

Dave Maycock tries out the Avoncraft "Invader" K.I



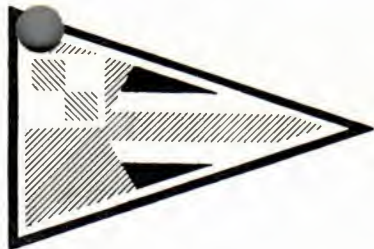
March 1965 1/6

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canoeing in Britain

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- ★ Profile—Percy Blandford
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- ★ Club News

The news magazine of the British Canoe Union



This is the last copy of *Canoeing in Britain* you will receive if your Individual Membership fee for 1965 still remains unpaid. For this year only, *March Canoeing in Britain* is being sent to those who have not yet renewed for 1965 together with a reminder. You will not want to miss any of the forthcoming issues of your magazine, so renew now, before you forget!

If you didn't go to the dance after the A.G.M., you missed a treat. The band was good, the dance floor just the right size for the two hundred or so who attended, and most of the B.C.U. officials were there, to talk to or dance with as required. Fears that there would be few ladies present proved unfounded—the dance went with a swing right from the beginning, reflecting great credit on the organisers. Opinion after the event seems to favour retaining the Dance as an annual function, with the A.G.M. held in London and somewhere in the provinces in alternate years.

A National Sports Council under the chairmanship of Denis Howell, Minister for Sport, with Walter Winterbottom as Director, is to help develop sport in Britain. One of its first concerns is to provide finance for what is hoped to be our biggest and best-ever Olympic Team in 1968. Also local committees for sport (Sports Development Councils) are being established, to work with the C.C.P.R., with Local Authorities charged with the responsibility of providing facilities. These are welcome innovations which must be of great benefit to amateur sport.

JACK LEVISON.

Where opinions are expressed in this Magazine, they are those of individuals and do not necessarily reflect official B.C.U. policy.

Comments, articles, photographs, and reports are welcomed for inclusion in *Canoeing in Britain*. Photographs will be returned after use if requested, provided a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed. Send to editorial address below by 10th of the month prior to publication.

Canoeing in Britain is published on the 10th of March, June, September, and December, by the British Canoe Union.

Advertisement Department, C. Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham. Tel. Stranton 8239.

Editorial address: J. Levison, 11 York Road, Peterlee, Co. Durham

"POLZEATH 1965"

Advanced Canoeing Week 1965

in SURF AND ROUGH WATER at
Bude, Cornwall

Saturday, 11th Sept. to Sunday, 19th Sept.

*Arranged by the BRITISH CANOE UNION in co-operation
with the CENTRAL COUNCIL OF PHYSICAL RECREATION*

The course will be under the direction of Mr. Oliver Cock, National Coach to the British Canoe Union. Those attending will be required to observe strictly the discipline concerning safety precautions, so essential on a course that is intended to make for the greatest possible efficiency of the individual who may subsequently be required to use his ability in helping others, under adverse weather conditions.

LOCATION. The course will be held at Bude, where Atlantic rollers may be expected to provide the required rough water conditions.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE. To learn how to handle canoes in rough seas, to study the methods of Life Saving through surf, to examine further the possibility of using canoes and other craft as a means of Surf Life Saving.

ACCOMMODATION. A camp site has been arranged under the protection of a hill to the south of Summerleaze Beach at Bude, overlooking it. Local hotel accommodation is available for those who prefer this, but such people are asked to make their own arrangements.

ELIGIBILITY. All taking part must be good swimmers, and should bring their own canoes—preferably singles, with paddles and full equipment. A few Eskimo Kayaks will be available. A condition of acceptance is that all members



MUST be able to roll, and should indicate ability and experience on their applications.

FEES. The charges are 2/6d. per head per day for participating adults, 2/- per head for young people under the age of 19, and 1/6 per head for all "camp followers." The money will be collected on the site.

All applications should be made in the first place to Mr. Oliver J. Cock, at "Rivertrees," Wargrave Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon., who will send enquirers full particulars of the situation of the camp, and of the course.

Report on the

AGM

This year one of the largest Annual General Meetings ever was held at Leamington Spa Town Hall Assembly Room which had been kindly loaned to us by the Leamington Spa Town Council.

The proceedings opened (amidst lush floral decorations) with an address of welcome by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T. A. Dorey, to which the President replied and thanked him, the Council

and its Officers both for their hospitality and for all the trouble they had taken to meet our requirements.

After the Annual Report and Accounts had been accepted, the general business of the meeting provoked some lively argument and there was a most useful exchange of views, particularly regarding access to waterways and the necessity for competitors in races to have previous medical examinations.

After much discussion the motion regarding access to waterways was modified to urge the Council to set up its Access to Waterways Committee, and to act with all speed using whatever funds it could spare to improve the access to waterways for canoeists. The motion regarding medical examinations was amended to advising competitors to have a medical check-up. The President assured the meeting that now the matter of Insurance had been taken in hand by Mrs. Baker, he and the Council were satisfied that business would be efficiently conducted.

Alterations to the rules which made the B.C.U. the governing body for the sport in Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands, and others which suspended the rights of any member who had not paid his subscription by 31st January, were carried. The meeting closed at 7.45 p.m. after the presentation of Awards of Honour to Miss E. E. McLellan and a representative for Frank Luzmore, and prizes for competitive events. Many members just had time to move on to the dance which followed in the Pump Rooms. This was also a most successful and enjoyable event.

We are all indebted to the Royal Leamington Spa Canoe Club who were responsible for the excellent arrangements.

Result of Elections :

President: J. W. Dudderidge, Esq., O.B.E.

Council: R. W. Baker, Esq., H. Barton, Esq., Maj. H. G. Bruce, Miss E. E. McLellan, J. Bright, Esq., R. O'Keefe, Esq.

The Daily Sketch will issue its "Challenge to Young Britain" again this year. This scheme was launched last year when young Britons were invited to show the general public that the youth of this country was the exact opposite of the image created by the "Mods and Rocker" riots. They were asked to demonstrate their sense of responsibility, toughness and moral fibre by carrying out a series of tests, requiring physical and mental alertness, combined with a social conscience.

Continued on page 3

Test Report by David Maycock and David Green

Avoncraft Invader (see cover illustration)

This is a new boat to the K1 market and is of monocoque construction, being mahogany plywood exterior reinforced inside with glass fibre and having ply decks. The resultant hull appears to be strong, light and durable and is designed with the maximum beam well aft of the paddling position. A series of comparative trials were made with other modern K1's of both veener and glass fibre construction that are currently available in this country and the performance of this boat was such that no conclusive difference in speed could be measured during the time available for the trials. The boat has good acceleration and readily matched existing types. The high bow split waves more readily than most K1's, and as a result, the boat handled pleasantly in rough water conditions, it was a lively performer when pushed to the limit. Under these conditions, however, water did break over the side of the cockpit and a spraydeck was an essential part of the equipment. It was our considered opinion that had the boat been more comfortable for the paddler a superior performance may have been attained.

A particular point we felt needing alteration was the position of the cockpit relative to the seat, which on the model tested was such that the seat required to be in the most forward position before the paddler could readily clear the back of the cockpit. In addition to this the footbar required raising 1 to 2 inches in order that a comfortable foot position could be achieved. These points, we understand, have been corrected on current production models.

The steering, we felt, was also in need of improvement, being inadequate when paddling in wash, it would appear that the introduction of wire rudder lines and a higher geared rudder action would overcome this problem. For the L.D. paddler the lip on the cockpit was insufficient for a reliable hand hold when portaging and we would recommend some slight modification.

To summarise, we felt that this boat compared favourably for speed with other modern K1's and with its well varnished wooden exterior finish it is good value for money. The faults we found should be able to be corrected without affecting the price, and the additional comfort given would make it easier to work the boat.

