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Vol. 8 October 1968 one shilling & ninepence



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COVER PHOTO

Mark Whitby, brilliant young paddler from Richmond Canoe Club, who on 22nd October will be racing heats, along with other members of our Canoe Team, at the Olympics in Mexico.

Photo - Mike Clark.

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editorial

TIME TO THINK - TIME TO TALK

Within a very short time the committees governing the competitive side of canoe sport - SLALOM, SPRINT and LONG DISTANCE RACING - will be holding their winter meetings. Discussion will be on the past seasons racing and decisions will be made to improve next year's sport. The Long Distance meeting will be held on 26th October and the Slalom meeting on 7th/8th December (no date for the Sprint meeting yet) if you are interested in the progress of competitive canoe sport, make sure you are at these meetings to put forward your ideas. To get you thinking below are a number of points that you may or may not agree with.

SLALOM

First SLALOM, for this season has been the poorest for some years, not only as to the number of events but the effects of the new division system ratified last year. Two recent letters from members of the Slalom Committee point out some of the things wrong with this last season. The first from Robin Witter:

Dear Secretary,

As you will be aware, the slalom programme this season has been unsatisfactory, both numerically and geographically. This has arisen mainly due to a lack of foresight by the Slalom Committee - which is the sum total of clubs interested in slalom - and I have been asked by the Executive Committee to seek your help in ensuring that such a situation does not happen again next year.

I am, therefore, asking if you would consult with your committee and see whether your club would run a slalom next year; and if so to inform me at the above address on which date, and for which divisions. At the present time a slalom may be

run for Division 1, Division 2, Division 3 and Novices, or it may be open. Ranking status is conferred by the Slalom Committee on divisional slaloms at its December meeting and ranking events must cater for K1 men, K1 ladies, C.2., C.1., and teams. If there are several alternative dates on which you could run your event perhaps you could indicate this.

I would be grateful if you could reply before the beginning of November, so that the Executive Committee may work out a provisional balanced programme. The final programme can then be decided by the full Slalom Committee on December 7th/8th at which it is important that your club be represented. Would you also, if possible, include in your reply the name and address of the person who has agreed to receive the entries. It is important that this be accurate as this information is published both in the Slalom Year Book and by the B.C.U.

Can I again ask all clubs, or groups of individuals, whether they have previously organised a slalom or not, most seriously to consider doing so for next year and to let me know, even if it is a non-ranking or interregional event. It is no good saying "We'll let someone else do it." Look what happens!

The second letter is from Margaret Bellord with regard to women competitors (published only in part).

Dear Competitor,

For a good many years the B.C.U. Slalom Committee has tried to find an ideal system for the Ladies' Division in slalom and, though several different systems have been tried, it is felt that the perfect solution has not yet been found. One of the main difficulties has always been the small number of ladies competing making it difficult to Divisionalise them without making the number in each division ridiculously small and yet, with the wide range of abi-

lity, it is not possible to make courses suitable for them all if they all compete together.

We have so few lady competitors that, in my opinion, a major consideration should be to give them as much encouragement as possible. For example, one suggestion has been made that the present system should continue but that ladies in Div. II and Div. III should be allowed to compete at both Div. II and Div. III slaloms. This would give more practice and encouragement to those who are keen to get to the top and need experience, would ensure a reasonable number of ladies competing at each slalom (Division II slaloms have had virtually no lady competitors so far this season), and would also help those who are dependent upon boy friends or husbands for transport. Lower figures for promotion to the next division have also been suggested.

Along with Margaret's letter went a questionnaire in which was asked:

(a) Are you satisfied with this season's (1968) system? If not, please give reasons and possible modifications.

(b) Would you prefer last season's (1967) system to be brought back? If so, are there any alterations you would like?

(c) Can you suggest a more satisfactory system? Please consider all ranges of ability and give full details as regards to promotion, relegation and ranking.

(d) Do you prefer the division to be called Ladies' or Women's?

Disregarding the Foot and Mouth disease at the beginning of the year the loss of 1st Div slaloms was caused by the decision not to run these events on weirs. Surely if replacement courses cannot be found it is better to hold a weir slalom than none at all? In the lower divisions a slalom was lost at Bever by the behaviour of paddlers. Here

there should be a general tightening on our paddlers behaviour and some sort of disciplinary action taken by the Slalom Committee against offenders. With regard to the Women's Divisions may I suggest the forming of only TWO divisions 1st and 2nd. 1st Division competing over the Mens course Division 1 or 2 and the Womens Division 2 competing over Mens course 2 or 3.

Although both Women's 1st and 2nd Division compete over the same course at Men's 2nd Div slaloms their event should be run as two separate divisions.

SLALOM overall I suggest should have a different system of finding the national champion. An event such as the sponsored Llangollen Town Slalom should be classed as the National Championship and the winners proclaimed as overall British Champions. The reason for this is that with the present system there is no 'sense of occasion' at any event. One single competition to find the national champion would force paddlers to train to a peak and benefits would be reaped in international competition when paddlers are trained to give their supreme effort at one event. The present ranking system should remain but percentages gained should be towards an inter-club trophy such as The Hasler in L-D racing.

SPRINT

The number of SPRINT events in Britain is still cause for concern although there has been the addition of two extra regattas this season. Being Olympic year the standard of sprint racing has been particularly high with our team reaching times no-one would have dreamed possible a few years back. We have a great number of young juniors whose standard is, also high and their enthusiasm even greater. This is particularly noticeable in the Richmond Canoe Club that gets my vote as the most outstanding sprint club of the year.

However, what of next season? As

in the past, we can expect a dramatic fall-off in the times of our seniors after the Olympics. Once again the sport will fall away from world class and in three years time our sprinters will be battling to make Olympic qualifying times. THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN. The gap between British and Continental paddlers has closed to only a small margin and I believe that with no let up in our training we are in sight of gaining medals at international sprint events.

I suggest that our Olympic Canoe Team should be held together after the Olympics, added to around twenty paddlers and continue their training weekends throughout the winter and during the coming season to make the British "A" Sprint Team. Along with these training weekends a "B" Team should be formed - open to ALL sprint paddlers who think themselves good enough - to train separately or along side the "A" Team.

LONG DISTANCE

L-D continues to grow at a tremendous rate and one fact that I put this down to is that, unlike slalom or sprint, an L-D paddler can race almost EVERY weekend through out a season that starts in January and finishes in November.

