



canoeing in Britain

December 1965 1/6

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The news magazine of the British Canoe Union

Editorial | J. Levison, 11 Martindale Grove, Egglecliffe,
Address | Egglecliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

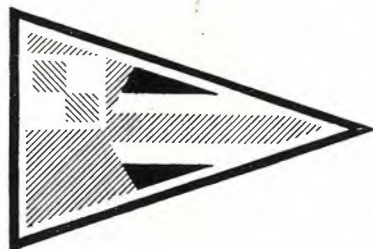
EDITORIAL. The B.C.U. Holidays scheme ran into considerable difficulties this summer, partly as a result of administrative inadequacies. At the last moment (on French soil) the trailer was found to be unfit for use, and lorries had to be chartered to carry the canoes. The Bank Holiday added to the difficulties in making emergency arrangements, and the organiser could not be contacted, as he was moving house that weekend, and his phone was disconnected. Nevertheless, it is a fact that the holiday, as a holiday, was a great success. There have been enquiries about next year, and some letters on how much the trip was enjoyed. Any new venture is liable to have teething troubles, and this year's experience should ensure the smooth running of the Holidays in 1966.

Volunteer assistance is required in the London office of the B.C.U. It is seriously overloaded with work, which is causing delays in replying to requests for information, membership and goods. London area members willing to help out occasionally, evenings or Saturdays, are asked to ring LANgham 4710 and offer their services to Captain Kennedy. No special skill needed, jobs include typing, enrolling, shop business, addressographing and duplicating. The rewards are the satisfaction in helping the growth of canoeing, and an insight into the running of the B.C.U.

It is a melancholy fact that the value of money gradually diminishes. The Youth subscription no longer covers the cost of services received, and the increase in postal rates has further aggravated this situation. It is clearly impossible to continue on this basis, and at the A.G.M. you will be asked to agree to a general increase in subscription rates. The B.C.U. has many commitments to meet in the next few years, yet its membership dues are, by present-day standards, ridiculously low. The obvious solution, to increase the subscription rates, may not be popular. The alternative, to cut back services and curtail future projects, is unthinkable.

Finally, the Editor and Staff of "Canoeing in Britain" wish all readers a Happy Christmas, and good canoeing in the New Year.

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 by 10th of the month prior to publication.

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

THE BRITISH CANOE UNION
Telephone: LANgham 4710

General Secretary: Capt. A. R. Kennedy, C.B.E.,
Room 316, 26/29 Park Crescent, London W.1.

Annual Report of the Council 1965

President : J. W. Dudderidge, *O.B.E.*
 Hon. Treasurer : E. J. Owen
 Elected Members of Council :

	<i>Retires</i>		<i>Retires</i>
	Next year		Next year
R. W. Baker	Next year	C. H. B. Barton	This year*
Major H. G. Bruce	Next year	C. B. Manton	This year
Miss E. E. McLellan	Next year	C. M. Rothwell	This year
J. Bright	Next year	J. Spuhler	This year
R. M. O'Keefe	Next year	R. F. Tyas	This year

* Drawn for retirement under Rule 42.

Nominated Members of Council :

<i>Paddle Racing Committee :</i>	Major R. G. Jones, R. A. Sowman
<i>L.D.R. Committee :</i>	J. M. Woolley, D. Green
<i>Sailing Committee :</i>	P. Wells, A. Emus
<i>Slalom Committee :</i>	J. Shaw, W. H. Crockett
<i>Touring Committee :</i>	C. J. Lloyd, P. C. A. Rogers
<i>Coaching Committee :</i>	J. Travers, G. Sanders
<i>Scottish Division :</i>	J. L. Henderson
<i>N. Ireland Division :</i>	C. H. B. Barton
<i>Co-opted :</i>	J. Levison

Council Committees :

<i>General Purposes :</i>	<i>Chairman, J. W. Dudderidge, O.B.E.</i>
<i>Competitive :</i>	<i>Chairman, Major H. G. Bruce</i>
<i>Access :</i>	<i>Chairman, J. W. Dudderidge, O.B.E.</i>
<i>Publications :</i>	<i>Chairman, Miss E. E. McLellan</i>
<i>General Secretary :</i>	<i>Captain A. R. Kennedy, C.B.E., R.N.</i>

Membership

	<i>This Year</i>	<i>Last Year</i>
Individuals	3,272	2,620
Clubs	256	236
Associates	12	13

The actual number of new members is far greater than that shown because there were quite large numbers of members who do not renew their membership. The Council hopes that this year all those who have supported the Union and enjoyed their canoeing will continue to give us their support even though they may, through change of circumstances, have given up practical canoeing.

National Affairs

This year has seen the development of Government interest in and aid to sport beyond anything that has been contemplated before. The creation of a Sports Council, the appointment of a Minister for Sport and the increasing interest of local authorities in sport development generally has brought special problems of representation and planning.

Your Council is determined that canoeing shall not be left behind for lack of proper representation at all levels, and has been careful to

respond to all demands made upon it. There is, however, a special need for volunteers from those who can spare the time to ensure proper representation at regional and local levels.

A meeting has taken place between the British Canoe Union and representatives of the Sports Council regarding long term planning. The British Canoe Union continues to be represented on the Central Council of Physical Recreation, the Central Council of Physical Recreation Games and Sports Advisory Committee, and Outdoor Activities Advisory Committee, the British Olympic Association, and Ro.S.P.A. The Council's views regarding the lack of water available for canoeists, and the need to share water between various activities, are pressed at every opportunity. To this end the Council is co-operating with the Central Council of Physical Recreation in drawing up a code of behaviour for all water users to their mutual benefit.

International Affairs

Your officers have continued to render service to international sport through work with the International Canoe Federation. The President supported by Mr. Emus attended a meeting of the I.C.F. Sailing Committee held in Germany during the Sailing World Championships, and went on to Rumania to attend a meeting of the Board of the I.C.F. in Snagov and to officiate at the European Championships. Mr. Spuhler, a member of the I.C.F. Slalom Committee, attended a meeting in Austria and served as Chief Judge for the Slalom World Championships. Mr. Thelen has continued to render service as Chairman of the I.C.F. Propaganda Committee and Editor of the International Bulletin. He was present at Snagov and also visited Mexico as I.C.F. Representative to advise the Olympic Games Committee on technical matters connected with the canoeing events of the next Games.

N. Ireland Division

The growth of canoeing in an organised form in Northern Ireland led to the formation of the Canoe Association of N. Ireland (CANI) some 16 months ago. The need was especially important with the growing popularity in Schools and Youth Groups.

The Association aims to: act as a co-ordinating body for canoeing; to collect and spread reliable information; to assist new clubs; to raise standards and safety through courses, races, exhibitions and tours.

Growth has been steady over the period and now stands at sixteen clubs, two block and two Associate Members. This membership is made up in the main from newly formed groups which are themselves in their embryo stage. These beginnings have allowed the Association to assist particularly with standards, safety and courses. To this end two canoeing calendars have been produced over these sixteen months, the last containing considerably more activities including courses and races.

At the same time the Association has taken over responsibility for Indoor Courses and Coaching visits by the National Coach and organised by the C.C.P.R. These indoor courses cater for beginners and novices in four separate series and also two series for experienced and advanced canoeists. The three visits of the National Coach were arranged and

organised with the C.C.P.R. to include lectures, courses, demonstrations and tests throughout the region.

In the main events organised by the Association, namely the Bann Descent—a long distance Irish Ranking Race, and the Youth Sprint Championships, sponsorship has proved invaluable in organisation and development of the events. Sponsorship, too, provided an opportunity to take part in a summer series of demonstrations throughout resorts in the country.

The demonstrations, together with two exhibitions, providing instructors for courses and clubs, and holding B.C.U. Tests, have already provided a firm base for building up a panel of instructors, increasing safety and generally developing canoeing in Northern Ireland.

CANI is associated with the Irish Canoe Union and has enjoyed excellent liaison and good relationships in both administration and competition.

CANI has submitted a request for admission to the N. I. Section of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Association.

Scottish Division

1965 has been active year for Scottish canoeists, with all of our events being well supported. In the slalom field both the S.C.A. events were very popular and at the confined slalom, seven teams competed for the John Mears Team Trophy. Our principal slalom club, Forth C.C. have had a very successful season in the B.C.U. events. Our top sprint paddlers have again been very active south of the border, together with some of the younger members of Kyle C.C.

This year's three lochs doubles event was run in relatively calm conditions compared with last year's force 7 gale.

Cruising continues to be the most popular branch of the sport with many tours being run to the West coast and on the rivers, not to mention the continent. The highlight however was when two of our members paddled from N. Uist to St. Kilda, a sea voyage of over 50 miles.

This year for the first time the Association has run canoeing courses. These have proved very successful and it is hoped to expand upon them.

With the Scottish Education Authorities and youth groups all taking keen interest in canoeing the Association hopes for a large expansion in the near future.

Headquarters

The offices at 26/29, Park Crescent have now been functioning for a year. Soon after it was established it became evident that secretarial help that the Central Council of Physical Recreation could give was not going to be sufficient, and in February an arrangement was reached whereby the British Canoe Union and the Amateur Rowing Association shared an Assistant Secretary/Typist. To begin with the arrangement was not entirely satisfactory because of personnel difficulties, but in July Miss H. Dudderidge joined the staff and since then the organisation has much improved. It is, however, evident that the increase in membership and increase in activity with outside authorities is placing too great a strain on the office facilities. It is therefore planned to have a full-time

assistant as soon as space can be provided in the C.C.P.R. building, but in the meantime to continue as at present using C.C.P.R. facilities when the work cannot be done by voluntary assistance. Unfortunately, there are considerable difficulties in finding more space at 26/29, Park Crescent, and it may be a year or two before the plan can be implemented.