We would take this opportunity to welcome this all British addition to the K1 field, for with a low priced boat of this potential available K1 paddling is brought into the reach of most people's pockets and nothing but good can come from the resultant increase in race competition. Bob Vardy writes: "The seat has a further forward travel of 5 ins. on all production models, as against the prototype tested, and the footbar is 1½ ins. higher.

The other minor details will be modified as suggested—the cockpit raised, and an extra thickness to the lip of the cockpit to assist grip when portaging."

1965 YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The arrangements have suffered a severe blow by the decision of the *News of the World* not to sponsor the Serpentine Regatta this year. The generous financial assistance in the provision of prizes and travel subsidy for the longer distance competitors will be sadly missed. Our grateful thanks to the *News of the World* for all its support in the past are now recorded.

With the active assistance of the C.C.P.R., we have decided once again to promote the National Open Youth Championships in the hope of encouraging interest in competitive canoeing, particularly among schools and youth organisations. It is open to all boys and girls under 18 years of age, whether they belong to an affiliated club or not.

The Championships will be held in selected geographical areas which will be similar to those of last year. The winners in each class and the winning relay team will be eligible to compete in the National Youth Championships Final. Date and Venue to be decided later and advised.

It is hoped that all area regattas will be held on 19th-20th June. The fixing of dates and venues is a matter for local decision, but all events must be completed before 13th July, and the names and addresses of the winners forwarded to the National Organiser. Established canoe clubs will be invited to stage and assist in the running of each Area Championship Regatta. The Clubs should appoint a racing official who will liaise between the C.C.P.R., the B.C.U. Regional Youth Officer and any neighbouring clubs willing to help.

SUMMARY OF THE RULES

1. These Championships will be conducted in selected geographical areas of Great Britain. The winners of the Area Championships in each class will be entitled to compete in the National Open Youth Championship Finals.

2. The Championships are open to members of youth organisations like boys' and girls' clubs, sea cadets, sea rangers, boy scouts, schools, and also unattached canoeists and canoe club members, with the exception of those who by promotion to Junior status are ineligible to take part in Youth or Novice events.

3. There will be three classes:

Class A. Boys aged 16 to 18 years i.e. boys born after 20th June, 1947.

Class B. Boys aged 14 to 16 years, i.e. boys born after 20th June, 1949.

Class C. Girls under 18 years of age.

4. The races will be in kayaks conforming with the measurements laid down in the British Canoe Union L.D. Class 3 and 4, i.e. single seaters of not more than 15 ft. in length and a minimum beam of 23 in.

5. There will be the following events.

(i) 500 metre races for all classes (A, B and C).

(ii) Relay races for boys only of 4 legs of 500 metre course. Each team shall consist of 4 boys up to the age of 18, and all four must be members of the same club.

6. Each entrant must certify that he/she can swim at least 50 yards and the written consent of the parents or guardians must appear on the entry form.

7. All competitors must wear life jackets which the local organisers consider efficient and their kayaks must be fitted with buoyancy bags.

8. Competitors must supply their own kayaks and paddles for the Area Championships. Kayaks (not paddles) will be available if required for the Area winners taking part in the National Championships regatta.

9. Entry fees will be 3s. for individual entries; 6s. for each relay team. (There will be no entry fee for the National Championship Finals).

AREAS

South West: Cornwall, Devon. Regatta Base: Saltash, Cornwall.

West: Somerset, Wilts, Glos., and Oxon. Regatta Base: Chippenham, Wilts.

Wales: Regatta Base: Cardiff.

South: Hampshire, Dorset and Isle of Wight. Regatta Base: West Southampton.

London and South East: London, Middlesex, Kent, Sussex, Surrey and Berks. Regatta Base: Bedford, Middlesex.

East: Essex, Herts., Beds., Cambs., Suffolk, Norfolk, Hunts., Northants, Bucks and Peterborough. Regatta Base: Bedford.

North Midlands: Lincs., Notts., Derby, Leics., Rutland. Regatta Base: Lincoln.

West Midlands: Warwicks, Staffs, Worcs., Salop, Hereford. Regatta Base: Warwick.

North West: Lancs., Cheshire. Regatta Base: Chester.

Yorkshire: East and West Riding. Regatta Base: Swillington Bridge, near Leeds.

North East: County Durham, Northumberland, North Riding of Yorkshire. Regatta Base: Yarm, River Tees.

North: Cumberland, Westmorland. Regatta Base: Carlisle.

Scotland: Regatta base: Martnahon Loch, Ayrshire.

Northern Ireland: Regatta Base: Belfast.

DAILY SKETCH CHALLENGE—continued

This again will be the basis of the scheme. All young people in the age group 16 to 21 will receive the challenge. They will be asked to form themselves into teams of three.

There is no prize of a personal nature offered but the winning team will earn the right to give away £1,000 to a worthy cause which they will nominate before entering the final tests.

The challenge will start in the Daily Sketch on Monday, 26th April.

BCU DIRECTORY

President: John Dudderidge, O.B.E., 41 Aldenham Avenue, Radlett, Herts. (Radlett 5978).
General Secretary: Capt. Alec R. Kennedy, C.B.E., 26/29 Park Crescent, London W.1. (LANgham 4710).
Treasurer: Ted Owen, 129 Landor Road, Whitnash, Leamington Spa, Warwick. (Leamington Spa 22954).
Touring (Home): Ralph Tyas, 19 Pine Hill, Epsom, Surrey. (Epsom 21665).
Touring (Abroad): Betty McLellan, 9 Downsway, Sanderstead, Surrey. (SANDerstead 4692).
Public Relations: Peter Rogers, 7 Holmead Road, London S.W.6. (Day only: MAY 8863).
"C. in B."—Editor: Jack Levison, 11 York Road, Peterlee, County Durham. (Day only: Peterlee 539).
"C. in B."—Adverts: Chris Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Ave., West Hartlepool, Co. Durham. (Stranton 8239).
Slalom: Julian Shaw, 33 Towersy Avenue, Thame, Oxon. (Thame 471).
L.D.R.: John Woolley, 25 Binswood Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwick.
Sprint Racing: R. A. Sowman, 4 Landor Road, The Cape, Warwick.
B.C.U. Supplies: Capt. Alec R. Kennedy, C.B.E., 26/29 Park Crescent, London W.1. (LANgham 4710).
Sailing: Peter Wells, 55 Arnison Road, E. Molesey, Surrey.
Coaching: Geoff Sanders, 4 Barston Lane, Solihull, Warks. (Solihull 2391).
Youth Championships: Jack Thomas, 8 Days Close, Hatfield, Herts. (Hatfield 3469).
National Coach: Oliver Cock, "River Trees," Wargrave Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.
Racing Coach: E. Cronk assisted by Dr. B. Watkin.
L.D.R. Coach: David Green, 2 Highfield Road, Impington, Cambridge.
Film Officer: Maurice Rothwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester 10.

BCU MEMBER CLUBS at February, 1965

N.B.—This list contains only the names of those clubs whose subscriptions for 1965 were paid before 10th February. Further lists will be published during the year as dues are received.

A

Army Apprentice School
Officer i/c Canoeing, Arborfield, Berks.
 Army Apprentice School
Officer i/c Canoeing, Pennypot Lane, Harrogate, Yorks.
 Army Canoe Union
c/o Capt. D. Braund, Army Apprentices School, Harrogate, Yorks.
 Army Outward Bound School
Officer i/c Canoeing, Towyn, Merioneth, N. Wales.
 Ashmead Kayak Club
J. Davies, Ashmead School, Northumberland Ave., Reading, Berks.
 Atlantic College Canoe Club
D. B. Sutcliffe, St. Donat's Castle, Llantwit Major, Glam.