How has the new points system worked this year? The bonus on the 'K' classes has created extremely exciting racing and has worked well. I was going to suggest the bringing in of a division system but, at the Nottingham L-D, Ted Tandy gave me an article on that very subject and that, this month appears in the L-D Racing column. Two months ago I was commenting on the distance and degree of difficulty of our courses, almost published the same day as our magazine was an article by Ernest Lawrence in the Wild Water Kayak Club Newsletter that we reprint in part here:

Long Distance Racing is still very much in the early stages of its development, not only in this country but throughout Europe. It

has evolved from canoe touring in rather a haphazard fashion and I would go so far as to say that no one has ever defined just what an L.D. race is. They certainly have not put pen to paper. We do know that the distances are greater than the longest sprint event and that the competitors equipment is similar and often the same as the sprinter, but that is all we can say with any certainty. We, in Ireland, must do something very soon to define and rationalise the sport as we have the unusual privilege of being the only Federation, promoting exclusively, what is called Long Distance Racing. We must also keep other Federations informed of our progress. In this way the sport stands a good chance of developing along similar lines everywhere. Without parallel development, International and indeed Olympic competition becomes impossible.

There are three basic points that need careful consideration for the future. Firstly and most important, a standard type of L.D. course. Secondly, a well planned racing season and thirdly, a divisions system capable of dealing effectively with an increasing number of competitors. Kayaks could also be considered but I think the "K" types are here to stay.

Before we can decide on the type of course we must define the objective of L.D. racing. I would say that it should be a test of SPEED, STAMINA WATERMANSHIP, BOAT CONTROL AND TACTICAL SKILLS, in that order. Therefore we must define and design our courses to tax the competitor in all these skills. If we examine each of these special skills in depth, I think we could arrive at a formula for choosing courses. We could even quite simply, create suitable courses artificially.

Now to examine the skills one by one. STAMINA - minimum of 12 miles possibly 10 in an all upstream race and not more than 16 miles. Any longer than this and you are getting

into Marathon canoe racing which is a side of distance racing that could develop separately. SPEED - Apart from this as the essential ingredient of racing, there must be a number of dead water sections where the competitor can go flat out unhindered by natural conditions. Anything from 2000 - 5000 metres without a break would do. WATERMANSHIP - The competitors' ability to read the water should be tested in full. This does not mean that long Grade III - IV rapids should be included! Fast winding stretches of water with the main flow crossing from one side of the river to the other are a good test. Small rapids or weirs to be shot are also testing. Portaging comes in to this, as correct approach to landing and a quick departure often requires a high degree of watermanship. It is at this stage that I can qualify my point about artificial courses. Why not create a portage by instructing competitors to land in one field, cross a ditch or wall and launch from the next field. If this can be arranged at a point where the river flows fairly fast, all the better. The next skill, BOAT CONTROL, really overlaps with watermanship, but there is not much point in being able to read the right route down a rapid if you cannot control your boat in the attempt or vice versa for that matter, though it is just conceivable that a course could tax one skill but not the other. Last but not least, TACTICAL SKILLS - There is not much that can be said about this that could influence the type of course but I think it is sufficient to say that a well designed L.D. course forces the competitor to consider his tactics very closely, not only before the race but also during the race.

Without going into L.D. racing too deeply, I think one could consider it very nearly the rallying of motor sport, just as sprint racing is the Grand Prix and trials or auto-cross, the slalom and White water. It is interesting that both L.D. and

rallying both have their origins in touring.

Apart from the actual set up of future L-D racing, paddlers must also put some thought to the future venues of our Long Distance Championship event. Nottingham proved very satisfactory from the point of view of spectators not of the racing down the course but certainly at the start/finish. Here there was one of the biggest crowds I have seen watching canoe sport - apart from the now extinct Serpentine Regatta.

The point is, do we want another Championship at Nottingham on a poor L-D course but one that attracts crowds, or do we go again to the interesting courses such as the Conway

and Avon where contact with the general public is small? Also what of the Sprint Regatta that is held on the following day? At Nottingham this regatta drew as much attention as the Championship. This certainly brings the Sprinter and L-D canoeist closer together but catering for a sprint event has a direct bearing on the type of course available for the L-D.....

Well, there you have it, some ideas to bring into next season's racing and ideas to shape the future of canoe sport. Not all of them may be the best, but hope it gives you something to think about and if you have better ideas, bring them along with you to the Winter Committee meetings.

TIME FOR ANOTHER CHANGE? *asks ted tandy.*

TED TANDY - Devizes to Westminster paddler extraordinary and long Distance Racing paddler since 1956 - considers another major change in British L-D Canoe Racing.

When I started Long Distance in 1956 we had to put up with 'The Davis Handicap' system for touring canoes as well as the K1, K2 and NCK 1 classes. Then we had the '7' Class' system, which made for fair racing in the Touring Class but development got out of hand and the cost of building soft skinned boats rose. So the present system was put into operation with four main classes - with juniors and ladies this still makes for twelve events at any one L-D. After the two year test my own view is its time to change yet again.

The touring classes, 3 and 4, are not as successful as they used to be. The present dimensions, particularly of the Class 4 had given us another canoe that is no more a touring boat than K2. The boat is designed for pure racing and has

little room for carrying gear, in some cases has not as much carrying capacity as a K2, while most of them don't seem to be able to carry two fully grown men (around 12 stone each) without submerging at the stern. Again in the Class 4, the paddlers are too close to take a good stroke. The L-D Committee have also given these classes a knock when they changed the points to give K1 and K2 a bonus.

A Class 4 canoeist will point out the boats stability, manoeuvrability and cheapness. However, the stability of many Class 4s is not much greater than that of the K2 - the Accord or Ribelle - but by lowering the seat and getting novice paddlers into the class early in their instruction no real obstacle is met. The cost nowadays for the 3 or 4 is of little difference from that of the glassfibre versions of the 'k' classes with prices for the singles as low as £25 and doubles around £50. It is only one manoeuvrability that the class scores.

It must cost the British canoe manufacturers a great deal of time, money and development to produce the class 3 and 4s that are in fact, completely unsuitable for touring and just a specialised craft for racing. What better use could that time, money and development be put to in the production of improved TOURING craft and racing craft to 'K' class specifications.