Coaching Scheme

The Coaching Scheme has progressed steadily during the year and the record of work undertaken by members of the coaching scheme has been most impressive. Our gratitude is due to all our members who give so willingly of their time and energies and to the National Coach, whose untiring application has been an example to us all.

A first National Coaching weekend was held at Loughborough in Spring of this year and was well supported by over 40 members from all over the country. The Coaching handbook has now been issued to all Coaches and Senior Instructors and all Instructors who ordered copies. The Coaching Newsletter has again been published twice during the year.

The new Senior Instructor Award, announced last September, has been well received and early results indicate that its introduction was justified. Written examinations have now been implemented for the Senior Instructor and Coach examinations. One hundred and forty-six new Awards have been made this year and the Coaching Scheme now numbers 446 members. This means that 13½% of the members of the B.C.U. are qualified to instruct and are actively engaged in voluntary coaching activities. It is known that there are many more unqualified enthusiasts and the Council hopes that they will come forward to qualify and join the Coaching Scheme.

National Coach

The National Coach continued his tours of the United Kingdom this year, adding the Channel Isles, and a more complete tour of Scotland where three teachers' training colleges and one county authority enthusiastically accepted engagements. In fact more and more training colleges, and more and more authorities are appreciating that the sport of canoeing cannot be picked up in a short lecture, demonstration or film show. Applications for courses of a week's duration are increasing, and H.M. Home Office Borstal Institutions arranged one for ten days for some of their P.E. Instructors.

Outside these normal tours your National Coach held many courses for those wishing to become coaches in canoeing, and many of these courses were organised on our behalf by the C.C.P.R. In fact the work of the C.C.P.R. in relation to that of the National Coach is invaluable.

One other new venture in the training of leaders in the canoeing world was the generous hospitality during August and September of the Atlantic College to all those interested in the Corps of Canoe Life Guards. Again your National Coach attended the College, and a close study was made of how the services of the Corps can fit in with the other coastal rescue services, and how in particular this can be used everywhere where the youth of the country is keen to be of service to its fellows.

Canoe Lifeguards

Development is slow, but valuable experience is being acquired by a beach patrol service provided by the unit centred on Atlantic College. Another unit is being established on the North-East Coast, and in several inland regions interest has been aroused.

Access to Waterways

Your Council has formed a special committee to study the problem of the use of waterways and access to them. As a result of the deliberations of the committee, a statement setting out the needs of the canoeist and his problems has been sent to the Minister of Land and Natural Resources, the Sports Council and the C.C.P.R. The committee is also studying various particular problems including the Ribble and the Usk, and giving advice to clubs affected, so as to obtain the best short term benefits, while still retaining the B.C.U. long term claims to freedom of all waterways.

Home Touring

The Touring Adviser and River Advisers have answered many enquiries during the year from individual canoeists and clubs for information about rivers and waterways in the British Isles, and for advice about rivers where objections have been encountered. The Access Committee is endeavouring to obtain temporary working arrangements in cases of disputed access to waterways and it is more than ever important that canoeists should obtain advice before using waterways which are in dispute.

Foreign Touring

B.C.U. members again ranged far and wide throughout Europe, though full reports of their experiences have not come in. Yugoslavia and Spain proved popular, as well as the well-tried rivers of France, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. It must be emphasised, however, that crossing the English Channel by canoe is not an enterprise to be tackled casually and without practice or preparation.

It is important for the sake of the reputation of our sport that adequate safety measures should always be taken on rivers and at sea.

During the year the Union set out to provide a new service for members who have in the past been deterred from Continental canoeing by the complications of transporting canoes, especially rigid, across the Channel. A canoe-trailer to carry twenty-four rigid was purchased and two fourteen day trips planned on attractive rivers—the Weser in N. Germany for July and Dordogne in S.W. France for August. The plan was to tow the canoes behind the coach carrying the party from London to the rivers and back, at the low cost of £15 per head.

The Weser trip had to be cancelled because the numbers were insufficient to cover the overhead cost. Forty-one members with thirteen rigid and eighteen folding canoes enjoyed the Dordogne trip. However from the Union's point of view its success was marred first by a breakdown in the towing arrangements, which necessitated expensive transportation of boats by contractors to enable the trip to take place at all, and later by a breakdown in the return transportation arrangements which owing to practical difficulties in guaranteeing the cost of substitute

transport hire in the time available, meant that the party had to return without the canoes. These have since been recovered, after some delay and difficulty.

The resulting costs and the discovery after the trip had started that the original coach quotation had not covered the passenger fares on the ferry have led to a considerable loss. The Council has enquired closely into the causes. The organisation involved novel problems for those concerned, and, viewed in retrospect, it is easy to see where it was inadequate to prevent difficulties arising once the party had started. The party leader, who had no part in the planning, is to be congratulated for coping so well with these problems.

These faults and the financial loss are much deplored, but the Council considers that this kind of trip serves a real need and that the original plan, with a few modifications, was sound. The things that went wrong were all matters that, with the benefit of hard experience, it should be possible to guard against in future.

Long Distance Racing

The year 1965 was one of the most successful ever. Perhaps the most outstanding success was our 25% increase in canoeists who registered to race in events. Our total number of paddlers now interested is 721 and these come from 93 clubs throughout the British Isles. Our income from capitation levy was £170.

Our competitors did well for the sport and also the teams for Great Britain. At the International Canoe Meeting at Ribadasella, we won the Senior International K.1 class, the Junior International K.2 class, we came second in the Ladies' International K.1 and won the Nations International Team prize. At the Irish International we had a 2nd and 3rd place in the International K.1 class and 3rd and 4th in the International K.2 class. Both these International Races were well supported by British paddlers.

The Committee organised the first Open British Championships ever to be held. We had 101 entries and mainly because of the excellent weather and the help we received from many Canoe Clubs and Organisations, the event was a great success.

Much hard work in the past year has resulted in considerable progress. Our winter specialist coaching scheme has encouraged youngsters to the sport, a comprehensive record system has ensured good administration and race organisers have been most conscientious and keen to see that each race is well supported. The many Club leaders who bring the youngsters along and encourage them also deserve a mention in this annual report for they have all contributed to make this a record year.

Paddle Racing

The season at home has been quite successful and a number of promising young paddlers have shown up. A popular development has been the combined sprint and L.D. regattas staged by several clubs. The National Championships held at Pangbourne were well supported and the racing was of a high standard. The National Youth Championships were held in conjunction with these National Championships. The competition

was well organised and the performances of the competitors gave great promise.

It was with great reluctance that the committee decided against sending a team to the European Championships in Bucharest. It was felt that the standards shown at an International Regatta at Karlsruhe did not justify the high costs which would have been incurred.

During the year a public appeal was launched to finance a four year development programme. The response was very poor and the amount subscribed was insufficient to meet the promotion cost.

Sailing

The highlight of the year in canoe sailing was the world championship held in Germany. The British team gained 1st, 3rd and 5th places but the Swedish and German teams showed they have raised their standards enormously in the past two years and intensive efforts will be required in Britain if our present supremacy in the sport is to be retained.

Much has been done to give demonstrations of canoe sailing during the year. Our representative sailed at La Baule on the Atlantic coast of France in April at the One-of-a-kind series where 70 different classes of centre-board sailing craft were shown. Under extremely difficult conditions with strong winds and rough seas he gave an impressive performance and showed that the International 10 sq. metre canoe can out sail any single hulled craft. In September our representative took part in the trials organised on behalf of the I.Y.R.U. to find a new class for international single-handed competition.

Last year we were able to report that canoes were being sailed in a number of new places. This trend has continued and a racing fleet has now been established at Lee-on-Solent. The Royal Canoe Club's Week was held for the first time at Falmouth, Cornwall under the flag of the Restronguet Sailing Club.

Supplies

Whilst demand continues at a high level, the profits are not great because of the difficulties in keeping pace with the general increase of costs and postage with a somewhat inflexible system of fixed prices. Now that the supplies department is no longer run on a voluntary basis your Council is giving consideration to the overheads involved, particularly in relation to non-members and commercial firms.

B.C.U. Publications

Choosing Your Canoe and its Equipment, Canoe Handling and Management, The Eskimo Roll and Canoe Camping have all been revised and reprinted. The new editions which have been brought up to date and enlarged, and contain many new illustrations, are making a valuable contribution to canoeing instruction.

The revision and production of other publications is under consideration for next year.

Canoeing in Britain

The B.C.U. magazine came out quarterly, with two supplements—one on the Olympic Games in December, and a surfing supplement in June. The bigger-than-ever poster calendar has proved most successful,

and is popular with advertisers, some of whom were already booking, space this summer for the 1966 issue. Postal and printing costs have increased this year but the policy of maintaining a high standard of production and a more business-like approach to the commercial aspect has resulted in a steady flow of editorial copy and an increase in advertisement revenue of over 85% on the previous year.

Canoeing in Britain is produced by an entirely voluntary editorial staff who are to be congratulated on this excellent production.

B.C.U. Insurances

There has been a considerable growth in interest in the insurance scheme, with nearly 400 new canoe insurances effected during the year, and claims paid totalling between £700 and £800. An agency has also been taken out in the name of the B.C.U. with one of the leading Tariff Companies, and this can handle practically any other type of insurance required by members, although up to now the demand has been small.

Films

The British Film Institute reports show a very slight increase of films hired—490 compared with 479 last year. There has been a considerable drop in the sale of loops (427:269). No new films have been added during the year and so far it has not been possible to make much progress with the project to produce a special training film.