B

Bath Canoeing Club
6 Croft Road, Fairfield, Bath.
 33F (Battersea) Squadron
A.T.C. Canoe Section, 18 Louvaine Road, London S.W.11.
 Beachley Canoe Club
Capt. H. Firth, R.A.E.C., Army Apprentices School, Chepstow.
 Beaumaris Outdoor Activities Centre Canoe Club
Old David Hughes School, Beaumaris, Anglesey.
 Bede College Kayak Club
College of the Venerable Bede, Durham City.
 Bentall Apprentices Canoe Club
The Secretary, Blackbridge, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex.

RIVER ADVISERS

The function of the River Advisers appointed by the Touring Committee is to act as an information point to whom members can report objections to canoeing and difficulties over access that they have experienced, and to advise members thinking of a trip on "difficult" rivers (i.e. as regards access, etc.) whether it is advisable to attempt the trip or possibly to put them in touch with others to avoid too frequent usage. The River Advisers' aim is to be helpful, and if they have to advise abandoning a proposed trip their advice should be respected.

They are:

Lake District, Lune, Eden: D. Rushfirth, 28 Eddington Road, Fairhaven, Lytham St. Annes, Lancs.

Ribble, Cheshire, North Wales, incl. Dee: (Temporarily) C. M. Rothwell, 21 Windsor Rd., Clayton Bridge, Man'ter 10.
Yorkshire, including Tees: C. E. McAllister, 11a Springfield Mount, Leeds 2.

Severn, Wye, Usk, Central and South Wales: C. B. Manton, 13 Fosse Estate, Sretton-on-Dunsmore, Rugby, Warwickshire.

For other areas, write to the Touring Adviser, B.C.U., 26/29 Park Crescent, London W.1.

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

Berlin Brigade Canoe Club
B.F.P.O. 45.
 Berwick-upon-Tweed Sailing & Canoeing Club
G. B. Ayre, c/o 1-3 Sandgate, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
 Birmingham C.C.
Burlington Hall, Aston, Birmingham.
 279th Birmingham Scout Group
R. J. Jones, 103 Shirley Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham.
 Borough Road College C.C.
Lecturer in P.E., Borough Road College, Isleworth, Middlesex.

Bournemouth Schools' Sailing & Canoe Assn.*Beaufort School, Beaufort Road, Southbourne***Boy Scouts Association***P. K. Lawrence, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London S.W.1.***Bradford-on-Avon Rowing Club***M. H. Walden, The Elms, Keevil, Nr. Trowbridge.***Brayford C.C.***P. L. Meats, Brayford Pool, Lincoln.***Bristol Canoe Club***C. J. Baddeley, 7 Brookthorpe, Yate, Nr. Bristol.***British Nylon Spinners Sailing & Canoe Club***W. E. Keen, Pontypool, Mon.***Broadlands School Canoe Club***R. W. A. Runnalls, St. Francis Road, Keynsham, Bristol.***Bryn y Don School C.C.***The Secretary, Dinas Powis, Nr. Cardiff.***C****Cambridge University Canoe Club***C. F. Hart, Caius College, Cambridge.***Canadian Canoe Association of G.B.***The Secretary, 160 Exmouth Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex.***Canoe Association, Northern Ireland***S. A. Littlewood, 22 Dillons Avenue, Newtownabbey, Co. Antrim.***Canoe Camping Club***75 Ecton Avenue, Macclesfield, Cheshire.***Canoe Touring Club***Mrs. B. Fish, 47 Onslow Road, Richmond, Surrey.***Chalfont Park (Henley) C.C.***c/o H. Barton, 11 St. James Avenue, London W.13.***Chester Canoe Club***D. J. Maloney, 62 Earlsway, Curzon Park, Chester.***Christopher Wren School Canoe Club***Head of P.E. Dept., Bloemfontein Road, London W.12.***City of Coventry Training College***Secretary, Canoe Club, Charter Avenue, Canley, Coventry.***Clwb Canw Gwersyll Glanllyn***Elwyn Huws, Gwersyll Yr Urdd, Plas Glanllyn, Llanuwchllyn.***Colne Canoe Club***The Secretary, 22 Victoria Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex.***Coventry Canoe Club***The Secretary, 50 Salisbury Avenue, Styvechale, Coventry.***Culham College Canoe Club***M. J. Hough, Culham College, Abingdon, Berks.***D****Denstone College White Water Club***The Secretary, Denstone College, Uttoxeter, Staffs.***Devas Institute Boys' Club***P. Cunningham, 82 Thessaly Road, London, S.W.8.***Dewsbury Canoe Club***The Secretary, The Outpost, Hopton, Mirfield, Yorks.***Dudley Training College Canoe Club***The Secretary, Castle View, Dudley, Wares.***Duke of York's School Outward Bound Club,***Canoe Section, c/o A. J. Davey, House 23, Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, Kent.***E****Eagle C.C.***The Secretary, 1 South Hill Road, Thorpe, Norwich, Norfolk.***Eastbourne K.C.***The Secretary, 119 Queen's Crescent, Eastbourne, Sussex.***Ellesmere College Canoe Club***D. W. R. Stutland, Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire.***Exeter Canoe Club***Mrs. A. M. Rowsell, 78 Union Road, Exeter, Devon.***F****Faversham Canoeing Club***The Secretary, Brents School Room, Church Road, Faversham, Kent.***Fortescue House School***R. A. Kneebone, Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, Middlesex.***G****Gailey Canoe Centre***124 Gough Street, Willenhall, Staffs.***Garratt Green School C.C.***c/o Miss S. Potts, Burntwood Lane, Tooting, London S.W.17.***Gordonstoun School C.C.***T. E. Booth, Inverurie, Morayshire.***Group One C.C.***A. D. Dunlop, 10 Old Shoreham Road, Brighton, Sussex.***H****30th Hammersmith Scouts C.C.***D. A. S. McGregor, 17 Stamford Brook Road, London W.12.***Hartlepool Kayak Club***Miss E. Watson, 37 Parton Street, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham.***Haberdasher's Aske's School Canoe Club***Hon. Sec., 41 Aldenham Avenue, Elstree, Herts.***Harlow Canoe Club***Hon. Sec., 8 Chandos Road, Stratford, London, E.15.***Harrow Schools Boys' Club***The Secretary, Bard Road, London W.10.***H.M.S. Figgard***The Officer i/c Canoeing, Torpoint, E. Cornwall.***Hollesley Bay Canoe Club***Sports Secretary, H.M.B.I., Hollesley Bay Colony, Woodbridge, Suffolk. (Closed membership).***Hope Valley College Canoe & Sailing Club***The Secretary, Hope, via Sheffield.***Hull Battalion K.C.***The Secretary, 43 Goddard Avenue, Hull, E. Yorks.***I****Ilford Schools & Youth Organisations***Education Offices, Town Hall, Ilford.***Island Canoe Club***C. G. Williams, "Whitegates," Arctic Road, Cowes, I.O.W.***J****Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion***Officer i/c Canoeing, Park Hall Camp, Oswestry, Salop.***All Arms Junior Leaders' Regiment***The Officer i/c Canoeing, Tonfanau Camp, Towyn, Merioneth, N. Wales.*

Junior Leaders' Regiment, R.A.
The Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Gam Barracks,
Bramcote, Nuneaton.

Junior Leaders' Regiment R.A.C.
Chief Education Officer, Bovington Camp,
Wareham, Dorset.

R.A.S.C. Junior Leaders' Battalion
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Norton Manor Camp,
Taunton, Somerset.

Junior Leaders' Regiment R.E.
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Old Park Barracks, Dover,
Kent.

Junior Parachute Regiment
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Malta Barracks, Aldershot,
Hants.

Junior Tradesmens' Regiment
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Clayton Barracks,
Aldershot, Hants.

Junior Tradesmens' Regiment C.C.
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, Kinmel Park Camp, Rhyl,
North Wales.

K

Kimberley County Sec. School C.C.
C. G. R. Farwell, Newdigate Lane, Kimberley,
Notts.

King Edward VI Camp Hill School Canoe Club
G. Sanders, 4 Barston Lane, Solihull, Warks.