Now let's consider the racing. My suggestion is for only TWO classes, OPEN K1 and OPEN K2 within, ICF

OPEN K1 MEN	OPEN K2 MEN	OPEN K1 WOMEN	OPEN K2 WOMEN
Div. 1	Div. 1	Div. 1	Div. 1
Div. 2	Div. 2	Div. 2	Div. 2
Div. 3	Div. 3		

The points system for the Hasler Trophy would of course have to be altered and the following would be the suggested scoring.

DIVISION 1 MEN		DIVISION 2 MEN		DIVISION 3 MEN	
1st place	15 points	1st	10 points	1st	5 points
2nd	14	2nd	9	2nd	4
3rd	13	3rd	8	3rd	3
4th	12	4th	7	4th	2
5th	11	5th	6	5th	1

DIVISION 1 WOMEN		DIVISION 2 WOMEN		Points to be awarded per each paddler and the 120% to be done away with but the 1 point per minute lead bonus to be kept for each winner.
1st place	15 points	1st	10 points	
2nd	14	2nd	9	
3rd	13	3rd	8	
4th	12	4th	7	
5th	11	5th	6	

(Editors note. This division system idea is bound to come up at the L-D Meeting in Cambridge and again at the A.G.M. early in the new year. The idea is a good one and one that I personally think will have to be brought into L-D racing. There are many loopholes in the system as presented by Ted and more than a few problems. However it is up to every L-D paddler to say what system we should use and whether the present one is still suitable.

Long Distance Racing is fast moving on to an international scale with a number of countries in Europe competing L-D events. Our Irish friends already have a division

specifications and the introduction of a DIVISION SYSTEM. We could start with three divisions and these could be added to with the growth of the sport. The division standard should be for K1 and K2 as two different classes, thus a K2 Div. 1 paddler may at the same time be a Div. 3 paddler in K1. Promotion would be by wins, a new paddler racing in Div. 3 with three wins in this class to gain promotion to Div. 2, three wins in this class to gain Div. 1. L-D classes would then be:

system in L-D that works very well admittedly they have far fewer paddlers than us but their system will work equally well with large numbers. Our L-D Committee cannot afford to endorse a policy such as this, that will completely change the face of L-D sport and cut out a class that many manufacturers have money invested in in the form of moulds, without knowing that it works, that the paddlers want it, that along with Scotland and Ireland they can agree upon a common policy and thus by numbers shape International L-D. Think about this system, pull it apart, add to it, and make your views known at the coming L-D meeting.)

NEWS-NEWS-NEWS- IN BRIEF

FULL L-D MEETING

A meeting of the Long Distance Racing Committee will take place on Saturday, 26th October, at 2.0pm in the hall of Impington Village College, Impington, Cambridge. This is three miles north of Cambridge on the B.1049 to Histon.

Make sure you are there, there is much to discuss that will affect all L-D Paddlers during next season. Sunday is the Cambridge L-D Race so why not make it a weekend in Cambridge.



'DON'T SHOOT, DON'T SHOOT'

'Halt, who goes there?' It's Richard Roberts of the Llandudno Youth Centre Canoe Club showing his paces in surf off Porth Ceiriad in his club-built BS Trier glassfibre kayak.

CANOE ROLLING

Rolling Instruction and Practice Commences on Tuesday October 8th at Seymour Hall Baths from 9pm - 10pm. We regret that we cannot accommodate C2's or Surf Boards on Tuesdays. Stan Holtorp. 01-398-3118.



SLALOM AND L-D MOVE CLOSER.

Slalom and L-D certainly moved closer around Nottingham last month when 1st Division slalomist Colin Gray married L-D paddler Rosemary Page at the Calverton Methodist Church. The arch of paddles was provided by members of the Nottingham, Leicester and Worcester Canoe Clubs. (photo C. Baker).

SELLA



SELLA 1968. 'One of the weakest teams we have ever sent.' Congratulations! 1968 may well go down as the most successful ever.' The first quotation was made by one of our best canoeists just before the Sella Team left for Spain, the other was by John Woolley when we returned, and that just about sums it up.

Most people thought our team weak and chances of gaining places in Spain were rated low. However, those of us who sent them may well congratulate ourselves (I don't suppose anyone else will). Possibly most noteworthy is the fact that we won the Team award, not only at the Sella itself, but at three other major L-D races and altogether the team, plus the other canoeists who supported them, won about 40 trophies.

THE 32nd SELLA DESCENT

With the water higher than usual after quite a heavy week of rain, the 327 competitors from 12 countries racing this year's SELLA DESCENT were watched by 150,000 spectators in the usual fantastic atmosphere of carnival.

Our fastest crew of S. Ash/J. Day were placed 5th, the best placing of a British crew for several years while only two minutes down and taking 8th place were W. Beavis/D. Rogers, our despised junior crew - theirs is surely one of the greatest performances this year. In 10th place and taking 1st in the K1 was team captain C. Evans, winning the singles

race for the third time! One minute down on Evans, in 13th place and taking 2nd in the K1 was the most controversial member of our team, N. Jackson, who proved once again that he is among our best L-D paddlers. Other British paddlers followed in quick succession, among them G. Mackereth who gained the fastest junior K1 time.

Earlier in the race M. Boshier/D. Jordan had, with Boshier's usual superb race tactics, worked their way up through the field and were in with the leaders. However, they had been out-manoeuvred after their rudder failed and their K2 was smashed on some rocks.

Congratulations to our team who have once again put the British flag flying at the mast-head on the bridge at Ribadesella. Let's hope that next year we can win the coveted outright winner in K2 which has for so long eluded us....

SPANISH TOUR RACES

Our team had been sent out to race the SELLA but, as usual had stayed on in Spain to compete many other races, together with a number of our other paddlers although as the days passed in diminishing numbers.

Undoubtedly the best day was the 11th August, when N. Jackson won the ASON DESCENT, fastest R1 and outright winner, while 50 miles away in the CARES DEVA DESCENT, C. Evans won the K1 class, S. Hollier 2nd

W. Beavis/D. Rogers 4th K2 and 2nd junior, our paddlers also winning the team prize.

Before this in the NALON ASCENT we had 1st, 2nd, 3rd, K1 with Evans, Jackson and Hollier, and also 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th, K2s, again winning the team prize.

One of the major events in this tour programme of Northern Spain is the regatta at TRASONA. We never seem to do very well here, our team was rightly disqualified last year and our "B" team was disqualified again this year for crossing lanes. However the "A" team set up a course record in their heat but were beaten into second place in the final - better luck next year!