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Open British Championship L.D. Race, 10 October

Senior Singles

1. P. Gardner, Riverside	2.27.55
2. A. Stoneley, Camb. U.	2.30.40
3. D. Green, Viking	2.32.20

Senior Doubles

1. Parker/Oliver, Linc.	2.12.00
2. Warren/Jupp, 63 Para.	2.12.15
3. Palmer/Edwards, Worcs.	2.15.05

Junior Singles

1. R. Freeman, Lincoln	2.32.55
2. I. Balfour, Nomads	2.35.35
3. J. Moore, 279 B'ham S.	2.37.00

Junior Doubles

1. Onion/Ridyard, Gailey	2.24.40
2. Talbot/Flook, JLR Dover	2.28.30
3. Miller/Hillman, Worcs.	2.28.50

Ladies

1. M. Tucker, Richmond	2.39.30
2. K. Emmerson, Richmond	2.42.40
3. A. Kelly, Poole H.	2.53.40

River Wye L.D. Race, 26 Sept.

Class 1a

1. P. Gardner, Riverside	2.09.11
2. T. Thomas, Hatfield	2.12.15

Class 2a

1. M. Bave, Gailey	2.08.26
2. B. Webb, Nomads	2.20.17

Class 3a

1. S. Smith, Worcs.	2.04.20
2. P. Royle, Lincoln	2.20.49

Class 5a

1. Palmer/Edwards, Worcs.	1.42.50
2. Hollier/Wade, Hat.	1.46.35

Class 6a

1. Bennett/Brooks, Vik.	1.59.35
2. Deakins/Smith, Linc.	2.17.46

Class 7a

1. Dalrymple/Davis, S'hamp.	2.02.44
2. Moore/Pearson, Eastbne.	2.04.10

Class 2b

1. I. Balfour, Nomads	1.13.10
2. R. Lappage, Nomads	1.26.24

Class 3b

1. J. Moore, 279 B'ham S.	1.11.12
2. R. Bevis, S'hamp.	1.14.55

Class 4b

1. M. Franklin, Harlow	1.18.49
2. T. McCool, Viking	1.25.46

Class 5b

1. Hird/Osbourne, JLR Rhyl	1.31.20
2. Brown/Dunderdale, JLR Rhyl	1.42.39

Class 6b

1. Hillman/Miller, Worcs.	1.07.25
2. Onion/Ridyard, Gailey	1.13.58

Class 7b

1. Caldercutt/Rudderham, S'hamp.	1.13.39
2. Orchard/Rogers, S'hamp.	1.13.48

Class 3c

1. L. Oliver, S'hampston	1.27.20
2. S. Buckett, S'hamp.	1.29.05

Class 4c

1. A. Kelly, Poole H.	1.29.30
2. J. Richards, Nomads	1.47.22

Novice Singles

1. G. Mackereth, Warrington	1.25.20
2. C. Leah, Warrington	1.27.20

Novice Doubles

1. North/Browning, Norton	1.23.10
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Llangollen Slalom, 26 Sept.**Div. I**

1. D. Mitchell, Chester	63.9%
2. K. Langford, Manch't.	65.5%

Div. II

1. N. Jackson, Manch't.	68.1%
2. K. Wickham, S'derland	74.2%

Ladies

1. J. Battersby, Manch't.	77.7%
2. H. Goodman, Lakeland	80.4%

Team Event

1. Chester	274
2. Manchester	321

London River Race, 1965**RI Junior Men**

1. R. Tyrell, Hatfield	33.10
2. M. Whitby, Richmond	33.25

RI Women

1. M. Tucker, Richmond	1.43.15
2. A. Huskisson, Barts	1.47.15

RI Men

1. A. Laws, Lincoln	1.44.30
2. T. Beere, Hatfield	1.44.31

KI Men

1. C. Evans, Barts	1.28.45
2. M. Mean, Hatfield	1.30.20

R2 Men

1. Watkin/Still, Barts	1.30.50
2. Pearson/Moore, Eastbourne	1.31.10

F2 Men

1. Tapscott/Bright, REME/Ind.	1.39.26
2. Swales/Hodgson, RMFVR Tyne	1.42.40

K2 Men

1. Parker/Oliver, Linc.	1.23.50
2. Warren/Jupp, 63 Coy RCT	1.24.30

Viking Trophy

1. Hatfield Y.C.	19 points
2. Barts C.C.	14 points

L.A.O.C. Regatta, 22 Aug.**Senior Singles**

1. D. Patrick, Midland	
2. J. Harrison, Midland	

Ladies Singles

1. J. Smith, L.A.O.C.	
2. ? ? Midland	

Junior Singles

1. I. Whittaker, E. Midlands	
2. G. Harrison, L.A.O.C.	

Senior Doubles

1. Royal/Presgrave, Lincoln	
2. Andrews/Taylor, L.A.O.C.	

Junior Doubles

1. Chester/Pearson, Fenland Y.F.	
2. Whittaker/Teal, E. Midlands	

Mixed Doubles

1. Smith/Taylor, L.A.O.C.	
2. Goosey/Goosey, L.A.O.C.	

One Minute Rolling Race

1. J. Harrison, Midland	19 rolls
2. D. Patrick, Midland	18 rolls

Challenge Relay

1. Midland C.C.	
2. Lincoln C.C.	

Shrewsbury Y.C. Slalom, 17 Oct.**Class A**

1. D. Holdsworth, Shrews.	
2. R. Bladen, Shrews.	

Class B

1. I. Oliver, Bridgnorth	
2. P. Nagle, Bridgnorth	

Class C (Ladies)

1. D. Barnett, Shrews.	
2. A. Crum, Shrews.	

Eden Lacy Slalom, 12 Sept.**Div. III**

1. S. Hatton, Manchester	82.3%
2. S. Thwaites, Lakeland	83.3%

Div. IV

1. R. Pettit, Riverside	61.7%
2. P. Brown, Edin. U.	66.6%

Ladies

1. A. Keerie, Sunderland	74.3%
2. A. Evans, Lakeland	93.1%

Novices

1. M. Grove, Ind.	143
2. R. Curry, N/cle, Staffs.	156

Cambridge L.D. Race, 31 Oct.

1. P. Gardner, Riverside	1.47.47
2. M. Mean, Hatfield	1.49.52

Class 1b

1. M. Franklin, Harlow	1.23.51
2. S. Jackson, Royal	1.24.17

Class 2a

1. B. Strickland, RMCC, ATURM	2.09.03
2. D. Lewis, Harlow	2.14.09

Class 3a

1. R. Cundy, Hatfield	2.00.52
2. P. Roney, Viking	2.02.33

Class 3b

1. M. Foulgee, Hatfield	1.19.37
2. — Flook, JLR, Dover	1.19.57

Class 5a (Guinness Trophy)

1. Jupp/Warren, 63 Para.	1.35.33
2. Green/Bosher, Vik/Ryl.	1.43.38

Class 5b

1. Down/Jones, Make w/Rame	1.12.51
2. Gurling/Ashley, JLR, Dover	1.13.19

Class 6a

1. Bennett/Brooks, Viking	1.51.58
2. Deakins/Smith, Linc.	1.56.29

Class 6b

1. East/McLauhlan, JLR, Dover	1.21.43
2. Milligan/McAskill, JLR, Dover	1.26.30

Class 7a

1. Pearson/Moore, Eastbourne	1.51.40
2. Cook/Stimpson, 63 Para.	1.53.04

Class 7b

1. Leeder/Clayton, Corby GS	1.16.46
2. Leam/Mackereth, Warrington S	1.18.10

Bransford Slalom, 20 June**Div. IV**

1. R. Still, Royal	60.1
2. P. Hazleton, Chester	65.8

Ladies

1. H. Goodman, Lake.	51
2. J. Battersby, Man.	56

Novices

1. A. Cumming, Camp H.	133
2. K. Barry, Lough.	180

Team Event

1. Worcester	487
2. Leamington	642

Thistle Brig Slalom, 20 June**(Confined)**

1. B. Palmer, Forth	154
2. J. Roberts, Forth	176

Team Event

1. Forth	299
2. Scottish Hostellers	559

Thistle Brig Slalom, 1 August (Open)

	Total
1. B. Palmer, Forth	232
2. R. Anderson, Forth	326

Round Cumbrae Race, 23 May

	H.M.
1. Macintyre/Green, Ard./Irv.	1.45
2. Spiers/Beeley, Irv.	1.53

**Ghent International Regatta
21-22 Aug.**

K2 Aspirants 500m.	
4. Bryant/Moore	1.59.79

K1 Juniors 500m.	
4. Kidd	2.06.54

K1 Seniors 500m.	
3. Lawler	2.00.16
8. Edwards	2.02.64

K1 Ladies Aspirants 500m.	
1. L. Oliver	2.25.85
2. K. Emerson	2.30.70

K1 Ladies Cadets 250m.	
1. B. Mean	1.13.06

K2 Juniors 500m.	
4. Kidd/Bolam	1.56.88

K2 Seniors 500m.	
7. Lawler/Sowman	1.48.32

K1 Ladies Juniors 500m.	
2. K. Emerson	2.31.84

K2 Junior 1,000m.	
3. Bolam/Kidd	4.03.68

K1 Senior 1,000m.	
4. Sowman	4.13.38

K1 Cadets 250m.	
3. Moore	0.59.94

K2 Ladies 500m.	
2. Emerson/Mean	2.20.45

K1 Juniors 1,000m.	
3. Mean	4.21.15

Relay 4 x 500m.