L

Ladymead School Canoe Club
Miss E. Collard, Cheddon Road, Taunton, Som.

Lakeland Canoe Club
Miss W. Bayes, 83 Joel Lane, Hyde, Cheshire.

Launde Youth Centre
Launde Junior School, Uplands Road, Oadby, Leics.

Leaside Young Mariners
The Warden, Spring Lane, London E.5.

Leeds Canoe Club
C. McAllister, 11a Springfield Mount, Leeds 2.

Leicestershire Association of Canoeists
D. Andrews, 49 Aberdale Road, Leicester.

Leicestershire Schools Canoeing Association
J. E. Saunders, Leics. Ed. Comm. Advisory Centre,
Horsefair Street, Leicester.

Lincoln Canoe Club
J. L. Oliver, Newport Police House, Church Lane,
Lincoln.

Llandaff Canoe Club
c/o J. W. Gould, South Lodge, Fairwater Road,
Llandaff, Cardiff.

Llandudno Youth Centre C.C.
M. H. Smith, Trinity Avenue, Llandudno, N. Wales.

Locking Apprentice Canoe Club
Royal Air Force, Locking, Somerset.

London Union of Youth Clubs
Canoeing Secretary, St. Annes House, Venn Street,
London S.W.4.

Loughborough Colleges Kayak Club
D. Oliver, Cayley Hall, Ashby Road, Loughborough.

M

Maker with Rame Youth Club
F. Harvey, 4 Newport Terrace, Millbrook,
Nr. Plymouth.

Manchester Canoe Club
C. M. Rothwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge,
Manchester 10.

Manchester University Canoe Club
The Secretary, University Athletic Union,
Oxford Road, Manchester 13.

Metropolitan Police Cadet Corps
Inspector *i/c* Canoeing, Hendon Training School,
Aerodrome Road, N.W.9.

Midland Canoe Club
G. E. Chester, 51 Greenland Crescent, Chilwell,
Notts.

Minchinhampton Senior Scout Troop
F. G. Levitt, Balls Green, Minchinhampton, Stroud.

Monmouthshire Education Committee
County Hall, Newport, Monmouthshire.

N

Nailsworth Boys' Club
Bath Road, Nailsworth, Stroud, Glos.

Nomads Canoe Club
B. H. Webb, 2 Admirals Close, Hereford.

Northfields School Canoe Club
D. H. Harper, Northfields Sec. School, Northfields,
Dunstable, Beds.

N. Notts. Youth Canoe Association
Ricketts, Esq., 11 Hazel Road,
Ollerton, Newark, Notts.

Norton Canoe Club
A. Swift, Norton School, Kineton, Warks.
Nottingham Schools Sailing & Canoeing Assn.
The Secretary, Morley Sec. School, The Wells Rd.,
Nottingham.

O

Outward Bound School (Devon) Ltd.
The Warden, Holme Park, Ashburton, Devon.

Outward Bound Girls' School
The Chief Instructor, Rhowniar, Towyn,
Merioneth.

Outward Bound Mountain School
The Warden, Ullswater, Nr. Penrith.

P

Papercourt Canoe Club
Mrs. M. P. Macdougall, 31 George Street Gardens,
Brighton 7, Sussex.

23 Parachute Field Ambulance C.C.
c/o Major B. C. McDermott, Lille Barracks,
Aldershot, Hants.

People's College of Further Education Canoe Club
W. T. Hamilton, Castle Road, Nottingham.

Peterborough Youth Canoeing Association
Youth Officer, City Youth Centre, Bishops Road,
Peterborough.

R

The Riverside Club
Youth Officer, Education Dept., City Chambers,
Queen Street, Oxford.

Roman Hill Secondary Boys' School Canoe Club
J. Page, Love Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Rose Hill Community Assn. Canoe Club
H. A. E. Wilkins, 16 Nuffield Road, Headington,
Oxford.

Royal Air Force School of P.T.
Officer *i/c* Canoeing, St. Athan, Barry, Glam.

R.A.F. Benson
P.F.O., Benson, Oxon.

- R.A.F. College, Cranwell Canoe Club
The Secretary, Sleaford, Lincs.
- R.A.F. Cosford Canoe Club
P/O C. T. M. Nelson, Cosford, Nr. Wolverhampton, Staffs.
- R.A.F. Leeming C.C.
Physical Fitness Officer, R.A.F. Leeming, Northallerton, Yorks.
- R.A.F. Locking Canoe Club
P/Off. Bremner, Hut 373, Weston-Super-Mare.
- R.A.F. Oakington
Officer i/c Canoeing, Cambridge.
- R.A.P.C. Apprentices School
Secretary Canoe Club, Worthy Down, Winchester, Hants.
- 63 Coy. R.A.S.C. (Parachute Brigade) Canoe Club
Officer i/c Canoeing, Elles Barracks, Farnborough, Hants.
- 47 Regt. R.A. Canoe-Camping Club
Officer i/c Canoeing, B.F.P.O. 20.
- Royal Canoe Club
The Secretary, Trowlock Island, Teddington, Middlesex.
- Royal Marine C.C.
The Secretary, A.T.U.R.M., Poole, Dorset.
- Royal Masonic School Canoe Club
K. H. Littledyke, The Avenue, Bushey, Herts.
- Royal Leamington Spa Canoe Club
R. A. Sowman, 4 Landor Road, The Cape, Warwick.
- Royal Military Academy
Officer i/c Canoeing, Camberley, Surrey.
- Royal Naval Kayak Association
Sur. Lt. Cdr. Davidson, R.N., Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough, Hants.
- 3rd Royal Tank Regiment Canoe Club
Officer i/c Canoeing, Cambrai Barracks, Catterick Camp, Yorks.
- Royal Welsh Fusiliers
Officer i/c Canoeing, 1st Bn. R.W.F., B.F.P.O. 24.

S

- St. Andrews Home & Club
26 Great Peter Street, Westminster.
- St. Bede's Grammar School Scout Canoe Club
M. H. Colgan, Heaton, Bradford 9.

- St. George's School
W. J. Hickey, West Lane, Freshfield, Nr. Liverpool.
- St. Mary's College C.C.
Bangor, N. Wales.
- Sanford S. M. School Youth Centre Canoe Club
B. S. Evans, Sanford Street, Swindon, Wilts.
- Scottish Canoe Association
The Secretary, 1 Ashburn Gardens, Gourrock, Renfrewshire.
- Sea Cadet Corps
Secretary, Sports Council, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, London, W.C.2.
- Borough of Scunthorpe Education Committee
Civic Centre, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe.
- Shrewsbury Youth Centre C.C.
J. A. Padfield, Youth Centre Officer, 5 Belmont, Shrewsbury.
- 13th Signal Regiment C.C.
The Secretary, B.F.P.O. 40.
- 224 Signal Sqn. Royal Signals
The Education Officer (Canoe Club), Woodhouse Loughborough, Leicestershire.
- Soar Valley Canoe Club
Mrs. J. Allen, 20 Conifers Caravan Site, Station Road, Ratby, Leics.
- Somerdale Youths' Club
J. Buckee, J. S. Fry & Sons Ltd., Somerdale, Bristol.
- Somerset Youth Service
Chief Education Officer, County Education Office, Trull Road, Taunton, Somerset.
- Southampton Canoe Club
S. C. Orchard, 31 Little Lances Hill, Southampton, Hants.
- 25th Southampton (Northam) Sea Scouts
J. B. Griffin, 8 Meadowhead Road, Bassett, Southampton.
- Sproston School C.C.
Sproston School, Cannery Lane, Sproston, Norwich.
- Sunderland Canoe Club
D. S. Howe, 56 Ripon Street, Roker, Sunderland.

T

- Taunton Y.M.C.A.
The Secretary, St. James Street, Taunton, Somerset.

