality and good comradeship which were to remain the outstanding memory of the holiday. At this, and at all times, we met great friendliness and an interest in canoes and canoeing in England.

Next day we had our first taste of the course by running over parts of the route for the 2nd and 3rd days of the race. Rowland Jones, our guide, sprang like a Gazelle from rock to rock while we, less sure-footed, trailed behind intent on avoiding turning an ankle - eyes scanning the ground for snakes! Towards the end of the day we toiled up "Burma Road", this is the hardest portage of the race and consists of a winding, precipitous, 2000 ft climb over a pass. Even without a canoe we were on our knees at the top!

The following day was spent running over the portages of the first leg of the race. The previous day had been overcast, but now the sun climbed mercilessly overhead, beating down on the dusty

trail. We ducked and dodged along the narrow paths of the portage as it twisted and turned through trees with villainous thorns on them. Most unpleasant of all was a tree whose hanging tentacles contain a sap which can blind for three days. Later we learnt that the temperature had been 105^oF in the shade! We were fast learning that feet need conditioning for running in mountainous country - Surrey woods were not proving a satisfactory substitute. Blisters had appeared and toenails were starting to blacken. Up to now we had not contemplated failing to finish the course, but with a dry river offering the likelihood of continuous portaging in the heat, this ugly possibility was there. The course was proving much harder than expected and the D-W portage past the dry Crofton Locks had taken on a new perspective.

On return to Pietermaritzburg we found our boat had been finished - it was a beautifully prepared glass K2 attacker in red, white and blue, made by Ernie Pearse and Gordon Rowe of the Natal Canoe Club and kindly paid for by the South African Milk Publicity Council, who are also sponsors of the

race. The Attacker is much used for this race and built very strongly to withstand the rocks.

The boat had her maiden voyage that evening on Henley Dam amid gathering storm clouds.... The build up of a circular tropical storm is a thrilling sight, clouds bank up overhead, the sky blackens in folding, moving turmoil, large drops of rain begin to fall and, amid intense lightening and thunder the rainfall builds up. Finally the air is filled with the roar of rain and the spray rises all around. The scene at the canoe club was one of wild delight with canoeists literally dancing with joy in the long awaited rain.

As we crossed the Umsindusi returning into Pietermaritzburg that night, we stared down into what had been scarcely puddle a few hours before. In the darkness the black water below was starting to hiss as the level rose - and continued to rise. "You wait 'till you see the rapids on the Umgeni now that it has rained," said a voice. What had we let ourselves in for....?

In next month's issue Mike will describe the pair's experiences in the race itself.



A typical doubles team at the start wearing protective headgear and padded shoulders for portaging. 21



Rowland Jones of the Natal Canoe Club at the start.

COMMENT *Letters to the Editor*

Recently two English canoeists, Paul Dearling and Michael Sutton-Pratt of the Oatlands Canoe Club, flew out to this country to take part in the premier canoe race in South Africa - The Pietermaritzburg to Durban Canoe Marathon.

I would like to mention what wonderful ambassadors these two canoeists were for England. Their excellent behavior and approach to a very difficult and gruelling race, totally different to anything in England. In this event portaging up to five miles is common, climbing over hills and mountains of 600ft and 2000ft are all part of the event. This was all done in the heat of mid-summer which affected them greatly, yet there was never a moan and always a smile. As canoeists of the Natal Canoe Club we salute them and send greetings to all English canoeists - we would like to see more of this breed in South Africa.

Yours faithfully,
Ernie Pearce (Hon Sec.)
Natal Canoe Club.

The B.C.U. Publicity Committee under the leadership of Lindsay Williams set out to promote membership and increase public knowledge of the sport of canoeing at the Boat Show. These aims were achieved with great success but lack of knowledge of the B.C.U.s existence was quite surprising among Scout Groups, Youth Clubs and Schools.

I give a pat on the back to Lindsay Williams who organised everybody and built the stand at Loughborough College. Thanks is also due to all those who staffed the stand, the lads from Loughborough, Cambridge and Bristol who manned during the day, and those from Royal and Richmond Canoe Clubs who did all the evening work. Thanks to Stewart Fraser, Dave Lewis, Peter Rodd, Peter Wells, and Mike Clark, who provided the excellent photos., to all the manufacturers who loaned their craft; and to the boys who provided the rolling demonstrations in the icy pool.

Ken Pereira, Press Officer S.R.C.

RESULT ROUND-UP

KENNET WINTER SERIES (A) Gt. Bedwyn to Newbury, 4th February 1968

SENIOR DOUBLES 1/ R.Lawler/M.Whitby, Rich. CC. 2 hr 12.55. 2/ M. Boshier/A. Chapman, Royal CC 2.16.16 3/ Wilkie/Wilkinson, Met.Police Cadets, 2.22.34 4/ Lander/Harding, St. Luke's Coll. 2.24.38 5/ J. Gmach/D. Johnson 4/ Admirals, 2.25.17 6/ A.Roberts/R. Prance, Reading C.D. 2.27.44 7/ C. Leach/C. Schnepf, Exeter CC, 2.29.22 8/ T. Davis/M. Purchas, Bradford on Avon, 2.30.33 9/ B. Pritchard/ S. Chandler, Wilts. Police, 2.31.12 10/ T. Stainsby/C. Ball, Met. Police, 2.33.37.