3. Lawler/Edwards/ Mean/Sowman	8.27.60
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K1 Ladies Junior 4,000m.	
2. K. Emerson	18.41.83

K1 Ladies Aspirants 4,000m.	
1. L. Oliver	18.36.43
2. B. Mean	19.52.01

K1 Juniors 10,000m.	
2. Mean	51.10.78

K2 Seniors 10,000m.	
2. Lawler/Sowman	45.29.61

K2 Juniors 10,000m.	
3. Kidd/Bolam	49.49.54

K1 Seniors 10,000m.	
6. Edwards	52.12.98
9. Wade	

**Appletreewick Slalom,
16-17 Oct.**

Div. III	
1. P. Hazelton, Chester	67.1%
2. S. Thwaites, Lakeland	72.9%

Div. IV	
1. M. Couch, Cambridge	48%
2. S. Baker, Ind.	55.6%

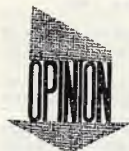
Ladies	
1. P. Squires, Coventry	77%
2. M. Bellord, Chal. P.	87.5%

Novices	Total
1. T. Parkham, Ind.	169
2. L. Stott, Manchester	210

Open Event	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	142
2. K. Langford, Manchester	178

Team Event	
1. Lakeland	594
2. Cambridge U. B.	648

Wild Water Race, Hebden-Appletreewick	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	26.32
2. J. Woodhouse, Chester	28.25



All letters sent to the editor will be considered for publication.

I have recently passed my Proficiency Test. Others in my club with years of paddling behind them have not passed. Actually, they did not work for it, but the point is—in actual fact I am far from proficient. Put me in some white water and I would, but they, of course, would be enjoying themselves. Why not abolish the Novice Test and rename the Proficiency Test the Novice Proficiency Test?

TRIBBY ROWSELL (MRS.)

I enclose the London River Race results. Can you tell me if there is any form of, shall I say, clearing house for race dates. It is becoming well nigh impossible to select dates when there will be no clash with other similar events. Racing enthusiasts travel all over the country and obviously cannot be in two places at once, the consequence being that some events suffer at the expense of others, and toward the end of a season begin to feel exhausted and are disinclined to support events taking place even on their own doorstep. The L.R.R. is a case in point. I cannot help feeling that there are too many events to encourage good attendance and that some form of amalgamation between clubs would produce a first class event to which larger numbers would come. A surfeit of regattas is a drain on energy and resources. I wonder if district regattas would be a better idea than each club holding it's own pet competition. Just an idea!

Yours sincerely,
FRANK LUZMORE

(In Autumn the B.C.U. Committees hold fixture meetings to avoid the clashing of recognised events. The London River Race is organised independent of the B.C.U. and on this basis clashes seem inevitable. EDITOR)

Builth Wells Slalom, 10 Oct.

Div. I	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	60%
2. J. Roberts, Forth	76.3%

Div. II	
1. P. Doncaster, Worcs.	77.2%
2. R. Barratt, Lough	77.7%

Ladies	
1. H. Goodman, Lake	100%
2. J. Battersby, Man.	105.9%

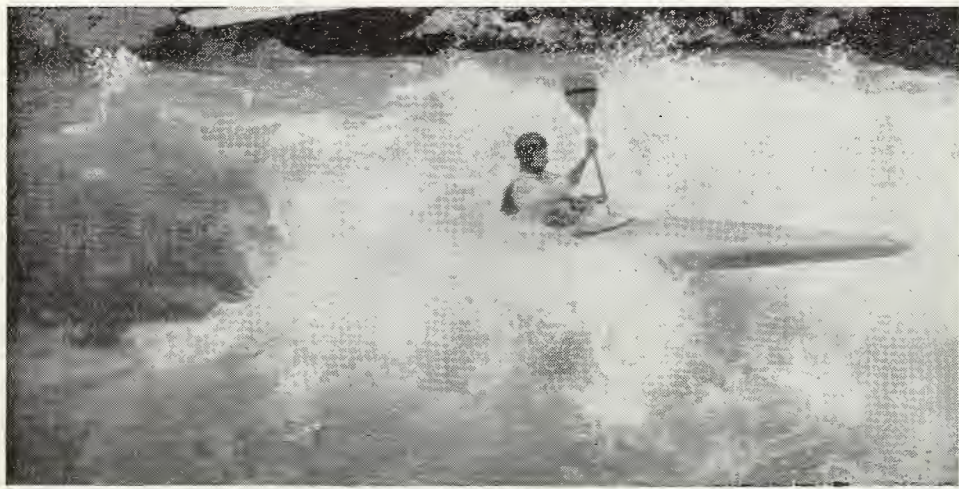
White Water Race, 9 Oct.

1. H. Marsden	3,289 secs.
2. D. Rushfirth	3,528 secs.

Three Lochs Race, 12/13 June

1. Reid/Winning, Sc. Host.	9.19
2. Kerr/Mitchell, Irv.	11.27

The Wild Lieser



Ken Langford pictured whilst competing in the 1965 Slalom Championships and White Water Race at Spittal, Austria. After battling through extremely heavy water, Ken came 21st in the Slalom, out of 50 starters, and 19th in the Wild Water Race.

Photo: Miss M. Bellord

1968

National Racing Team Training Squad

A training squad has now been formed, the members of which will eventually provide the basis of the National Racing Team to compete in the Olympic Games at Mexico City in 1968. Entry into the Training Squad is on the basis of performance only, and the objects of the Squad will be as follows:

- (1) To create a National Racing Team capable of achieving results at International Regattas and events.
- (2) To form National Crews irrespective of local affiliations.
- (3) To provide facilities on a National basis for potential International Paddlers, for training and coaching.
- (4) To foster a National Team spirit, attitude of mind, and esprit de corps.

- (5) To provide additional incentives for paddlers entering the sport, to improve their standards of performance.
- (6) To increase the status and morale of paddlers who have improved their performances sufficiently to warrant a place in the Training Squad.

Membership of the Squad will demand the highest level of fitness and ability from all its members, and this will be measured at monthly intervals, during the winter through the medium of training courses the severity of which will in themselves necessitate continual hard work in the gymnasium and on the water, and during the summer by regular time trials. Personal sacrifices will be unavoidable for all concerned, if the ultimate objectives of the Training Squad are to be achieved—Results at the Olympic Games, 1968.

The Squad is now meeting each month at the Llanberis Youth Hostel, and training is in progress.

RON EMES, *Team Manager.*

My Column



Oliver Cock

Fingal takes a bow

It has been suggested by friends of mine that we should start a club called Fingal's Club, and that members should be chosen by the Select Committee on the degree in which they have suffered from Fingalitis. I am wholeheartedly in support of this. Fingal has been an ally of mine for a number of years, and I will do anything—almost—to promote his well-being.

But I suspect a lot of people are wondering what all this is about. Let me explain.

Many years ago—in 1936 to be exact—and at the flying boat works of Short Brothers at Rochester to be even more precise, the Works Wit defined the Eternal Law of Cussedness as that law which decreed that, when one accidentally dropped a slice of bread-and-butter on the floor, it would land butter-side downwards; but that, if one dropped the slice on purpose, to prove the law, it would land butter-side upwards thereby proving the law. I immediately recognised this law as one particularly applicable to canoeing, and I have supported it ever since.

Fairly recently, on hearing me propound the law, someone—and the law has ensured that I have forgotten entirely who it was—pronounced it to be Fingal's Law. Since then, in Ireland I have heard it referred to as Murphy's Law, in Scotland as Mac's Law. In Wales I have no doubt that it is known as Bach's Law (probably in B flat), and I know it has a lot of other names as well! But somehow, with me and a lot of other people, it has stuck as Fingal's Law.

The idea behind the Club is that people who have suffered abnormally from Fingalitis (i.e. suffered badly at the hands of the law, so far as canoeing is concerned), who have laughed heartily at their predicament and so defeated the law, should be eligible to join the Club and wear the Tie.

Motifs for the Tie are wanted. One suggestion is that it should be the single letter F, which would look distinguished and get all our (outside) friends guessing. An alternative would be to have the musical *f* as for forte. Perhaps it should be *ff* for fortissimo. We want our club to be high class, and Fingal is higher class than Fingal, so this might be a good idea.

Our mutual ally, your editor, has put pen to paper and drawn a picture of Fingal. I don't know when he actually came face to face with the gentleman—probably after a rather hilarious night out—but here is his illustration.

Would not such be a very good motif on the tie?

Of course, there will be an entrance fee, on receipt of which, and after the committee had selected you as a member, you would be sent complete details on how to knit the tie.

Yes, it is always the unexpected that must happen. I remember years ago (January 1950, if you must know), John Hicks wrote in the *Canoe-Camper* of a voyage that he and a friend of his had on the Temè. His friend's name was Sam. He does not give his surname, but I think that it must have been Fingal. Let me quote. They were having trouble with a tree.

"We should have to squeeze past the roots we supposed. No, easier the other side. Too bad, the branches rest on the bank, the root end must be the one. Well now, the roots rest on the bank too. We regarded the obstruction, the vertical banks, the tantalising glimpse of easy water beyond. It would have to be the branches after all. Sam's half of the canoe disappeared into a mass of foliage. From the commotion I guessed my crew was in difficulty. He seemed to be talking to himself. Various jolts ensued; the canoe moved on a few inches. Sam's face suddenly loomed through a halo of green foliage high above my head. 'Call this canoeing? It's more like forestry!' The face disappeared suddenly and there was a splash. To my amazed query he replied, 'I'm on the bank you cuckoo. Did you think I was a pigeon?' The canoe moved on, branches splintered, screens of leaves were brushed aside. Presently clear water became visible and Sam, hauling on the painter.

'Well, anyway', he said, 'I bet no one else in your crazy Club has ever canoed through the upper branches of an ash'. He became immobile in an attitude of despair, his gaze directly ahead. We had come to a weir . . .'

John and Sam deserve to become early members of Fingal's Club—if anybody knows where they now are.

Another characteristic of our friend is his habit of attacking the conceited and cocksure, and deflating them. What pleasure he gives onlookers when he assails the one who cries, 'I'm all right, Jack',—and then falls out getting in (or is it in getting out? I always get these things muddled!) Here is a story given me by another ally, after he had taken a



course for Army Officers. In this particular case the officer was very far from conceited, but the course had been badly bothered by Fingal, and the story serves to illustrate the point. Now let me quote.