CABO PENAS was a race on the sea in which we did not do very well (the prizes were lobsters) celebrations the day before did not help the team! In the regatta at LIMPIAS only Mackereth and Hollier competed taking a couple of medals and cups. The following day in the LIMPIAS DESCENT, Hollier gained 2nd K1 with Jackson 3rd, while there was some confusion over W. Beavis/D. Rogers who we thought were the fastest juniors. Finally ORBIGO, a race well worth staying for. We left the coast and climbed over the mountains to the hot, dusty interior. The race is on quite a large clean river but through completely different countryside from all other events. We did well with Jackson winning 2nd in the K1, Mackereth 4th and 1st junior, while Beavis/Rogers gained 7th K2 and 2nd juniors and our team taking the team prize.

The tour finished and we were off on the long drive home. Surely if our paddlers tried again as hard as I have seen them training this year and if they are as united as a team, under as good a team captain, they deserve to do as well or better next year.

Report and photos
by DAVE LEWIS



THE MONTH AHEAD

WHERE TO GO - WHAT TO COMPETE - WHAT TO SEE

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

OCTOBER

- 5th/6th APPLETREEWICK, WHITE WATER RACE AND SLALOM, 2nd. Details: M. J. Markham, 22, Wrenbury Crescent, Leeds 16.
- 5th CRANE - LEIXLIP L-D RACE, Ireland. Details: Salmon Leap Canoe Club, Leixlip, Co. Kildare.
- 13th BUILTH SLALOM, 2nd Details: R. Thacker, Ambleside, The Row, Mollington, Banbury, Oxon.
- 13th TREVOR ROCKS SLALOM, 3rd N. Details: N. Fielden, Kings College, Cambridge.
- 13th LEVEN WHITE WATER TEST. Details: E. Totty, Craigmuir, High Knott Road, Arnside, via Carnforth, Lancs.
- 13th TRENT L-D RACE, B19 P3. Details: Miss M. Baker, 8, Dorothy Grove, Ainsley, Nottingham.
- 20th LLANGOLLEN TOWN SLALOM, 1st Details: D. J. Maloney, 62, Earls Way, Curzon Park, Chester.
- 20th KENNET VALLEY L-D, B14 P18. Details: M. Brown, 'Ona', Woodlands Street, Mary, Newbury, Berks.
- 20th LONGHAM SLALOM, open to local canoeists - novice. Details: The Secretary, c/o Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Hants.
- 27th LEVEN WHITE WATER TEST. Details: E. Totty, Craigmuir, High Knott Road, Arnside, via Carnforth, Lancs.
- 27th CAMBRIDGE L-D RACE, B12 P4. Details: J. Baker, St. John's College, Cambridge.
- ## NOVEMBER
- 3rd SERPENT'S TAIL SLALOM, 1st Details: C.M. Rothwell, 21, Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester, 10
- 10th USK WHITE WATER RACE. Details: T. Woodcock, 284, Glastonbury Road, Morden, Surrey.

CANOE ROLLING

The Winter months will soon be closing in on us and paddlers will be once again taking to canoe rolling in the warmth of indoor baths. If you hold sessions that are open to all paddlers please let "Canoeing Magazine" know and we will publish dates in our pages.

CANOE ROLLING - Dartford College of Education, Dartford, Kent. Six Sessions per course on Tuesday evenings. Details: C.C.P.R. (L. & S.E.) 160, Great Portland Street, London W.1. tel. 01-580 9092.

Llangollen Town Slalom

PLAYER'S

No 6

Sponsored by John Player & Sons,
Takes place in Llangollen Town, on
Saturday & Sunday, 19th.-20th. October
Saturday, 12 noon - 4.30 p.m.
Sunday, 9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.



AGE-TRADE PAGE-TRADE PAGE-TR

'SPORTKITS' GO TO BIRMINGHAM

The Canoe Centre at Twickenham is streamlining its production of glassfibre kayaks. In this process their famous "SPORTKIT" range of rigid PVC covered kayaks have been dispensed with. However, this is not the end of the range - that includes the 'DIPPER', 'MALLARD', 'WREN' and 'SWIFT' - for the whole range is now available from VIC LEWIS BOATS of Birmingham.

VIC LEWIS BOATS

334-336 Bolton Road, Small Heath, Birmingham 10.

In direct response to frequent demands, particularly a request by members of the Birmingham Canoe Club, a range of canoes, complete or in kit form in wood and PVC coated canvas, also in glassfibre, is now being stocked, together with all canoeing accessories. Canoes include the famous 'SPORTKIT' range previously sold by THE CANOE CENTRE OF Twickenham.

GRP CANOES CHOSEN FOR INTERNATIONAL RACE

The first long-distance racing canoes to be made entirely of glass reinforced plastic were chosen by the Irish Canoe Union for their own and other international teams competing in the Liffey Descent long-distance canoe race in Dublin this September. These canoes, which have been used successfully this season by members of the British Mexico Olympics canoe team, are constructed by Kirton Kayaks Limited of Crediton Devon, from materials supplied by Deeglas Fibres Limited of Camberley Surrey.

The company's order from the Irish Canoe Union marks the climax to its successful first full season in competition. The new design, tech-

niques and utilisation of Deeglas fibre have resulted in a string of successes for the craft in long-distance canoe events this year, including ten firsts. By using a new deck and hull, Kirton Kayaks has produced an almost completely seamless and strong tube - with a round static, underwater shape reducing resistance and increasing speed. The complete plastics construction has also made a significant weight reduction.

Kirton Kayaks, which has already received its first export orders from America, is planning increased production. Enquiries have been received from throughout Europe, South Africa and Australia.



MIKE CLARK on competitive CANOEING

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - PANGBOURNE

The National Sprint Championships were again held this year on the course at Pangbourne on 10th/11th August. Fair weather prevailed and the entry was quite good although as usual a large number of L-D paddlers - who make up many of the heats in the junior events, were away competing the Sella Race in Spain.

The previous week the Final Olympic Time Trials had been held at Sharpness - reported last month - and many of the senior paddlers came to the Nationals having done little training during the week and regarded the event as something of an anticlimax after the supreme effort of the Trials. However although their times were a little slow at Pangbourne - partly due to quite a heavy stream running - this did not detract from the excitement of many of the events where there were some very close finishes. Outstanding among these were the senior K1 events where in both the 1000m and 500m, L. Oliver and A. Wilson were literally inches apart over the line, Oliver being the victor in both races. The senior K4 was another really thrilling race with the Richmond crew of Lawler/Avery/Whitby/Glavin just holding off the Argonaut crew of Wilson/Oliver/Edwards/Mean to win by 6/10 sec.