JUNIOR DOUBLES 1/ Kearns/Bunce. J/L RE Dover, 2.29.04 2/ Haydon/Green, J/L RE Dover, 2.32.25 3/ G. Tricker/G. Hill 8th Worthing Sea Scouts 2.35.08 4/ P. Jones/M. Cripps, Waterside CC 2.45.43 5/ S. Peake/G. Harris, Hythe Sea Scouts, 2.37.22 6/ D. Parinham/W. Taylor, ATC Battersea, 2.47.19 7/ P. Roberts/J. Early, Hythe Sea Scouts, 2.48.48 8/ ? 9/ N. Neve/K. Sollis, Waterside CC, 2.52.10 10/ Parry/Watson, J/L RE Dover, 2.53.13.

CANOES & EQUIPMENT

K.W.3. navy deck, white hull, spray deck, paddles, v.g.c. in photograph page 7, January "Canoeing", £20 Ramsey, 1, Mount Pleasant, Great Totham, Essex.

FOR SALE - SHARK K1, good condition £50 J. Rowell, 5, Regent Park, Prestwick, Ayrshire. Phone Prestwick 78113.

FOR SALE - MOONRAKER 14ft single tourer. Soft skinned multichine construction with buoyancy, spray-deck. £20 o.n.o. Phone 041-GIF-4408 after 6pm. J.B.Riddell, 12, Forres Ave., Giffnock, Glasgow.

FOR SALE - Canoe Centre GANNET (old class 4) GOOD AS NEW - £25 o.n.o. Apply: Miss Kay Emerson, 47, Noval Road, Wembley, Middlesex.

USED CANOEING EQUIPMENT for sale at very competitive prices - Tyne Ottersport Fibreglass Touring doubles and singles; Kirton Kayaks - List from P.G.L. HOLIDAYS, Ross-on-Wye.

P.S.R. FIBREGLASS KAYAKS for Racing Touring, Slalom, also P.S.R. Holiday Hire. Always a choice of 60 used canoes, for sale, open weekends or send 2s6d for inventory, THE CANOE EXCHANGE, Jessamy Road, off Thames St., Weybridge, Surrey.

DO IT YOURSELF BUOYANCY AID KIT. 6 Kgms + overs with best industrial NYLON and making instructions. £3.10.0d plus post and packing 6s or delivered for 1s6d to any ranking canoe slalom. H. Calverley, 22, School Road, Manchester, 18.

CANOE PLANS

MALIBU BOARD. Complete plans for an easily built Malibu Board designed by J.S. Carder, 12/6d from B.C.U. CANOE PLANS.

BUILD A WATER BABY, the mini canoe demonstrated by the B.C.U. at the Boat Show. Line drawings only, 5/- from B.C.U. CANOE PLANS.

B.C.U. CANOE PLANS. 25 designs available. List from 55, Conaglen Road, Aylestone, Leicester. LE2 8LE

PLANS, BOOKS, MAPS, INFORMATION
Expert's Choice:

PBK 59 MOULDED VENEER SINGLE

PBK 62 FABRIC WHITE WATER

Stamp for list of fully detailed plans etc.

PERCY W. BLANDFORD

NEWBOLD-ON-STOUR, STRATFORD-ON-AVON

INSTRUCTORS

EXPERIENCED CANOEISTS (Instructors or Coaches) required to lead parties on Canoe Camping Holidays - all periods April-Sept. Young ladies also required as COOKS. Details from P.G.L. HOLIDAYS, Ross-on-Wye.

TRAILERS

NEW APPROACH
CANOE TRAILERS

to carry up to 9 canoes.

Send for illustrated catalogue.

COLLINGSDOWN ENGINEERING,
Redhill, Nr. Wington, Bristol.

Tel. Wington 491

WANTED

WANTED - WHITE WATER RACER, any type considered, M.J. Thomas, 12, Bankfield Lane, Southport, Lancs.

**DON'T READ THIS -
- UNLESS YOU VALUE YOUR HEAD!**



THE NEW
GAYBO
CRASH HELMET

COMBINING:

Strong fibreglass shell for SAFETY
Fully adjustable Head Cradle and
Soft Leathercloth Strap for COMFORT
AVAILABLE IN SEVERAL COLOURS.