- 10 Sq. Metre Sailing Canoe Association
J. R. G. Hudson, "Four Winds," 28 Wittering Road, Hayling Island, Hants.
- T.S. Arethusa C.C.
A. T. Kemp, T.S. Arethusa, Off Upnor, Rochester, Kent.

U

- University of Nottingham C.C.
The Secretary, Portland Building, University Park, Nottingham.

V

- Viking Kayak Club
B. A. Sidaway, 13 Woodland Drive, Bromham, Bedford.

W

- Wade Deacon Grammar School
Canoe Club Secretary, Birchfield Road, Widnes, Lancs.
- Walsall Education Authority
Education Offices, Darwall Street, Walsall.
- Waltham Forest Youth C.A.
C. Smith, Hark House Sec. School, Harkhouse Road, E.17.
- Warblington School Canoe Club
P. A. Martin, South Leigh Road, Havant, Hants.
- Warren Canoe Club
D. Edwards, 4 Swansea Road, Reading, Berks.
- Warwickshire Assn. of Boys' Clubs
Major J. Delan, 11 West Street, Warwick.
- Waveney Valley Canoe Club
A. H. Jermy, 32 Staithe Road, Bungay, Suffolk.
- Westhill Training College
Sen. Lecturer in P.E., Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.
- Westinghouse Sailing & Canoeing Club
G. W. Bachmann, 103 London Road, Chippenham, Wilts.
- West Yorkshire Canoe Club
P. B. Walton, 36 Blenheim Road, St. John's Wakefield, Yorks.

Whittington Adventure
Whittington Lock, Nr. Kinvill, Bucks.

Wimbledon Young Mariners
33 Cromwell Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

Windsor & District Canoe Club
C. J. Lloyd, 61 Upton Park, Slough, Bucks.

Woolwich Canoe Club
W. T. Hall, 85 Eglinton Road, London S.E.18.

Worcester Canoe Club
E. F. Gagg, Scarsdale, Lower Broadheath,
Nr. Worcester.

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The Martin Rohleder Trophy in memory of Martin Rohleder, a member of the British Slalom team, who was killed in a motor accident in the autumn of 1963.

The Trophy was first competed for at the Manchester Canoe Club's Llangollen Slalom in May, 1964, when it was won by Dave Mitchell and will be competed for again at Llangollen on 26th September this year.

PADDLE RACING REPORT

The bombshell news that the Serpentine Regatta which has been sponsored annually by the *News of the World* each year since 1952, will not be held again, was announced at the P.R.C. meeting on 23rd January. In view of the financial implications, there seems to be little hope of another national newspaper taking over the project. This news is indeed a sad blow for sprint racing as it was the only international regatta to be held in Great Britain each year.

A joint Competitive Coaching Committee has been set up for Sprint Racing, Long Distance Racing and Slalom. A series of courses are being arranged to teach prospective coaches advanced techniques of competitive canoeing, training methods and physical education.

An appeal, in the form of "Project for Youth" is to be made to industry and other sources. It is estimated that some £6,000 will be required during the next four years and to prepare for the 1968 Olympics.

A decision regarding status regattas will be made at a P.R.C. Executive meeting which will be held at Oxford on 7th March, when the Executive will decide which International Regattas will be supported by the Great Britain Team.

SLALOM NEWS

For the second year running Dave Mitchell of Chester C.C. has won the National Championship. As last year, Dave is a very worthy winner with consistently good performances, however he now has some very stiff competition to face in 1965. In turn, this all means that we have a very good chance in the World Slalom to be held at Spittal (Austria) on the 8th August.

For 1964 we have had a tie for the Ladies' Championship. This has never happened before and shows that the competition is hotting up here also. Congratulations to both Jean Battersby and Lesley Calverley of Manchester C.C.

Next season sees the introduction of a new class of slalom, a Novices event. This will be held with every advertised fourth division event. All men start in novices events and as soon as they have competed in (finished in) two events they are automatically put into division four. This year organisers will be insisting on the official entry form being used.

Another innovation is the introduction of a Slalom Year Book. This contains all the information required by a slalomist, including a fixture list and engagement diary. Copies of this are available from the slalom secretary for 2/- each, post free.

COACHING NEWS

COACHING WEEKEND

The first coaching weekend for members and potential members of the Coaching Scheme is being held at Quorn, near Loughborough, on 2nd-4th April. A wide number of activities have been arranged in order to interest all those concerned with teaching the different aspects of the sport. It is planned to examine methods of teaching the Eskimo Roll and methods of deep water rescue. Courses on the handling of Canadian canoes, on slalom/white water and racing techniques are also to be arranged. Good time is being allowed for informal discussion sessions and other social activities!

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Inland Advanced Tests in Kayaks: E. F. Gagg, R. G. Gray, M. C. Powell, A. J. Wonfor.

The following have been appointed as HON. COACHES:

- G. Buckley, 98 Warmingham Road, Crewe, Cheshire.
- Sgt. J. Cooney, 16 Woodpecker Square, West Camp, St. Athan, Nr. Barry, Glam.
- R. G. Gray, 102 Henwick Road, Worcester.
- J. Page, 27 Grayson Avenue, Pakefield, Lowestoft. (February, 1964).
- M. C. Powell, 5 Aconbury Close, Worcester.
- D. Menhinick, Skegby Hall, Skegby, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.
- A. J. Wonfor, 8 Cherry Orchard Drive, Bromsgrove, Worcs.

My Column



Oliver Cock

When I have met up with my old canoeing friends recently—which happens too seldom for my liking—they have asked me such curious questions about my work that I have begun to realise that perhaps they don't know exactly what my work is. I therefore asked the editor if I could have this little column in each issue, to tell you where I have been, whom I have been meeting, and so on.

But perhaps we had better start with a brief note about myself and my job as National Coach. When your Council first decided to have a National Coach it approached the Ministry of Education and asked for a grant towards the necessary salary. The Ministry gave us the grant, saying that they would happily give us up to 80% of the salary as long as the National Coach spent 80% of his time teaching teachers how to teach

canoeing safely. The Ministry realised the educational value of canoeing but wanted to make sure that its teachers did not drown half the population's youth in their enthusiasm to get everybody out on the water.

Well, our Council accepted the terms, and as I landed the job, perhaps I had better say just a little bit about me.

How did I land the job? Well, I asked for it, which seems to me to be as good a reason for getting a job as I know. Secondly, although since 1953 I had been coach to the British Slalom team, in 1946 I had made a short, instructional film on very basic canoeing, and in 1947 I got together a small committee which handled safety and proficiency in canoes. This committee coughed up its first canoeing test, tried it out on itself and promptly ploughed half its own members! Nevertheless, it managed to recover from this shock, and the test has remained virtually the same ever since. It is now known as the Kayak Inland Proficiency Test.

Atlantic College is inviting all those who are interested in the Corps of Canoe Life Guards, and the members of the Corps, to spend any period of up to a week at the College in August. Those who go will be asked to help with the normal duties of the College Life Guards on the beach which they patrol throughout the summer. They will be given opportunities to see how other forms of inshore rescue work are carried out. We are sure that no-one who can manage it will miss the chance to go to the College. This is by invitation only.

Later, I made another instructional film of the test, and yet another film, on how to roll a canoe. The latter was made in 1948, largely in the superb swimming baths at Loughborough College. I learnt to roll in 1937 (I say, this is going back a bit, isn't it?) and began teaching it in 1946, just after being de-mobbed. Eventually, and much more recently, we got out all the other tests that we have today.

About the same time as the flap about the appointment of a National Coach, another outside organisation, much involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, suggested a similar, useful scheme to us, in the form of the Corps of Canoe Life Guards. I had had a bit to do with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award as a result of my chairmanship of the Proficiency Test Committee, and I was—and still am—completely sold on this scheme as a valuable educational project.

And so, having landed myself the job of National Coach, with the stipulation that I had to spend 80% of my time teaching teachers and all that, I now accepted the further stipulation that I had to foster and promote the Corps of Canoe Life Guards with what I could afford of the remaining 20% of my time.