In junior events the loss of paddlers away in Spain was more than made up for by the number of young Scottish paddlers who attended the

event - in junior, youth and novice their distinctive blue and white vests were always seen among the leaders. These lads from the Ayrshire Kayak Club showed style and ability - no doubt their trainer, Marianne Tucker, was well pleased with their results.

THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - NOTTINGHAM

The National Open Long Distance Championships were held at Nottingham on 7th September and again sponsored by JOHN PLAYER & SONS - this firm seems to be getting really interested in our sport and again is sponsoring the slalom event at Llangollen next month. However, although there was a very fine turnout at Nottingham and included crews from Denmark, Austria, Sweden, Ireland, Scotland and England the course proved a bit of a drag with flat water all the way and the portage twice of only one weir. By far the most spectacular part of the race was the start with massed start of the senior classes and half an hour later the massed start of junior and ladies classes.

In the senior doubles our fine British pair of Oliver/Edwards of Lincoln/Worcs were away from the start and along with an Austrian and Swedish crew battled for the lead. By the last turn Oliver/Edwards were in the lead and held off the Swedish pair of T. Serm/K. Ljung to win the class with a time of 1hr. 59 min. 57 sec. but only 7 seconds. In the senior singles P. Lawler, of Richmond had it mostly his own way, winning the class from A. Wilson of Ayrshire by over two minutes with a fine Danish paddler, F. Anderson, in third place.

Once again in the junior singles a Richmond paddler had a complete walk over when M. Whitby gained first place with a time of 1hr 26min. H. Baker of Harlow came second but in a National Championship, what a gap young Whitby had made, the Harlow lad was over six minutes down! While



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

PAULINE SQUIRES - 'MISS CANOEING 1968' and winner of the ladies singles at the National Long Distance Canoe Race Championships, held at Nottingham on 7th September. Photo - Mike Clark, Nikon F, 500mm lens, 1/250 at f11.

Whitby paddled nonchalantly over the line, Baker had to really fight for his place with H. Watkins of Ireland who finished only a second down.' The junior doubles produced an interesting race. Here it was a fine Nottingham pair of J. Lockwood/J. Summers who gained the win but closely tailed by a very young pair of paddlers - G. Martin/S. Bulley - from Bourne Youth Wing, while in third place the Richmond pair of Read/Billen.

In the ladies events Miss June McCrea/Mrs Audrey Lawrence won the doubles - much to their surprise - with a time of 1hr 39min, just four minutes ahead of the Richmond pair, Miss W. Baumeister/Mrs. D. Lawler, with the Nottingham ladies taking third place. In the singles event, Miss Pauline Squires of Leamington Spa CC - in the evening she was presented with a large bouquet and named 'MISS CANOEING 1968' - easily won from Miss A. Huskisson of Royal almost six minutes in the lead and finishing with a time of 1hr 37min 35 sec (two minutes faster than the ladies doubles). The Irish girl Miss V. O'Connell took third place followed by Miss K. Emerson of Richmond.

The following day there was some very fine and exciting sprint

racing over a 500m course at Nottingham but space prevents me from reporting the events. The whole organisation at Nottingham was extremely good and much credit must be given to Alan Witham and all his helpers for the hours of work that must have been put in, even before the Championship and Regatta.

Wolverhampton Canoe Club long distance race was held on 25th August on a course from Ironbridge to Bridgenorth. Although the entries were small the standard of paddling was good. The level of the river rose during the night before the race and what was once a slow meandering river, soon became fast and turbulent - good times were expected. In the senior K2 Green/Stonely of Cambridge Canoe Club upheld this expectation by winning their class with a very fast time of 1 hr. 04 min 24sec. for the 12 miles. N. Jackson in the senior K1 class led from start to finish to win with a time of 1 hr 10 min 25 sec

This was the first time that an L-D had been held over this course and I am sure that it will not be the last. The river is interesting and variable with some minor rapids - make sure you support this event next year.





PHOTOS FROM NOTTINGHAM

1. Start of the juniors and ladies classes at Nottingham.
2. Swedish crew of T.Serm/K.Ljung who gained 2nd in the senior doubles.
3. Miss Gay Nully of Espoir Canoe Club, Ireland, preparing her kayak before the start.
4. Pete Lawler of Richmond, senior singles winner, and looking a little tired after the race.
5. Ladies doubles winners at Nottingham, June McCrea/Audrey Lawrence of Wild Water Kayak Club.
6. Over the line race the senior doubles winners - the British pair of Oliver/Edwards.



Photos - Mike Clark.

WHAT'S NEW?

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SCOUT CANOEING



"K" CLASS CANOE COURSE

Over the weekend 16/18th August a course was held at Longridge for Scouts interested in K1 paddling. Twenty-four paddlers attended and two of these had only two weekend's of canoeing.

For this course we scrounged, begged and borrowed 22 K1s and 2 K2s. The first hour was spent seeing just what the course knew about K1 paddling and by lunch time they had all been told what faults they had. For the afternoon, Chris Baker of the Royal Canoe Club came along with his 'Pointer' and gave a demonstration of paddling technique and style. The course then went for a mile paddle with Chris paddling along side giving hints and correcting faults in the Scouts paddling style.

On the Sunday morning the course split into two groups, each having a K2 crew. Our K1 paddlers then 'wash-hung' the K2s around a 5000m course and this proved very successful with only one or two paddlers being dropped by the pairs. Mid-morning a talk was organised and for this we invited Bob O'Keefe of the Paddling Racing Committee along to give an outline of the organisation side of sprint canoeing.

For the afternoon a 500m regatta was held and consisted of four heats with the winners of each heat and the two fastest second places competing in a final race. The winner, Chris Anderson, made a time of 2min 8.2sec, Kevin Rich and Geoff Harris taking second and third places with only literally inches between the crews.

The weekend was well spent and much was learnt, however we are now thinking of holding a course on similar lines but for slalom paddlers. Any Scout interested should write to me and as soon as we have fixed a

date I will forward details. (For this slalom weekend you will have to bring your own boat.) Total cost of the sprint course was only 30/- including food - per paddler of course

A collection was made amongst these sprint weekenders for the Olympic Team Fund and £3.3.0d was raised. (A very fine effort. Ed.)