"John let me paddle him and his dry clothing to the other bank from the clubhouse at the end of the day. He remarked that such was his trust in my handling of the Canadian that all his eggs were in one basket, and he had the utmost confidence in my ability. Having put his dry clothes in also, he was warned by those still on the bank that Fingal was about, but he laughed it off. But one could see the expression of doubt. We safely arrived at the other side, passed the clothes ashore, and then he stepped out on to the bank—safely. He moved up the bank, turned to laugh at his fellow officers on the other bank, and slid, fully clothed, into water eighteen inches deep. A glissade, really. Poorly, we were, laughing. Chukka boots all muddy, trousers sadly dripping. That, I feel certain, is a genuine Fingalism". So do I.

But there are many more who deserve to become members also. I can think of one who capsized under a weir, and came up some appreciable number of seconds later, looking furious. When asked why he looked so angry, he replied, "When I was upside down I suddenly saw the funny side of it and burst out laughing—and you can't laugh under water!" Perhaps he was not a very good candidate because he got angry about it; but nevertheless he was well on the way to being accepted. If you can laugh at a frightening experience, the fright is apt to vanish. The peculiar inhabitants of this island seem to have a gift for it. Look at Bruce Bairnsfather in the '14-18 war, or a whole host of humourists in the last one. Even the diligent B.B.C. cracked a joke at the end of each news programme, and is apt to do so occasionally even now. It is a gift worth fostering. Hence the Club.

If you think you are eligible to become a member, let me have your story, I will pass it on to some select member of the committee. If you think you have a better idea for the tie, let me have that also.

Meanwhile, may I wish you a very happy Christmas—and may Fingal not involve himself in your Christmas dinner. I also wish you a marvellous New Year, with plenty of brushes with the gentleman under discussion, all to his utter defeat.

P.S.—Have you written to your M.P. yet about Rights of Waterway ?

Secretary's Notes

Subscriptions

Have you paid your subscription ? If not, it may cost you more. See A.G.M. Agenda.

The Secretary wishes to thank all those who paid up so promptly. Unfortunately the rush was so great that there has been a considerable delay in getting out the cards. Please accept our apologies.

Regional Sports Councils

an Appeal by the President

As you are probably aware, the Government and local Authorities are taking an ever increasing interest in the development of Sports. The Minister for Sport has announced the intention of setting up eleven Regional Sports Councils, one in each of the C.C.P.R. Regions, one for Scotland and one for N. Ireland. In addition to this many counties are setting up local Sports Councils of their own.

The Regional Sports Council cannot of course contain representation of all sports but their formation is usually preceded by a meeting of all interested parties and it is probable that further meetings will be called. The difficulty is that meetings usually take place in the afternoon.

Unfortunately most canoeists have to work and cannot easily take an afternoon off even for such an important matter as a Regional Sports Council meeting, but there may well be some people connected with the sport who could represent us at such meetings. Briefing can be arranged through the local Coaching Organiser of your area.

Usually meetings can be expected in the vicinity of the local C.C.P.R. Headquarters, but this may not always be so. If you feel you can help us by representing the B.C.U. at Regional Sports Council or Local County Sports Council meetings during normal working hours please get in touch with your local Coaching Organiser or write to the General Secretary.

continued from foot of previous column

Annual General Meeting

Remember 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, 29th January at the Holland Park School. Please come if you can. Technical Committees meet at 2.15 p.m. Doors open 2 p.m.

Affiliated Clubs

This year it is intended to group Affiliated Clubs by C.C.P.R. Regions. It is hoped to distribute the Club list with the March *Canoeing in Britain*. Will Club Secretaries please ensure we have your subscription and form in before 31st January.

Grants towards capital expenditure or sports facilities

Clubs are reminded that help can be obtained towards the cost of new and additional facilities (including essential initial equipment) for physical training and recreation intended primarily for the use of adults, provided membership is open to the public in general.

Enquiries should be made to the Local Education Authority, the local C.C.P.R. representative or the General Secretary of the B.C.U. Educational establishments and youth organisations are dealt with by their local Education Authority under different arrangements.

LONG DISTANCE RACING

Our winter specialist coaching programme, managed by David Green, was a great success, and no doubt encouraged many youngsters in their efforts. As a committee, we pride ourselves on keeping one of the most comprehensive record systems in the B.C.U. This onerous job is undertaken by Nick Barber, no organisation could ask for a better Records Officer.

In the International Competition field, we sent a strong team to the Spanish Sella River Race. Charles Evans won the International K1 Class, R. Stevens and D. Jordan won the Junior International K2 Class, Silvia Jackson was second in the Ladies K1, and our team won the Nations International Team Prize. At the Irish International we gained 2nd and 3rd positions in the K1 Class, and 3rd and 4th in the K2 event. A very satisfactory state of affairs!

In the Hasler Trophy competition, 93 clubs battled throughout the season, and between them scored 2,647 points. All club positions can be obtained on request. Herewith the first five:

- (1) Lincoln, 255 points; (2) Gailey, 163 points; (3) Southampton, 142 points; (4) Harlow; (5) Richmond.

In the Committee Class Competition, the results are:

SENIORS:

- Class 1. P. Gardner, Riverside. Class 2. W. Machin, Gailey.
Class 3. Tie (A. Stoneley, Camb. U., S. Smith, Worcs.
Class 4. K. Pereira, Lincoln. Class 5. Oliver and Parker, Lincoln.
Class 6. Deakins and Smith, Lincoln. Class 7. Bave and Morgan, Gailey.

JUNIORS:

- Class 1. R. Oliver, Lincoln. Class 2. I. Balfour, Nomads.
Class 3. R. Freeman, Lincoln. Class 4. M. Franklin, Harlow.
Class 5. Walton and Evans, J.L.R.E.
Class 6. Onions and Ridyard, Gailey.
Class 7. Orchard and Rogers, Southampton.
Ladies. M. Tucker, Richmond.

The report would not be complete without reference to the future. The executive have approved a Ten Point Plan for the expansion of Long-Distance Racing as a sport. This report will be submitted to Government Departments connected with sport to see if they can help us in our ambitions. A great deal depends upon us, we need at least another six annual races, we would like to see a thousand registered paddlers on our books. It is only with your help and goodwill that we may arrive at our goal.

May I now thank you for your valuable support in 1965 and urge you to continue to assist us in 1966.

J. M. WOOLLEY

BEWARE

Life-jackets that aren't!—B.S.I. warns

A warning to check carefully the performance of lifejackets has been given by the British Standards Institution at a press conference in London.

"Many so-called life-jackets now on sale give insufficient buoyancy to keep you afloat and keep your head clear of the water unless you are capable of swimming", said Mr. Roy Binney, Director of B.S.I. "These products are often loosely referred to as lifejackets, buoyancy aids, floating jackets and buoyant smocks. High pressure advertising and misleading labels mean that retailers and purchasers alike are frequently unaware that these are not really life-jackets at all. A person wearing such an aid who falls into the water and becomes exhausted will soon drown. Bodies have been found face downwards in the sea wearing 'jackets' that failed to keep them alive when they could no longer swim. Properly approved life-jackets costing only about 35/- more will not only keep you afloat but will actually turn you over so that your face is kept clear of the water—even when you are exhausted".

Advice from B.S.I. is to test equipment thoroughly to see that it performs the way you would want it to in an emergency. Try this test: take the garment to the swimming baths and put it on, breathe out and lift your arms over your head. See if your mouth and nose are kept clear of the water.

Details of the B.C.U. approved life-jacket were published in "Canoeing in Britain" No. 51 (June 1964). Copies still available, 2/- post free from 11 Martindale Grove, Egglecliffe, Egglecliffe, Stockton-on-Tees Co. Durham.)

Access to Rivers

River Advisers

From 1st January, 1966, Mr. C. L. Mortlock, The Woodlands Residential Centre, Glasbury-on-Wye, Hereford, has agreed to answer enquiries about the Upper Wye (above Glasbury) and tributaries. Mr. C. E. Manton continues to deal with enquiries about the other rivers against his name in the Canoeing Calendar, 1965, and in *Canoeing in Britain*, March 1965.

River Access; Yorkshire Area

Will canoeists who want to paddle the Dales rivers (Ure, Swale, Tees, Nidd, Wharfe) PLEASE confine their activities to weekends when these are IN SPATE, unless they have made other arrangements direct with the riparian owners, angling clubs, etc., concerned. Full details may be had by writing to Chris McAllister, 11a, Springfield Mount, Leeds 2 (Tel. 26701), who is the B.C.U. River Adviser for the area. In general there is NO OBJECTION to canoeing DURING SPATE CONDITIONS, when paddling these otherwise thin rivers is at its best anyway. All Northern members and others please note.

CLUB NEWS



LEAMINGTON SPA C.C. members have had a very busy and active season with the club well represented at most events. A number of day and evening tours are planned for the future, the latter being an innovation for the club. It is hoped that a more ambitious programme of weekend camping tours will be arranged for 1966. Racing members are now in strict winter training, this includes three nights a week at a local gymnasium and weekend work on the river. The agenda for the social committee includes a Christmas Party, Christmas Draw and a weekly tote to be drawn each Tuesday. They are to buy a table tennis set, and the dart board and record player are being brought back into use. The Club Committee is looking into the possibility of making an application for a bar licence.