PRICE: £2.15.0d

OBTAINABLE FROM:

R.GOLDSMITH,

1, RINGMER ROAD, MOULSCOOMBE, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

MIRAGE K2 Mk2.
RACING KAYAK

**RACE AHEAD
IN A NEW KIRTON!**

SUPPLIERS TO H.M. FORCES
AND EDUCATION AUTHORITIES

SCIMITAR K1
RACING KAYAK



KIRTON KAYAKS

**MILL STREET,
CREDITON, DEVON.**

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET

TYNE & KIRTON

**SLALOM CANOES IN
STOCK ALSO ALL
OTHER SLALOM
EQUIPMENT**

**HOWELL MARINE LTD.,
16-20, WOKINGHAM ROAD,
READING.**

SOLENT

CANOE

CENTRE

George Collis Building, Terminus Terrace,
Southampton.
Telephone 23526

FAST, STURDY AND SAFE

- "**CYGNET.**" Glass-fibre hull, ply-wood deck. A fast touring single. **Price £30**
- "**SWAN.**" A sea-going double. Glass-fibre hull and ply wrapover deck. **Price £38**
- "**SEAGULL.**" For beginners. Glass-fibre hull, ply centre, PVC fore and aft. **Price £28**
- "**TERN.**" For swimming pool instruction. Ideal for youngsters. With spraycover. **Price £20**
- "**HERON.**" A fine racing single. Glass-fibre hull with ply decking. **Price £35**
- "**ADANAC.**" The only modern Canadian glass-fibre canoe. A real beauty. **Price £48**

All the above can be had in kit form.

SPORT & RECREATION

SPORT AND RECREATION is essential reading for those whose interest in sport is both general and technical. It includes **THE SPORTS DEVELOPMENT BULLETIN** which covers official developments in planning and research services, coaching and administration.

SPORT AND RECREATION also contains articles by well-known writers in the fields of sport and physical education, authoritative book reviews and news of courses, sports equipment and services.

SPORT AND RECREATION is valuable both as a source of reference and as a magazine of general interest.

SPORT AND RECREATION

*Quarterly Journal of the Central
Council of Physical Recreation*

26 Park Crescent, London, W1

*Subscription: 8/- per year post free
Single copies 2/- each*

NOW OPEN

THE NORTHERN WILD WATER CENTRE

**WE SELL EVERYTHING FOR
THE WILD WATER CANOEIST
FROM STOCK**

**K.W'S
KLEPPER'S
COUGAR'S
KIRTON
C.G.I'S**

**PADDEMAKER
PADDLES
HARISCHOC
LIFEJACKETS
FIBREGLASS
KITS
C.J.H. SURF
BOARDS**



Demonstration boats of all models available, Film Shows Rolling demonstrations and lectures on canoeing by 1st div paddlers given on request

THE NORTHERN WILD WATER CENTRE

4, VICTORIA STREET, WETHERBY, YORKSHIRE.

Tel: WETHERBY, 3220

Lendal
SCOTLAND

PADDLES

**SPRINT
LONG DISTANCE
TOURING**

WILSON (P'WICK) LTD.

Dept. 3 167, Ayr Road,

PRESTWICK, Ayrshire.

Sole Distributors England & Wales:-

Jenkins & Lancefield,

Corsham, Wilts.

PRICES REDUCED

BY £1

ON TWO MODELS



NEW SPRINT PADDLES All wood craftsman built paddle with assymmetric blades. £6.10.0d.

SEND FOR 1968 CATALOGUE OF CANOES & KITS.

TYNE CANOES LTD.

206, Amyand Park Road, St. Margarets,
Twickenham, Middlesex. Tel: 01-892 4033



one of the

A SIX CANOE TRAILER

Fleet
★ **Trailer KITS**

A Trailer to be proud of!

For full details write or telephone:-

WICKSTEEDS

OF ROYSTON LTD

MERIDIAN WORKS · ROYSTON · HERTS
TELEPHONE: ROYSTON 3154

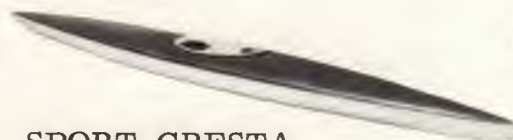
THE CANOE CENTRE BASIC RANGE 1968



KLEPPER S. L. 7 mk 2
for pure Slalom, £42. 10. 0



KLEPPER SPIDER mk 3
Down-river racer, £46. 0. 0



SPORT-CRESTA,
G. P. Sport single, £42. 10. 0



SPORT-VIVAK C. 2,
Slalom Canadian, £65. 0. 0



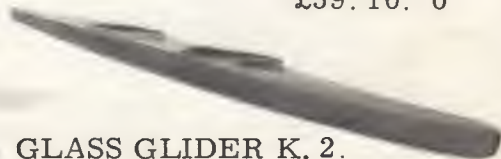
KLEPPER COMRADE
2-seater tourer, £47. 10. 0



SPORT-GANNET class 4
L. D. Racing double. Kit,
£39. 10. 0



GLASS POINTER K. 1.
for Sprint and L. D. £47 10. 0



GLASS GLIDER K. 2.
for Sprint and L. D. £62. 10. 0

SEND FOR DETAILS OF L-D, SLALOM, SPRINT and TOURING KAYAKS.



THE CANOE CENTRE
PORTABLE BOATS LTD
18, BEAUCHAMP RD., TWICKENHAM, MIDDY.
Tel 01-892-8979