SURREY VENTURE SCOUT RACE ALTERED

The date of the Surrey Venture Scout Long Distance Race, due to changes in the racing calendar, has been altered from 6th October - reported in last month's "Canoeing Magazine" - and will now be run on 20th October.

Invitations have been sent out to the following scout counties - Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Essex and London. A feature of the race will be an Inter-Counties Challenge Trophy and it is hoped that this will add a new dimension to the race.

SCOUT PRIZE IN TRENT RACE

The Nottingham City Kayak Club are this year running the Trent River Race L-U. They feel that this year entry fees in general have been too high to encourage juniors to paddle and so they have reduced the race fees to a minimum with a charge of 5/- per senior paddler and 3/6d per junior (2/- extra if food is required after the race).

A special prize for Scouts who enter the junior classes will be awarded, one for the best singles Scout and two for the best doubles Scout crew.

Any scouts wishing to be considered for these prizes must enter the race through their own Group, details and entry forms can be obtained from Miss M. Baker, 8, Dorothy Grove, Ainsley Estate, Nottingham, NG8 3PJ. The race is on 13th October and entries must be in by 5th October.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENTURE

A conference for Leaders of Scout and Venture Scout Sections of the Scout Association will be held at Baden-Powell House on Sunday 27th October. The days programme includes talks on CANOEING, SKIING, CLIMBING, MOUNTAIN LEADERSHIP, POT-HOLING, SAILING AND SUB-AQUA.

Full details of this conference can be obtained from C.C.P.R. (L. & S.E.), 160 Great Portland Street, London W.1. tel: 01-580 9092.



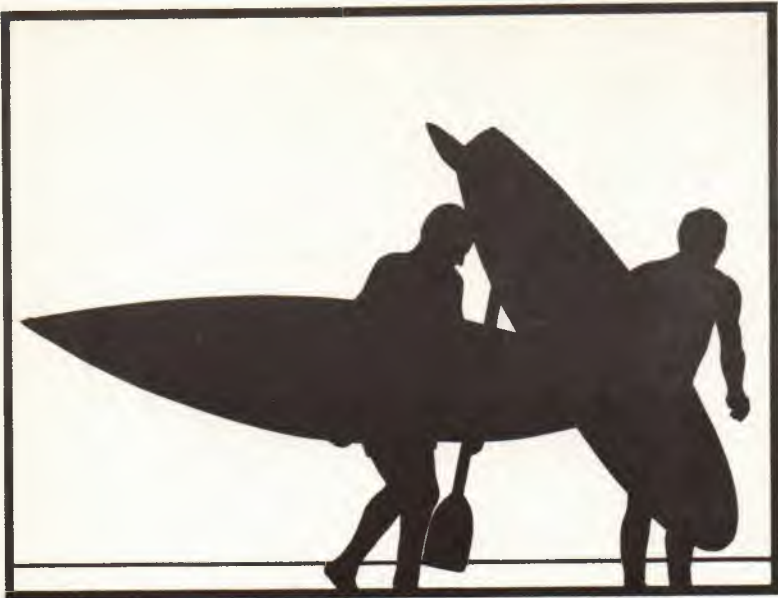
Photos from 'K' Course at Longridge.



COMING SCOUT EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 5th/6th SCOUT CANOE COURSE, LONGRIDGE, 12/16yrs. Full accomod. 30/-
- 12/13th VENTURE SCOUT CANOE COURSE, LONGRIDGE. Full accomod. 30/-
- 14/18th VENTURE SCOUR CANOE COURSE, LONGRIDGE (Mid-week) Full Accomod. 105/-
- 13th SCOUT CANOE RACE, MIDDLESEX. Organised by 16th Twickenham, Details: A. C. Tullett, 25, Chudleigh Road, Twickenham, Middx.
- 20th SCOUT CANOE RACE, WEY NAVIGATION. 15 miles 10P. Details: A.G. Tait, 113, Hillbury Road, Wallingham, Surrey.
- 27th OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVENTURE CONFERENCE. Details: C.C.P.H. (L. & S.E.) 160, Great Portland Street, London W.1.
- 26/27th SCOUT CANOE COURSE, LONGRIDGE 14/16 yrs. (Advanced) Full accomod. 30/-
- 28/1st VENTURE SCOUT CANOE COURSE, LONGRIDGE (Mid-week, Advanced) Full accomod. 105/-



CANOE AND SURF GALA

reported
by
OLIVER
COCK

CANOE SURF CHAMPIONSHIPS.

For the third year the Bude Surf Life Saving Club joined with the British Canoe Union in running a Surf Gala on Crooklets Beach, Bude. This year the surf was the finest we have yet had for the Championships, and the weather, though not ideal from the point of view of sun, was certainly good enough.

A gentle off-shore breeze held the Atlantic rollers up and produced a dumping sea. This no longer holds the fears of the canoeist as it used to. In fact it enables him to demonstrate his prowess to the maximum of his ability, and this is inclined to leave the 'Great British Public' gasping for breath. The swell was running in in periods of about three minutes this year. It started quite humbly, but as the day drew on it grew in stature until the estimate of the height of the breaking wave was between ten and fourteen feet, which you must admit is quite a wave! One canoe got snapped in two in a loop - it has nothing to do with hitting the bottom!

If the waves were bigger and better, so was the entry. The hand-

ling event drew an entry of forty, one of whom was a girl. The straight Race drew thirty-six. The "Patient" Race, or Rescue Race drew 25 pairs - fifty people in all. Heats were run off on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, with the finals on Sunday afternoon.

In the results the Atlantic College showed up prominently, but we are at last beginning to see some new faces. C. Woodbridge of the College came first in both Handling and the Race. In the Rescue Race he came third, thus ensuring his winning the Walter Maddocks cup for the Best Canoeist of the Day. However, his position in the Handling was seriously challenged by R. Reilly of the Army Canoe Union with whom he drew. Third was D.A. Thelland of Ghyll Head Outdoor Pursuits Centre.

In the Race, R. Smith of Cambridge Union Canoe Club was second, with B. Sawyer of Chalfont Park C.C. third. I am afraid the College ran away with the Rescue event, though friend Sawyer did manage a fourth place. In this event M. Crooks, now an Old Boy of the College, was the victor, with J. Van de Graaf as his

"patient". J. Welch (canoeist) and M. Duinker (patient) were second.