Doesn't leave much time for just canoeing, does it?

The next hurdle to overcome was that the B.C.U. had no direct entree to the teachers. And so we tackled the Central Council of Physical Recreation, who immediately said they would do the job for us. I would be "lent" to each of their regions in turn, they would get engagements in schools or with education authorities, and would arrange a programme of these engagements within the region. Meanwhile we, the B.C.U., would set up a coaching committee under our Council, and would gradually build up coaching panels within each C.C.P.R. region, create our own coaches and instructors, and generally get on with the job of teaching canoeing as a general subject, and of coaching the four very different sports which can be undertaken by canoe.

Well, we have been at it for three years now. A definite picture is emerging. I continue to be lent, but I now also run National Courses. Local panels are being formed. The Coaching Scheme as a whole (including the four sports) is beginning to become a coherent body. It is about all this, and anything else which I think might amuse you, that I hope to write each quarter. I hope you will enjoy my experiences as much as I do.

Will all members please look out for official advertisements in their local newspapers by River Authorities of intention to make bye-laws relating to boating on rivers and bring them to the notice of the Union immediately, so that if necessary formal objections can be lodged within the statutory period allowed, or other representations made? This is most important—otherwise it may be too late to do anything. The Union may not have been given any prior warning by the Authority.

SLALOM RANKING LIST 1964

Div. 1

1. D. Mitchell, Chester	41.0%
2. K. Langford, Man.	50.1%
3. J. Woodhouse, Chester	50.6%

Div. 2

1. I. Pendleton, Forth	59.4%
2. J. Roberts, Forth	67.6%
3. D. Bennett, Man.	70.2%

Div. 3

1. I. Rabjohns, Lough. C	51.3%
2. P. Reeve, R.L.S.	57.4%
3. P. Boddington, R.L.S.	57.9%

Div. 4

1. C. Gray, Worcs.	45.0%
2. A. Davidson, R.N.K.A.	45.1%
3. S. Davis, Itchen V.	51.9%

Ladies

1. [L. Calverley, Man. J. Battersby, Man.]	36.2%
3. H. Goodman, Lakeland	40.8%

Leeds Wharfe Slalom 11th Oct.

Div. 3

1. R. Barrett, Lough.	71.7%
2. P. Boddington, R.L.S.	76.5%
3. R. Salkeld, Chester	78.6%

Div. 4

1. P. Lavery, W. Yorks.	71.3%
2. T. Smith, Cov.	74.8%
3. C. Grey, Worcs.	75.5%

Ladies

1. L. Calverley, Man.	66.2%
2. J. Battersby, Man.	75.4%
3. A. Keerie, S'land.	97.9%

Team Event

1. Chester.	2. Manchester
-------------	---------------

Manchester C.C.

Dee Rapid River Race III 17 Jan.

	M	S
1. K. Langford, Man.	10	29
2. M. Hillyard, Ch. Pk.	10	33
3. I. Pendleton, Man.	10	37

Leeds C.C.

Wild Water Race 10th Oct.

	M	S
1. D. Green, Llandaff	27	23.5
2. P. Boddington, R.L.S.	28	20
3. J. Woodhouse, Chester	29	01.5

Manchester C.C.

Serpent's Tail Slalom 15th Nov.

Div. 1

1. D. Mitchell, Chester	55.4%
2. J. Woodhouse, Chester	62.7%
3. K. Langford, Man.	70.2%

Div. 2

1. P. Brownhill, Man.	82.1%
2. I. Pendleton, Forth	85.4%
3. R. Adamson, Man.	86.3%

Ladies

1. J. Battersby, Man.	92.9%
2. L. Calverley, Man.	107.3%

Leven Wild Water Test, 1964

<i>Leading Positions</i>	M	S
D. Mitchell, Chester	6	43
J. Woodhouse, Chester	7	20
Robin Witter, Chester	7	22

Soar Valley C.C.

New Year Race 3rd Jan.

1. D. Arbon
2. K. Challoner
3. B. Gilliver

third day of the new year resulted in three capsizes for their intrepid members. This was a well-earned trip, as the paddlers' ladies had a hot meal of soup, bangers and mash waiting at Thorverton when the canoes arrived. The Exeter City Council has told the club that their present premises will not be pulled down until 1968-9. It is proposed to try to make £500 by this date to build new premises. Any contributions welcome!



From Mrs. M. Hoad, Press Officer for TWICKENHAM C.C., an interesting and informative letter. The T.C.C. held their A.G.M. in January at "The Albany," Twickenham. It was rather a lively meeting, as one would expect from a club that is very much alive. In fact, this year the lads are determined to have a "new look" club.

Canadian canoeing is a big thing in the club at present. Not only have they the C8 "Twickenham" and the new C6 "Challenger," but also an increasing number of small-sized Canadian canoes owned by individual members. The slalom section and C8 and C6 crews have all been training hard this winter, and there is a determination to put Twickenham on the international racing map.



A new trophy has been presented by the VIKING KAYAK CLUB to the Bedford-St. Neots Long Distance Race Committee. Their striking club badge is reproduced here; club secretaries are reminded that we like to put your insignia beside your club news, so get the club artist working if you still lack a badge.



On Sunday, 17th January, 1965, the LEICESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CANOEISTS organised a search for the source of the River Soar. Most people thought it was at least twelve days' hard foot-slogging from the nearest habitation—in actual fact it was about 200 yards from the main road.

Between twenty and thirty participants spent time on the river at Hambleton Mill at the CHALFONT PARK C.C. training weekend last December. With one gate open on the sluice, and four slalom gates up, there was ample training scope, both for the advanced slalomists and for beginners.



CULHAM COLLEGE C.C. have been training for the Devizes-Westminster race on the Thames, Windrush and Thame rivers. Both the weather and water have been quite rough and cold, but experiencing these conditions should make the race easier, they think. At least they will have some idea of what to expect.

CLUB NEWS

In preparation for this year's racing EXETER C.C. are discussing racing colours. The club's official colours are red and yellow, and they hope that all racing types will wear a club vest. It is certain that if all club teams wore colours when racing, the public image of canoeing would improve.

Fifteen miles downstream on the River Exe on the





Increased interest has been shown in Canadian canoes recently at the ROYAL CANOE CLUB and a special section is being formed to encourage the form of the sport. As an experiment, the club is chartering a C8 this year, and it is hoped that the R.C.C.'s reputation for racing will be maintained in this new competitive class. The opening of the Club's 100th season will be marked by a Dinner and Dance to be held at the Winning Post, Twickenham, on 7th May.



with the B.C.U. Award of Honour at the B.C.U. Annual General Meeting.



A bitter North wind blew on the 3rd of January for the SOAR VALLEY C.C.'s Long Distance race, which proved not such a long distance as the organisers intended. The canal froze while the race was on, and the competitors had to canoe back up the river. David Arbon won (just) for the fourth successive year, despite coughing his top set of teeth overboard, and going back in vain to look for them!



1964 will be remembered as one of the most active seasons in the history of the LEEDS CANOE CLUB. There has been scarcely a weekend from March to November during which the club has not been represented on some canoeing waterway, or at some canoeing event somewhere.

Relations with river owners, Angling Clubs and other riparian interests continue to improve, especially on those stretches of river which they use the most: the Swale from Grinton to Richmond, the Ure from Masham to West Tanfield, and above all, the Wharfe from Grassington to Bolton Abbey. Chris McAllister states, "We are particularly indebted to our members whose disciplined and courteous behaviour has done much to contribute to the constructive relations at present existing."

HATFIELD Y.C. CANOE SECTION deserves some recognition as the outstanding all-round club of 1964. In Sprint racing they were winners of the McGregor Paddle as Sprint Champions, and the Light Craft trophy for K4's. Individual trophies, the Dexter and Richards Cups, were won by M. Mean and R. Wade. In the Youth Championships, they recorded the unique achievement of representing the East, and winning every event at the National Finals, all in new record times. To complete the picture, they were runners-up in the Hasler Trophy by the narrow margin of 12 points.