LEEDS CANOE CLUB had one helluva job to get through six events and a Wild Water Race totalling over 200 competitors at Appletreewick on the weekend of 16-17th October. This must have been the biggest slalom ever held in the North, and the Novices had to be got off at 8 a.m., which at that time of the year hardly even gives the sun a chance to get afloat! Good advance publicity, including car stickers, ensured a record turnout of spectators as well as competitors. The organisers are pleased that the weekend went off so well and they wish to thank all who came along for their support. A noteworthy feature at Appletreewick, both this year and last has been the wet-suited frogmen laid on by the Bradford Sub-Aqua Club, who are always kept busy peeling capsized boats off the rocks. After the Grandtully slalom, the Leeds contingent accompanied by four Leamington members set off to tackle the Findhorn, 100 miles further North. This river is claimed to be the toughest in Britain, with eight falls in a four mile gorge which had to be inspected. Three they portaged, it lived up to its reputation.



While on a large camp with the CULHAM COLLEGE Youth Leadership Department in Scotland, the Canoe Club saved the lives of three fishermen whose boat had capsized in the middle of Loch Maree. There was a strong wind creating choppy conditions, but everyone worked extremely efficiently despite their lack of experience. At the College in Abingdon, the L.D. boys are hard at work training for next year's D/W. This year they finished 4th in the Civilian section.

1965 saw the start of WHITTINGTON ADVENTURE canoeing courses. They have had a number of groups out on canoe-camping trips on the Severn and the canals of Staffordshire and Worcestershire. One interesting occurrence was a visit from a United Nations working party which took a short trip—nine nationalities in five K2's.

From Tom Tamblin at ATLANTIC COLLEGE C.C. "A group of seven from our college rode the Severn Bore for the first time this October from Newnham to Minsterworth, a distance of approximately 10 miles. The bore itself was not very large, and averaged one to two feet in height, though it gained height further up river".



EXETER C.C. has been asked by the C.C.P.R. to organise a Canoe Rally in Exeter, to take place on 14th May next year. Novices in barges as welcome as real racing types from Exeter and Devon. More details next time. They hope to have some slalom activity going soon at Tiverton—anyone interested contact the E.C.C. secretary.

Members took first prize again in the Exeter carnival with "E.C.C. off to the moon", an eskimo suitably decorated plus members decked out in tin foil helmets, life-jackets and paddles. Entering carnivals is now one of their sources of income. Life saving and first aid are being practiced by a few members with an idea of forming a Canoe Life-saving Corps in the district. Any other canoeists in the S.W. with the same ideas?

The NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY C.C. is now in its third year, and has built up an enthusiastic and active core of 25 members. They are fortunate in having the use of a disused farm on the banks of the Trent for canoe storage, and here they meet three times a week throughout the year. During the summer, five members spent three weeks canoeing on the Rhone and the Ardeche. The Rhone proved a disappointment, being dull in its upper reaches and dirty further downstream. The Ardeche, which joins the Rhone at Pont St. Esprit, makes a wonderful holiday river, being warm and interesting. It has fabulous scenery, and is near enough to Avignon and Nimes for one-day visits. Thoughts are already revolving round a project for next summer!



A grouse from the JUNIOR TRADESMAN'S REGT. A.C.C.—at Div. 3, 4 and N. Slaloms, at the practice time, why will the Div. 1 and 2 boys hog the water, and go round the course backwards, etc.? Novices, politely deferring to such demonstrations of virtuosity, don't get a look in. This seems fair criticism, surely it is up to the organisers to ensure that beginners have a reasonable chance to practice. At their headquarters, the club room now being full of fibreglass repairing, some juniors have found that sanded down fibreglass makes excellent itching powder. Causes chaos on parade.

From the JUNIOR LEADERS REGT. R.C.T., Taunton, the comment, "We are hard at work training for the new season of Long Distance racing. We did expect a little more danger and variety in the National Championships course, but that is always the trouble with any river—a few feet rise or fall and you have a different course".

This Spring, the lads of the 25th SOUTHAMPTON (NORTHAM) SEA SCOUTS built a racing two-seater, designed from scratch by one of them. He was financed largely from fees received from newspapers, TV, etc., arising from a "Flying Saucer" scare in which the lads were involved as a result of flying fire-balloons at night, made from polythene dry-cleaners' wrappers (this would make a story on its own!). "Flying Sorcerer", as the canoe was christened, was a nylon-skinned lightweight of distinctly unorthodox design. In June, it won the "home-built" trophy in its class in the Arun Kayak race, and last month it won the junior section of the Middlesex Kayak Race, a new event. Successful though "Flying Sorcerer" is, the general feeling is that future efforts may be directed to building hardskins, as the local river-bed is very gritty.



At Whitsun, BENTALL APPRENTICES C.C. had its most interesting and exhausting outing of the season. Nine club members set up camp on Mersea Island, where they found they had to wait until very nearly high tide before they had enough water to do any worthwhile canoeing. The water was quite rough at high tide, this was further aggravated by the turbulence caused as the tide swelled through the chasms gouged out of the mud banks. This caused everybody to get thoroughly soaked, but they enjoyed every minute of it. On the following Monday they went on to Osea Island. During the passage, they found themselves battling against a full ebb tide, and arrived very exhausted. Secretary Davies wrote afterwards, "Having eaten our lunch, we now had two choices, either wait on the island for about six hours, with a cold wind blowing, or try to reach Heybridge basin before the ride ran out altogether. We chose the latter, and, making quite good progress considering our tired state, managed to get to the basin with a matter of inches to spare, in fact we had to get out on more than one occasion. We were not quite out of the woods yet, there were still fifty yards of mud to be negotiated, this being done knee deep in ooze and carrying our canoes. By the time we reached the last stage of our journey, the mile and a quarter of Chelmer canal to the clubhouse, we resembled muddy monsters from a horror film".



The ST. BEDE'S G.S. SENIOR SCOUT C.C. in Bradford took two canoes on a trip to North-west Scotland in August, and had two glorious days surfing and sea canoeing on a wonderful silver beach near Lochinvar. They are getting interested in slalom, and are doing a little white water work on the Wharfe.

A report from the 20th REGT. R.A. Canoe Club. "During September our canoes (4 K2's, three home-made slaloms and a glass Pointer) travelled nearly 1,000 miles—unfortunately, not on water, but on top of a convoy of trucks coming out from England to our new home in Northern Germany". writes Peter Cox. "However, at least we got them here, for there was great consternation amongst the Club members when we discovered that the K2's were some four feet longer than the railway containers allotted to the regiment. It did look as though we would have to leave all the canoes in U.K. and start from scratch in BAOR, when it was decided to send the convoy—and we were saved. Having left the N.E. of England—and here may I record my thanks to Alan Byde and Bill Saunders for helping us to start canoeing last year—we have taken to our local rivers very rapidly. Our nearest "K2 river" is the Aller, we have been out on it twice a week since the canoes arrived. We have challenged the Royal Scots Greys C.C. to a 60 km. race down the Weser in December in K2's, which should be just like the D/W all over again".

A new club, the CHESHIRE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION C.C., has begun canoeing on the Shropshire Union canal at Nantwich, with help and instruction from the headmaster of the nearby Grammar School. As a winter interest, they are having a knotting session, and talks on water flows, weather and competition canoeing, illustrated by photographs. They are forming a canoeing library with some of their allotted grant, and any recommendations for good books to buy would be welcomed. Everyone has his favourite book—the Editor's personal recommendation is Charles Sutherland's *Modern Canoeing*.



CHALFONT PARK C.C. have had a busy and successful summer's canoeing, marred only by the tragic death of Philip Sixsmith while canoeing in Austria. This loss is felt most deeply throughout the club, as Philip was a most likeable person. Some club members were guests of Manchester C.C. on their summer trip in Scotland on the Tweed, Spey and Tay, a most memorable and enjoyable holiday. "Rolling sessions and monthly training weekends have just started, and we look forward to seeing some of you at them". writes E. J. Dadey.



Since the last issue of *C in B*, the position of Hon. Sec. of the WEST YORKSHIRE C.C. has passed to Eric Hopper. This means that a flat water racing type is now running a Slalom Club. Whether this will result in pointers with thigh grips or slalom canoes with rudders is not yet clear! Plans for the immediate future include a fibreglass construction/repair weekend in an attempt to cope with the frequent "dunching" of members' canoes. It is hoped to attract more active members to the club, and to this end the 1966 programme will be of a more ambitious nature than in previous years. As an experiment, a weir training weekend is planned for the near future.



Two attractive girl members of Chelmsford Boating Club on the River Cam.
Photo: E. Boesch.



The canoeing section of CRAWLEY MARINERS YACHT CLUB was formed early this year, and at present comprises 15 boys and girls aged 14-17 years, and one B.C.U. Instructor. Swimming is treated as equal in importance to paddle work, and since joining, seven members have gained the R.L.S.S. Advanced Safety Swimming Award. The local council is being urged to

allow canoeing activities on Tilgate Lake, in the meantime, week-end camps are arranged on the Medway at Yalding. Points for the annual Pentathlon are gained throughout the season for Swimming, Slalom, L.D., Sprint and Medley races, and trophies will be presented to John Winter and Gillian Tarrant, boy and girl champions, at the Laying Up Supper.



The C6 rivalry with the Royal C.C. has provided great enjoyment for TWICKENHAM C.C. paddlers this year. They also enjoyed a visit from a group of boys from various canoe clubs around Berlin. They were a very lively and sporting crowd, so much so that even some of the younger members of the Club found the pace they set a little hectic. "Our finances, in common with those of most other canoe clubs, are a cause of constant headaches," writes Mrs. Hoad, "We held a very successful jumble sale in the summer to enable us to entertain adequately the German lads, and in November held another one—mainly to enable us to pay the rent!"



Within a year, the ELLESMERE COLLEGE C.C. membership has risen from a dozen to well over forty. Many of the members now possess slalom canoes, amongst these are five of the new SL5's, which they say have been proved extremely good. There have been several expeditions this year, probably the one most enjoyed was to Appletreewick Slalom, one of the first competitions they have entered.