The Bude S.L.S. Club put in other events, such as single and double ski races, and a board and a swimming race. We also had the inovation of a "canoe versus ski" race, with four canoes and three single skis. J. Welch won in a canoe closely followed by Arnold on a ski. Then came the three other canoes and finally the two other skis. It was a good race, particularly as Welch

broke his paddle on his first stroke and had to get another one.

Altogether a jolly good day's sport, and we have to thank everybody - but everybody who helped to make it go so well. Only one special mention here; that is the local In-shore Rescue Lifeboat which took loads of "patients" out to sea and dumped them overboard for the benefit of the would be rescuing canoeists. That event would not be the same without it.

SURF GALA

FINAL RESULTS

Sunday, 8th September 1968

Canoe Riding

1st	(R. Reilly	8 pts to "Best Canoeist"
	(C. Woodbridge	8 " " " "
3rd	D. Thelland	2 " " " "
4th	M. Crooks	1 " " " "
5th	M. Ashmore	

Canoe Race

1st	C. Woodbridge	8 " " " "
2nd	R. Smith	3 " " " "
3rd	B. Sawyer	2 " " " "
4th	J. Welch	1 " " " "
5th	R. Reilly	

"Patients" Race

1st	M. Crooks & J. Van de Graaf	8 pts
2nd	J. Welch & M. Duinker	3 "
3rd	C. Woodbridge & B. Reïss	2 "
4th	B. Sawyer & Partners	1 "

Walter Maddocks

1st	C. Woodbridge	18 pts
2nd	M. Crooks	9 "
3rd	R. Reilly	8 "
	J. Van de Graaf	8 "
5th	J. Welch	4 "

Cup

("Best Canoeist")

3rd	J. Van de Graaf	8 "
5th	J. Welch	4 "

HASLER TROPHY

Positions of the TOP TEN leading clubs from best eight races.

RICHMOND CANOE CLUB	124	66	65	59	54	52	49	46	TOTAL	515
HARLOW CANOE CLUB	66	63	53	52	50	49	36	35		404
ROYAL CANOE CLUB	56	44	42	36	35	34	30	28		305
NOTTINGHAM CITY KC	40	37	36	35	28	26	26	20		248
BRADFORD ON AVON CC	50	35	34	25	22	20	08	08		202
LINCOLN CANOE CLUB	56	29	26	25	18	11	10	10		185
EXETER CANOE CLUB	45	22	22	21	20	17	12	06		165
CAMBRIDGE CANOE CLUB	41	24	24	16	15	13	12	12		157
HYTHE VENTURE SCOUTS	30	24	20	19	16	15	14	08		146
NEWHAM CANOE CLUB	19	18	16	14	12	11	10	08		114

Points from races up to Exe Estuary but excluding Tamar and Royal.

RESULT ROUND-UP



32nd SELLA DESCENT 4th August.

1. Feliz/Gutierrez, Spain/5.S. Ash/J. Day, G.B. /8. (3rd junior K2)
W.Beavis/R.Rogers, G.B. /10. (1st K1) C. Evans, G.B. /13. (2nd K1) N.
Jackson, G.B. 16/ D. Blackmore/B. Leach, G.B. /17. C. Baker/M.Giddings
G.B. /19. (4th K1) S.Kitson, Harlow CC /23. D. Green/A.Stoneley, Cam
bridge CC. /28. (6th K1)A.Chapman, Royal CC. /29. (7th K1, 1st junior
K1) G. Mackereth, Harlow CC. /35.(10th K1) S. Hollier, Royal CC. /52.
(13th K1) D. Clark, Cambridge CC.

TEAM PRIZE - GREAT BRITAIN, also at NALON DESCENT, CARE'S DEVA DESCENT
and ORBIGO DESCENT

NALON DESCENT - K1 /1. C.Evans, G.B. /2. N. Jackson, G.B. /3. S. Hollier,
Royal CC. K2. /3. M. Giddings/C. Baker, G.B.

ASON DESCENT - R1 /1. N. Jackson, G.B. CARES DEVA DESCENT - K1 /1. C.
Evans, G.B. /2. S. Hollier, Royal CC. K2. /4. W.Beavis/D.Rogers, (2nd
juniors) G.B. ORBIGO DESCENT - K1 /2. N. Jackson, G.B. /4. G. Mackereth,
(1st junior) Harlow CC. /7. W. Beavis/D. Rogers, (2nd junior K2) G.B.
TRASONA REGATTA - British "A" Team 2nd CABO PENAS - K1 /2. S. Hollier,
Royal CC. /4. N. Jackson, G.B. K2. /4. W.Beavis/D.Rogers, G.B. LIMPIAS
- K1 /2. S. Hollier, Royal CC. /3. N.Jackson, G.B. K2. /7. W.Beavis/
D. Rogers, G.B.

NATIONAL SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS. Pangbourne 10th August.

SENIOR EVENTS. MEN K1. 1000m 1. L. Oliver, Lincoln CC. 4min 27.3sec.
/2. A. Wilson, Ayrshire KC. 4.27.6. /3. M. Mean, Harlow 4.28.4 K1 500m
1. L. Oliver, Lincoln CC. 2.17.0. /2. A. Wilson, Ayrshire KC. 2.17.2
/3. P. Lawler, Richmond CC. 2.21.8. K2 1000m. /1. L. Oliver/A. Edwards
Lincoln/Worcs. 4.18.2 /2. J. Glavin/P. Lawler, Richmond CC 4.20.0 /3.
M. Mean/A. Wilson, Harlow/Ayrshire. 4.21.0 K2 500m. 1. M. Mean/A. Wilson
Harlow/Ayrshire. 1.58.1 /2 P. Lawler/M. Whitby, Richmond CC. 1.59.9 /3.
A. Edwards/L. Oliver, Worcs/Lincoln. 2.03.8 K4 1000m. 1. Lawler/Whitby/
Glavin/Avery, Richmond 3.45.0 /2. Wilson/Oliver/Mean/Edwards, Argonauts
3.45.6.