SOUTHAMPTON CANOE CLUB has acquired a K4, and seniors, juniors and ladies are eager to form crews. Winter training proceeds apace here as in many other parts of the country. Many clubs have their eyes on the more coveted trophies this year—and the "Saints" are on the war-path. Listen for the call sign "yee-AH-hoooo . . ."

The rolling sessions organised by CARLISLE S-O-Y CANOE CLUB are being held at Wigton every Wednesday night, some 12 miles from Carlisle, because the Carlisle Education Committee were not prepared to let them use the baths which would have been most convenient. Anyone wishing to join in should contact J. D. Morton at Holy Trinity Vicarage, Carlisle.



Four members of LINCOLN C.C. were invited to the City Guildhall on Saturday, 6th February, to receive Civic Recognition of the club's achievements during the past two years. The Mayor and Sheriff will be visiting the club in March to present a framed letter. In 1964, of course, Lincoln won the Hasler Trophy and the L.D. Junior doubles Championship. Their ten page monthly newsletter contains a weight-lifting schedule, articles and news, and an advertisement for a local canoe supplies shop. This latter, I imagine, will go a long way towards paying the cost of producing the newsletter.



Mr. Sutherland, Corps Canoeing Officer of the SEA CADET CORPS, is trying to convince units of the need to go in for single canoes as well as doubles, and to build up a body of adults and older cadets qualified as instructors in canoeing. There will be a session on canoeing at the Weekend Physical Training Course being arranged in April at the R.N. School of Physical Training at Portsmouth for members of the Corps.



Winter floods have provided an active group of the LAKE-LAND CANOE CLUB with several exciting trips—on rivers usually too low for canoeing.

The Greta, a tributary of the Lune, is interesting, with heavy rapids at Burton and several rocky ledges beyond. Drop 40 feet per mile.

Likewise, the Upper Wyre gives lively canoeing with a drop of 30 feet per mile, but the piece de resistance is the River Brock, a tributary of the Wyre, which has to be caught at the right time just after heavy rain. For the first three miles the drop is 76 feet per mile then eases to 50. There is virtually no slack water—to wait for someone, you ferry glide into the side and grab a convenient tree branch. Fallen trees, three weirs and an unshootable boat-wrecking gorge add to the hazards. Anyone interested in repeat trips next winter is invited to contact the Secretary or better still, join the Lakeland C.C.



The ROYAL NAVAL KAYAK ASSOCIATION was formed in 1911 with the intention of improving the standard of canoeing in the Navy. Since then its main interest has been in Slalom Competition and the R.N.K.A. has held two slaloms each year.

This year however, in conjunction with the Army Canoe Union, an Inter-Services Regatta is planned for the 9th and 10th of October. The regatta will include Sprint racing on the Saturday, and a Slalom and a Long Distance race on the Sunday.

They also intend to hold a training weekend and slalom at Shepperton from 21st to 23rd May. The slalom this year will be restricted to Service canoe clubs.

Will all keen Naval canoeists who are not yet members of the R.N.K.A. please contact the Hon. Secretary, Surg. Lt. Cdr. A. F. Davidson, R.N., Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough, Hants.



The L.D. racing members of NORTON C.C. have a very neat, practical turn-out—shorts, canoe-caps and white racing vests with the initial 'N' emblazoned on the front. "I think it could give L.D.R. a lift if others copy," writes Secretary Swift. It certainly is smarter than the average paddler.

SUNDERLAND C.C. had a successful year in 1964, with many members taking an interest in slalom. Main things learnt—it is very hard to get out of the 4th division, and once you do, it is increasingly hard to stay in the third. The most disappointing event of the year was the cancellation of the Sunderland L.D. race, owing to lack of support. It cost the club about £15 in trophies and postage. Don Howe, the secretary, thinks that this may have been due to the fact that the race was incorrectly announced as A12, B13, in last year's calendar, instead of A12, B3. The year was rounded off by a very successful dinner and Xmas party in the club, with dim lighting, flickering candles in beer bottles, and four bottles of Chablis 1963, unopened on the snow white table cloths. Unopened due to the fact that no one had seen fit to bring a corkscrew. Guests from the Wear Boating Association were duly impressed by the technique of opening a bottle of wine with a slalom paddle.



One hour and £220 worth later the firemen put out the blaze in the HARTLEPOOLS KAYAK CLUB. It was the result of two approved school inmates breaking in and leaving a pan on the stove. Because it was under-insured, the club is hoping for help from the local Council. However, many of the members are still active, and recently Chris Hare and

Ian Williams passed the Advanced Sea Canoeing Test.

Scheme for a Schools and Youth Canoeing Rally

A purely chance get-together—Major Moore, Youth Organiser in Somerset, Mr. F. Dain, P.L. Organiser in Somerset, Mr. F. Briscoe, Senior C.C.P.R. Rep. in the South-West and Oliver Cock has produced what appears to be one of the brightest ideas yet thought of for the promotion of canoeing among young people.

The scheme is roughly this:

- (a) That there shall be competitive rallies of young people in each County or Borough, or however it is best arranged locally.
- (b) That the winners at (a) above should then go on to Regional Rallies.
- (c) That the regional winners should then go on to a National Rally, to decide the national championships.
- (d) The age range shall be from 14—20.
- (e) The following competitions could be held:

1. A long distance race, to the Rally.
2. A slalom.
3. Sprint races.
4. Rolling competitions.
5. Rescue competitions.
6. Canoe polo.
7. Obstacle races.
8. "Wiggle" and "Wriggle" tests.
9. Anything else anyone can think of!

The important thing is the extremely wide base upon which it is founded. The existing Youth Championships could probably be brought into it eventually, or even at an early date. The National Schools' Sailing Association Executive Committee have welcomed it as a "brilliant conception."

Exactly who ultimately runs it at each level has yet to be worked out, but Mr. Briscoe of the C.C.P.R. felt sure that body would do all it could to help. At the beginning, it should be run by each county, and in one or two years it might be possible to start up the regional competitions and, as soon as this happens, the step to the National Championships should not be far off. Somerset County propose to start this year. Oliver Cock states that, if anyone would like further discussion on the subject, he will be delighted to help all he can.

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Wendy Brown, Wharfe Slalom, 1964

Photo: R. R. Waterhouse

ON ACCESS GENERALLY

It is most important at the present time for canoeists who are members of the Union not to act in ways that might give rise to, or increase, ill will amongst landowners and fishermen. Instead build up through courtesy and good behaviour as much good will as possible, in an endeavour to show that fishing and canoeing are compatible forms of recreation on rivers and other waters. Militancy is at present misplaced.

The Union appreciates that developments in the past year promise greater encouragement (e.g. through such developments as the appointment of a Minister with a special interest in sport development, and steps taken by the C.C.P.R. to foster an extension of facilities for water sports generally), and also some anxiety (the new River Authorities which take over on 1st April, 1965, from the present River Boards, have powers that the latter mostly did not have, of regulating the recreational use of the rivers they manage, by means of byelaws, which could in certain circumstances include a prohibition of boating, as well as the provision of facilities for boating). Most of these River Authorities do not include members interested in recreational use; they are composed mainly of people primarily interested in land drainage, pollution, fishery maintenance and the like. The Union will endeavour to establish good relations with them in the interests of canoeing, but actions which detract from the good image of canoeing will make it very difficult to do this.

General Advice

The legal position on waterways is set out in the Guide to Waterways and in an information leaflet that can be obtained from the General Secretary of the Union. But disturbance to fishermen can be minimised if permission to canoe on private waters is sought in the close season—roughly as follows:

Salmon and trout rivers—October to the end of February.

Coarse fishing rivers—March to mid-June.