In October, four members of WINDSOR & DISTRICT C.C. entered the London River Race in their highly unsuitable slalom boats. "To our surprise, we were not the last in our L.D. class", wrote John Lloyd, "However, we are now convinced that L.D. racing requires a special boat with a radically different seating position from slalom". Two members explored the river Torridge, and had a scenic, though not very rapid, week-end. In higher water, this river would give better sport. The club's Guy Fawkes barbecue was principally notable for the effects of a barrel of cider on the members!

At 2.45 p.m. on 19th August, two teenage girl members of BRAYFORD C.C. left Brayford Pool on the first leg of what was to be a hard and tiring trip from Lincoln to London (Regents Park). Their travels took them to Torksey via Foss-Dyke, up the Trent through Newark, Nottingham, River Soar to Leicester, Grand Union Canal to Southall, Regent's Canal to destination. The journey was carried out under very bad weather conditions which meant the girls (who began canoeing in April and had never camped before) had to spend much time drying out clothes and camping equipment. The total journey came to roughly 242 miles, with portages past 164 locks and five tunnels. Patsie and Rob Green (15 and 13 years old) were awarded medallions in recognition of their feat, and now have a new canoe in which they hope to be able to cross the English Channel and canoe to Paris for a week's holiday! Congratulations from the armchair canoeists at *Canoeing in Britain*.

ANNUAL REPORT—continued**Voluntary Service**

The Council wishes to express its appreciation of the work of all the hundreds of members who voluntarily put in many hours of hard work in Coaching Administration, organising races, or acting as officials. It also wishes to record its appreciation of the valuable work done by its Honorary officers and the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Technical and Coaching Committees, and the Touring and River Advisers who give up so much of their time to promoting canoeing in all its branches. Members must realise that although a permanent Headquarters has been established the bulk of administration and organising work is still done by voluntary officers. As canoeing grows, and it is growing apace, more will be needed.

Acknowledgements

The C.C.P.R. has continued to give us most valuable help particularly in the organisation and administration of courses, coaching and the tours of the National Coach.

The Council also wishes to express its appreciation for the financial support given by the Department of Education and Science and all the interest taken in canoeing by the Department and Local Education Authorities.

Finally, we would express our appreciation of the work of our General Secretary, who has done so much to weld the several departments into a coherent whole.

J. W. DUDDERIDGE, *President.*

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1965

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Sprint Racing News

Discussions are to take place concerning the possibility of a commercially sponsored Rowing and Canoeing Regatta to be held at the Serpentine in 1966. A joint organising committee is to be formed to look into the matter and to decide whether to accept the offer.

There are good prospects also for a combined Sprint and Long Distance Race weekend. A meeting is to be held to decide on a suitable venue which would meet all the requirements, and a considerable sum of money has been promised to meet travel and accommodation costs for overseas competitors.

A meeting is to be held with the L.D.R. Committee to appoint a National Racing Coach and Assistant Racing Coaches. It is proposed, for administrative purposes, that the Racing Coaches scheme will operate within the framework of the existing National Coaching Scheme. It is hoped that the joint meeting will be able to decide on dates and venues for courses and that the wheels will quickly be set in motion to implement a regional plan for courses.

COACHING NEWS

EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Advanced Tests:

INLAND (Kayak): K. Rudram.

SEA: M. Blake, D. J. Mayes, R. Bailey, H. Cornish.

Coaching Awards:

Senior Instructors:

K. Rudram, "The Towers", Capel Curig, Bewts-y-Coed, N. Wales.

D. P. Marples, Highfield House, Potter Lane, Higher Walton, Walton-le-Dale, Lancs.

A. Toplis, 75, Willows Road, Walsall, Staffs.

Coach: T. I. Williams, 12, Gladstone Street, Hartlepool, Co. Durham.

AREA COACHING ORGANISERS

Enquiries for assistance in instruction or examining in the areas listed should be made to the officials listed:

London and South East: (London, Middx., Kent, Surrey, Sussex)

J. C. Barbour, 7, Brookmill Road, London S.E.8. (RID 4971).

South: (Hants., Wilts.)

N. N. Brown, 159, Teg Down Meads, Winchester, Hants.

South Wales

J. W. Gould, South Lodge, Fairwater Road, Llandaff, Cardiff. (71602)

West Midlands: (Warks., Staffs., Worcs., Salop, Herefs.)

G. Sanders, 4, Barston Lane, Solihull, Warwicks. (Solihull 2391)

North Midlands: (Derby, Leics., Lincs., Northants., Notts., Rutland)

J. E. Saunders, 5, Hall-Drive, Burton-on-the-Wolds, Loughborough, Leics. (Wymeswold 556)

North-East: (Co. Durham, Northumberland, N. Riding of Yorks)

A. W. Bye, 4, Allergate Terrace, Durham City.

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 29th January
5.30 p.m. at the Holland Park School,
Airlie Gardens, London W.8. (Tube
stations Holland Park or Notting
Hill Gate). Technical Committees
will meet at 2.15 p.m.

The Atlantic College Corps of Canoe Life-guards

By Oliver Cock

By kind permission of the Headmaster, the Atlantic College opened its doors to all those who were interested in the Life Guard Scheme, from the 9th August to the 8th September, and invitations to attend for any period up to one week were sent out to thirty-six people. They were invited to bring along with them anybody else whom they knew to be interested, especially any young people who might join in with the College Life Guards on their patrol duties.

Although acceptances were not as numerous as could have been hoped for, those who did come profited enormously from their visit.

During the time that I was at the College, the party of canoeists were given every chance to see all the services in action, and even to participate in exercises arranged for them. Thus we took part in two cliff rescue exercises, one jointly with the inshore rescue service; we were drilled in surf rescue and were taken to sea by the inshore rescue boats. On this last some of us "got into difficulties" in our canoes, distress flares were fired, and we were duly "rescued". We watched the canoe life guards patrolling off their beach and on the final afternoon I drifted out to sea in a rip, accompanied by some of these canoeists, to find out what might happen to someone caught in it. At the end of my drifting I was duly put into my own canoe, which had been brought out for me, and we returned through light surf to the beach.

There is no doubt that the month's activities were extremely valuable, both in helping us guests to appreciate the potential of the scheme as a whole, and in inspiring us to greater efforts to further it. The Headmaster has generously said he will be delighted to repeat the invitation next year, and the details for this will be worked out as soon as possible.

the overall result:

Final Result:

Shrike III (Alan Emus) Great Britain	.....	5225
Faderita (Lars Johansson) Sweden	.....	4748
Confusion (John Biddle) Great Britain	.....	4623
Feuerwerk (Ulrich Schumann) Germany	.....	3952
Hilarity (Graham Smith) Great Britain	.....	3375

TEN Sq.m.

Canoe Sailing

The Second World Championships for International 10 sq. Metre Canoes were held on Lake Constance, Germany, from 2nd to 7th August, when Alan Emus successfully defended his title, sailing Shrike III. Host for the event was the German Canoe Federation, who, apart from providing every conceivable amenity for competitors and spectators in the previously unfamed district of Wallhausen/Dettingen, summoned the assistance of the highest German authorities to organise a social programme quite unmatched in grandeur in the one hundred year old history of the class. Receptions, banquets, the awe-inspiring sight of the candlelit castle gardens on the island of Mainau and a lakeside firework display, all of unforgettable magnificence, provided the background to the weeks racing, conducted by the Oberlinger See Motor Yacht Club. Only the weather had been left unconsidered but temperatures in the 90's are not to be scorned at. Olympic courses 10 miles long were set on the stretch of water between Wallhausen and Oberlingen, although on many occasions the course was shortened to six miles through lack of wind. Seven nations including six British boats, entered for the Championships, but a few competitors failed to arrive so twenty boats only started daily.

The first race began in a light wind and choppy water caused by the abundance of spectator craft, and it soon became apparent that Lars Johansson, a Swede, new to this particular aspect of canoeing, revelled in the prevailing conditions. His canoe "Faderitta" is one of the Fibreglass Proctor Mk. II design, built by Bristol Boats Ltd., and his easy victory caused a stir in the British contingent. Tuesday's race brought the only contrast of the week—a short sea built up overnight with an eighteen knot wind which freshened soon after the start to a gusty thirty knots and the most experienced canoeists found conditions exceptionally tricky. Such vicious squalls swept down from the wooded hillsides that even sixteen stones poised on the end of the five foot sliding seat was catapulted into the sail. All but three canoes limped home with damaged gear or their helmsmen exhausted. Ulrich Schumann from Germany sailed magnificently to score a well deserved win, followed by Alan Emus and Lars Johansson. All took their share of spectacular capsize.

The latter part of the week was disappointing for racing. A stationary ridge of high pressure brought exceptionally hot and windless days. A further seven races had to be started before the necessary three were completed within the specified time limited which called for an average speed of 2.5 knots. Graham Smith in "Hilarity", Alan Emus in "Shrike III", and John Biddle sailing "Confusion" took the honours in trying conditions, but the issue was in doubt until the final race, so close was

continued at foot of previous column

Alterations

Llandaff C.C.

Hon. Sec., 20, Thompson Avenue, Victoria Park, Cardiff.

B.C.U. Treasurer

E. J. Owen, 138, Cubbington Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa.

Addition to Calendar

Slalom training Week-ends, Hambleden, every second week in the month. Camping and boathouse facilities. E. J. Dadey, 44, Heathstan Road, London W.12.

Bookshelf**DROWNPROOFING**—Fred Lanoue (Herbert Jenkins, 13/6)

The third printing of this remarkable book dealing with a set of simple skills designed to keep a person alive indefinitely in deep water regardless of age, or ability to swim. Fred Lanoue is the Head Swimming Coach at the Georgia Tech, and his course is described as "the only real new concept in the teaching of swimming that has been introduced in the last fifty years". The book contains full instructions for learning and teaching Drownproofing, and is well illustrated. Learning the skills described would provide an interesting and valuable winter activity for any canoe club.