JUNIOR EVENTS. MEN. K1 1000m 1. J. Kidd, Richmond CC. 4.37.0 /2. K.
Pereira, Richmond CC. 4.41.1. /3. G. Chester, Boston KC 4.45.1 K1
500m 1. J. Kidd, Richmond CC. 2.21.6 /2. D. Batchelor; Ayrshire KC.
2.22.2 /3. B. Brockie, Ayrshire KC 2.27.4 K2 1000m 1. Pereira/Other,
Richmond CC. 4.35.2 /2. Clow/R. Lawler, Army/Richmond 4.45.8 /3. F.
Royle/G. Chester, Boston KC. 4.47.1 K2 500m 1. R. Lawler/Clow, Richmond
/Army, 2.15.0 /2. H. Dyer/C. Hillman Riverside. 2.16.0 /3. Brockie/
Batchelor, Ayrshire KC 2.16.4 K4 1000m 1. Army 4.07.5 /2. Richmond "A"
4.18.4

LADIES EVENTS K1 500m 1. Miss L. Oliver, Southampton 2.43.3 /2. Miss
B. Mean Harlow. 2.49.5 /3. Miss P. Squires, Leamington. 2.52.6 K2
500m 1. Miss B. Mean/Miss L. Oliver, Harlow/Southampton. 2.23.4 /2 Mrs
D. Lawler/Miss W. Baumiester, Richmond 2.27.8.

NOVICE MEN K1 500m. C. Tannock, Ayrshire KC 2.43.6. NOVICE MEN K2 500m
Tannock/Gilmour, Ayrshire. N/T YOUTH MEN K1 500m R. Billen, Richmond CC
2.38.9 YOUTH MEN K2 500m Read/Billen, Richmond CC 2.33.7.

WOLVERHAMPTON LONG DISTANCE RACE 25th AUGUST.

CLASS 1A - SENIOR K1. 1. N. Jackson, Harlow CC. 1.10.25./2. S.Kitson, Harlow CC. 1.12.50./3. J. Day, Harlow CC. 1.12.53. CLASS 2A. - SENIOR K2. 1. Stonely/Green, Cambridge, 1.04.24. /2. Royle/Chester, Boston CC, 1.11.55./3. Dean/Preece, 1.16.30 CLASS 3A - SENIOR SINGLES. 1. P. Royle, Boston CC. 1.21.43 /2. C. Leah, Harlow CC. 1.25.08. /3. K. Bailey, 1.25.15. CLASS 4A - SENIOR DOUBLES. 1. Pierce/McLachrie, 1.19.23. /2. R. Downing, 1.22.05./3. Clift/Walker, 1.32.35.

EXE ESTUARY RACE 1st September.

CLASS 1A. 1. S. Hollier, Royal CC, 1.28.00. /2. P. Lawler, Richmond CC. 1.29.00 /3. A. Chapman, Royal CC. 1.31.15. CLASS 1B. 1.M.Whitby, Richmond CC. 1.36.05./2. P.Hopkin, Royal CC. 1.45.18. /3. A. Worth, Exeter CC. 1.49.05. CLASS 1C 1. Miss L. Oliver, Southampton CC. 2.06.05. CLASS 2A. 1. J. Day/S. Ash, Harlow, CC. 1.25.15. /2. R. Moore/R. Pearson, Eagle K.C. 1.30.00./3. T. Tandy/M. Purchas. Bradford-on-Avon. 1.30.50. CLASS 2B 1. N. Taylor/R.Billen, Richmond CC. 1.37.25./2. J. Radford/M. Carpenter, Exeter CC. 1.39.00/3. S.Bully/G.Martin, Youth Bourne Wing. 1.41.35. CLASS 3A. 1. B. Greenaway, Richmond CC. 1.51.05. /2. A. Allen, P. CC. 1.53.20. /3. G. Early, Hythe V.S. 2.12.00 CLASS 3B (C) 1. Mrs. P. Allen, P.CC. 1.58.40 /2. P. Roberts,Hythe V.S. 2.03.30./3. B. Coles, P.CC. 2.15.00 CLASS 4A. K. Pereira/R. Lawler, Richmond CC. 1.46.00./2. G. Richardson/CLASS 4B. 1.G. Harris/S. Peake, Hythe V.S. 1.47.15 /2. A. Pritchard/P. Lavars, S.CC. 2.07.00 /3. P. Hughes/M. Wills, 2.28.55.

BRITISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP LONG DISTANCE RACE, Nottingham 7th September

OPEN SENIOR SINGLES 1. P. Lawler, Richmond CC. 2.04.20 /2. A. Wilson, Scotland, 2.06.36. /3. F. Anderson, Denmark, 2.10.20 /4. R. Avery, Richmond CC, 2.11.10. /5. S. Kitson, Harlow CC. 2.12.06. OPEN SENIOR DOUBLES 1. L. Oliver/A. Edwards, Lincoln/Worcester CC. 1.59.57. /2. T. Serm/K. Ljung, Sweden. 2.01.04. /3. N. Mahrle/H. Holzschuster, Austria, 2.02.20. /4. S. Ash/J. Day, Harlow CC. 2.03.15. /5. B. Jupp/S. Warren, 63rd Para RCT. 2.04.30.

OPEN JUNIOR SINGLES 1. M.Whitby, Richmond CC. 1.26.00. /2. H. Baker, Harlow CC. 1.31.40. /3. H. Watkins, Ireland. 1.31.41. OPEN JUNIOR DOUBLES 1. J. Summers/J. Lockwood, Nottingham CC. 1.27.40. /2. G. Martin/S. Bulley, Bourne Youth Wing. 1.28.00. /3. N. Read/L. Billen, Richmond CC. 1.29.16.

OPEN LADIES SINGLES 1. Miss P. Squires, Royal Leamington Spa CC. 1.37.35 /2. Miss A. Huskisson, Royal CC. 1.43.00. /3. Miss V. O'Connell, Ireland 1.48.30. OPEN LADIES DOUBLES 1. Miss J. McCrea/Mrs. A. Lawrence, Ireland 1.39.45. /2. Miss W. Baumeister/Mrs D. Lawler, Richmond CC. 1.43.15 /3. Mrs. R. Gray/Miss C. Baker, Nottingham CC 1.58.25.

STOP PRESS. Our Olympic Canoe Team flew out to Mexico on 15th September, leaving London Airport in pouring rain.

Streamlyte Mouldings, winners of the Olympic Draw have decided to take the money instead of the trip to Mexico.

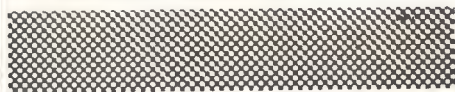
RACE AHEAD IN A NEW

KIRTON

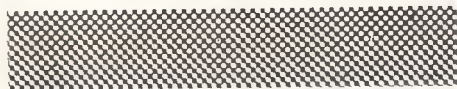
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