On salmon and trout rivers the fishing in the season is often best in spring and early summer, rather than in late summer. This is why in any case Easter and Whitsun may have to be avoided for canoeing.

Briefly . . .

- The General Secretary would be glad to know of any member who would consider full or part time typing and clerical work at 26/29 Park Crescent. Usual London rates of pay.
- The formation of the British Commonwealth Canoe Federation is announced. Its object is to establish closer contact between members, and develop the sport in the Commonwealth, to publicise I.C.F. activities and to try to introduce canoeing into the Empire and Commonwealth Games (Scotland has applied for the 1970 Games). Frank Clement (Canada) was elected President of the Federation, and H. Thelen (England) Vice-President. The Secretary-Treasurer, jointly appointed by the B.C.U. and S.C.A., is Mr. H. Stephenson.
- Correspondence. The General Secretary would be grateful if members would quote their Membership Card number on all correspondence.
- We report with regret that the erratic but most readable publication *White Water* is no longer being produced. Internal disagreements and a sinking paying readership were the reasons for its non-appearance at the end of 1964. Last-minute efforts to prevent the magazine's demise were without success.
- Branches of the Canadian Canoe Association established by a small number of Canadian paddlers may stage Canadian races as official C.C.A. events and may use the C.C.A. medals as awards. Application to be made to the Secretary, Mr. A. W. Avery, 160, Exmouth Road, South Ruislip, Middlesex.
- Gibraltar Sea Festival (*C. in B.* No. 53). We apologise to George Valarino for printing his name wrongly. We understand that the trophies were not presented by His Excellency, as stated in the article.
- From a recent letter:
The canoeists here would welcome anyone wishing to visit the events or take part in any part of our programme. In cases where canoeists would like to borrow a canoe to take part in an event, if I am notified in advance I can arrange this with one of the local clubs or our area branch of the C.C.P.R.—F. N. Roberts, Hon. Sec., Belfast C.C., 65 Inishoven Drive, Belfast 10.

Continued overleaf

PROFILE



Percy Blandford

There can be few canoeists who have not at some time or other owned a P.B.K. canoe, and if they gave the subject some thought they will have realised that the P.B. stands for Percy Blandford who designed it. However, anyone who has had some correspondence with Percy and read his notepaper heading would be intrigued to see that he is a Member of the Institute of Journalists, a Member of the College of Handicraft and an Associate of the Institution of Naval Architects.

The A.I.N.A. part is logical for a boat designer, but the rest tickled my curiosity. So, having occasion to write to Mr. Blandford I invited him to be the subject of the Profile feature and to tell me something about himself.

Percy was born in Bristol, later moved to Wembley, and is now living in Newbold-on-Stour in Warwickshire. He still retains his West Country accent.

His interest in canoeing was fired when in 1929 at the World Scout Jamboree in Birkenhead he saw a display by the Hungarian Scouts. He went home and made one, and has never been without a canoe since. He started designing canoes a year later, about the same time as he started freelance writing.

The Boy Scout Association is lucky to have Percy in its midst. He has been a member for 42 years since being a cub, and now he runs a Sea Scout Group and is Sea Scout Commissioner for Warwickshire. The Annual Scout Canoe Cruise led by Percy Blandford is a national event. Usually about 80 people attend and there have been no accidents of any consequence in nearly 20 years. The only insurance claim was made last year when a car ran over a canoe!

Percy's main canoeing interest is in touring, although he did some racing in his youth. He has toured most of the English rivers. He leads trips for other organisations besides the Scouts and has organised events for TV and radio.

In 1950 Percy's freelance writing and canoe designing became too much for his spare time, and he gave up his regular job. As he says, he now lives on his wits, on which he seems to manage very well, having sold 7,000 designs last year and having 35 books on the market and two more

on the way. Not all his books are on boating. One on plastics has been translated into Spanish and another is the standard work on netmaking. He also contributes regularly to British and American magazines.

Apart from designing canoes, Percy also designs yachts, runabouts and motor cruisers, for which he always constructs a prototype himself and tests it before putting it on the market.

Like John Dudderidge, Percy also spent his honeymoon canoeing, this time on the Thames. His wife is a writer and a capable canoe and boat builder and his son a keen canoeist.

Percy is a founder member of Leamington Spa C.C. and a long-standing member of Manchester C.C.

His other interests are varied. He is a keen camper and prefers it to other accommodation. He has won prizes for rowing and motor boat racing, although not for canoeing. Scouting takes up a lot of his time and in what is left he makes furniture, does wood turning and carving (on which he has written books) and turns his hand to blacksmithing and decorative metalwork. He is a keen photographer and dabbles a bit in poultry keeping. He is an active churchman who would prefer to be undenominational, but often conducts Methodist services.

He runs innumerable canoe-building courses and often lectures and demonstrates, probably making 100 appearances a year. Since giving up his regular job his main income comes from his writing, while designing boats is incidental and it surprises him the way interest is sustained in them. How nice it would be if we could all live by our hobbies.

FREDA HARE.

BRIEFLY—continued

● The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Leader's Handbook has undergone some revision. In the new edition, under Public Service, the qualifying standards for the Corps of Canoe Life Guards are given.

● Vaux and Associated Breweries Ltd., are sponsoring a School of Sport for the third year in the North East, from 24th July to 7th August. One hundred selected young men and women between 17 and 20 will be accepted and will each receive a scholarship covering their full tuition and accommodation at Bede College, Durham City. Canoeing is one of the sports covered.

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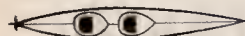
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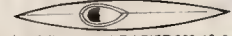
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Trips start and finish at London's Victoria Coach Station. On both trips the number of seats available in the coaches exceeds the number of canoes the trailer will carry by about 33%, preference will have to be given at first to users of doubles and folding canoes.

Once the parties have arrived at the rivers the coaches will follow the paddlers and will stop overnight at pre-arranged camp sites; members may if they wish use the coach to carry their camping kit from one site to the next. Obviously if you use the coach for this purpose you will have to camp at the sites the B.C.U. has chosen. Members wishing to be independent are free to camp where they will but must use the officially chosen site for the last night in order to catch the bus home.

The organisers hope that both individuals and small parties will take advantage of these trips. It must be remembered that only current members of the B.C.U. will be accepted. These members must show that their canoes are adequately insured as the B.C.U. is unable to accept any responsibility for any damage to the members' canoes, or for that matter, for their persons. As the National Health Service does not cover you against medical expenses incurred in either France or Germany, the members of the parties will be expected to have made alternative arrangements. The B.C.U. can arrange this if requested.

THE WESER

The party will leave London at 7.0 a.m., Saturday, 24th July, 1965, and will travel via the Dover-Ostend ferry, arriving at Kassel on the River Fulda about mid-day on Sunday, 25th, having camped on Saturday night en route. The party will paddle to Minden, seeing Hamelin of Ratcatchers fame on the way. This river will not tempt the white water enthusiast as it is a navigation, but the organisers believe that the party will find the scenery good and that the extent of the facilities available to canoeists will surprise some members. The cost will be £15 per head inclusive of carriage of a canoe. The party will arrive back in London about mid-day on Sunday 8th August, 1965.

THE DORDOGNE

This party will leave London at 7.0 a.m., Saturday, 14th August, 1965, and travel via the Folkestone-Boulogne ferry to Argentat. The party camp on Saturday night en route and arrive about noon on Sunday, 15th. The members will paddle as far as Limeuil at the confluence with the Vezere. The scenery is mountainous and romantic from Argentat to Limeuil. The party will arrive back in London about mid-day on Sunday, 29th August, 1965. The cost of this trip is £15 per person including transport of a canoe.

Rodney Baker (147a Station Road, London E.4) will be pleased to answer questions by letter but please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please use the form provided for booking a trip. Book early to avoid disappointment. Full details of the travel arrangements etc. will, of course, be sent to members booking a trip.