Rating ★★☆☆

LEVEN WILD WATER TEST UNDER REVIEW Eric B. Totty

The advent of Wild Water Racing Canoe marked a further decisive stage in the Leven Wild Water Test when, under favourable conditions, both David Mitchell and John Woodhouse lopped off almost a minute from their previous best times, and established a new record. David's run earned him the Gold Dipper Badge for 1965. In all, 82 timed runs were held during the season and 56 of these qualified for the Silver Dipper, 18 for the Bronze whilst only eight failed to qualify.

The rules of the Test, and in particular the one defining the time allowance, are now under review with the object of bringing them up to date and in line with modern developments. As a first step it is considered desirable to indicate the type of boat used as shown in the results below.

Leading positions 1965

					Award
David Mitchell	Chester C.C.	(R)	5 mins.	41 secs.	Gold
John Woodhouse	"	(R)	5 "	52 "	Silver
David Mitchell	"	(R)	5 "	54 "	"
John Woodhouse	"	(R)	5 "	59 "	"
John Roberts	Manchester C.C.	(S)	6 "	50 "	"
Roger Marsden	Lakeland C.C.	(S)	6 "	56 "	"
N.B.—Previous best times of the two leaders using slalom type canoes:					
David Mitchell	Chester C.C.	(S)	6 mins.	43 secs.	(1964)
John Woodhouse	"	(S)	6 "	43 "	(1965)
David Mitchell	"	(S)	6 "	46 "	(1965)

R = W.W. Racing Canoe

S = Slalom Canoe

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

PRIVATE RATES: 3d. per word—minimum 4/-. Quote B.C.U. Membership number. Advertisement Dept., 9 Tynebrooke Ave., West Hartlepool, Co. Durham.

BOATS AND EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

KLEPPER DOUBLE CANOE almost unused. Cost £110. Gee, Corndean Hall, Winchombe. Phone 537 Glos.

USED CANOE CAMPING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE at very competitive prices. Wide range of canoes. List from P.G.L. Holidays, Hole-in-the-Wall, Ross-on-Wye.

SPORTS DIPPER (Canvas) Single, as new, complete with Paddle and Spraydeck, £25. F. G. E. Grainger, 9 Hawthorne Close, Gateley, nr. Andover, Hants.

FILM HIRE

BRITISH CANOE UNION Film Libraries. Films available on Racing, Sea Canoeing, Rapid Rivers and for Beginners. In 16mm. or 8mm. From the British Film Institute, 81 Dean Street, London W.1.

TRAILERS

LIGHT WEIGHT TRAILERS for 6 canoes. Manufactured by the Trailer Specialists. Please write for Pamphlet containing full details of Kits and Finished Trailers. From £36. 15s. 0d. Wicksteeds, Meridian Works, Royston, Herts. Phone 3154.

INSTRUCTORS

EXPERIENCED CANOEISTS required as Instructors for all periods, April-September, 1966. Young ladies also required as Cooks on canoe camping holidays. Details from P.G.L. Holidays, Hole-in-the-Wall, Ross-on-Wye.

INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED for Youth Hostels Association. All fares and accommodation paid plus remuneration of £3 per Senior Instructor and £2 per Assistant Instructor per week. Weekly cruising courses along the River Wye and training courses at Lostwithiel on the River Fowey. For further details and application form write to Peter Hall (C/B), Y.H.A., St. Albans, Herts.

COMMENCING Easter, 1966, we require a Warden/Instructor at our canoe base at Wargrave, Berkshire. Duties involve every weekend to the end of September and responsibility for training youth club groups of up to 20 per weekend. Good fee and travelling expenses. Equipment consists of camping equipment and 17 canoes in boathouse. London Union of Youth Clubs, St. Anne's House, Venn Street, Clapham, London S.W.4.

MAGAZINES

WHITE WATER Magazine issued quarterly. 10/- per annum post free or 2/6 per copy post 6d. 21 Windsor Road, Manchester-10.

CANOE BUILDING ON A SHOESTRING Alex B. Allen

The average enthusiast, building his own canoe, is usually prepared to pay for the very best materials to ensure perfection in his craft, both above and below decks. There must be many people, however, who are faced with the problem of building canoes on a very limited budget in schools or clubs, and who would welcome ways of cutting down the price of materials without sacrificing either strength or external appearance. The following notes, based on several years experience of building canoes for group use may be of some help.

TIMBER

Gaboon faced exterior ply is cheaper than marine ply, and although it may not conform to B.S. 1088 specifications it is water and boil-proof (W.B.P.), has an excellent appearance when varnished, and has the added advantage of being softer than marine ply, which makes cutting and screwing both easier and faster. Even $\frac{1}{2}$ in. exterior is cheaper than $\frac{3}{4}$ in. marine, and I always use this for cross-frames. $\frac{1}{2}$ in. or $\frac{3}{8}$ in. ply can also be used in place of the expensive $\frac{3}{4}$ in. mahogany that is specified for the coamings of many touring canoes, and is much simpler to fit.

A saving of up to 25% in the cost of softwood can be effected by ordering "clean sawn" timber instead of planed. The degree of roughness varies from sawmill to sawmill, but a good rub down with sandpaper is usually all that is required to give a finish ready for painting or varnishing.

SCREWS

Zinc-coated steel screws are perfectly adequate for any joints inside a canoe, but should not be used in any place where they can be worn or scraped. Not only are they cheaper than brass screws, but they are also free of the latter's annoying tendency to shear if overtightened.

COVERINGS

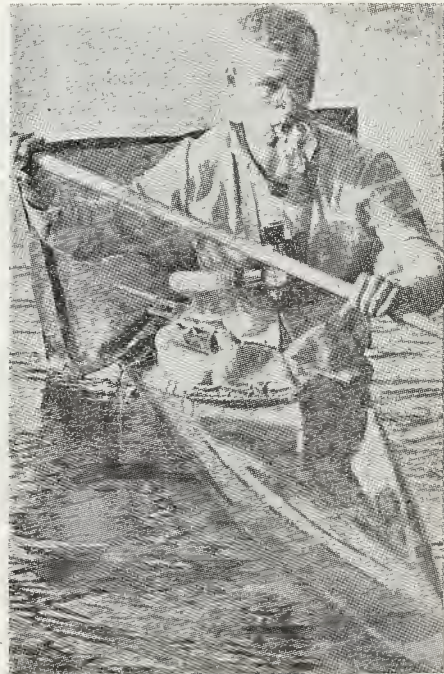
Hull and deck coverings can account for over one third of the cost of a canoe so any saving here is obviously worthwhile. I have managed to find a supplier of excellent P.V.C. material which is produced for general purposes and is as good as any intended specially for canoes, but is 2/- or 3/- per yd. cheaper. Even using materials obtained from the usual suppliers there are ways of economising. After a year's trial I have found that the lighter P.V.C. material intended for spray covers has stood up well in use as the deck covering on a canoe in constant use by novices. If done neatly, there is no reason why a canoe should not be decked with several large off-cuts, thus reducing wastage when several canoes are being built. By careful preliminary estimation a surprisingly small amount of material can be used for decking canoes which have plywood side decks. I found that by cutting diagonally, 7 ft. of P.V.C. 36 in. wide was sufficient for the fore and aft decks of a 14 ft. slalom canoe.

BUOYANCY

Expanded polystyrene is now in fairly general use, and is only about half the cost of inflatable buoyancy bags of the same displacement. Off-cut material can also be obtained from some firms at about half price, and if this is used the cost of fitting buoyancy is brought to a very low level.

Although I have not done it myself, I am sure there is scope for the use of sealed alloy pill tins, which can often be obtained free and in large numbers from chemists shops, or for the use of empty polythene bottles used for household detergents. When cutting out the relevant frames, cross-pieces can be left intact to retain buoyant material permanently.

Editorial Footnote: Any sea canoeist contemplating zinc screws should beware or he might finish up with a lot of firewood and a long wet walk home. The sea corrodes everything!



What effects will the altitude of Mexico City have on athletes in the 1968 Olympics? 1964 Gold Medalist Gunnar Utterberg of Sweden undergoes tests to try and answer this problem as it affects canoeists. Photo: Kanot-Nytt.

Briefly . . .

● Three Scotsmen, Professor Hugh Simpson of Glasgow University and friends William Wallace and Roger Tuft have arrived in Christianshaab, on the west coast of Greenland, following a difficult and dangerous trip by canoe through ice-packed fjords and over mountainous country where they had to portage. The journey lasted 41 days and covered several hundred miles. The purpose of the expedition was to study the reactions of the human body under extreme physical stress, and a unique scientific report is promised.

● An interesting booklet (free, we believe) came our way recently from the Tourist Information Centre, 6, Royal Avenue, Belfast 1. The *Boating Guide to the River Bann and Lough Neagh* is intended primarily for the yachtsman, but has much in it to interest the canoeist, and makes a valuable supplement to the information in the Guide to the British Waterways.

● *White Water*, the slalom magazine, is being resurrected by Ian Pendleton and Maurice Rothwell in Manchester. First issue, in duplicated form, will be out soon, price 2/6d. quarterly. *Canoeing in Britain* sends its best wishes to the editor, and hopes that the venture will be a success. See Classified Ads. for details.

● Alan Bye, Hon. Senior Coach, has written and illustrated an Instructor's Aid. This forty-three page document makes very interesting reading, and will, I hope, be adopted eventually as a standard work by the Coaching Committee. It outlines the work of an instructor, suggesting methods of teaching, pointing out snags, and giving factual information on all aspects of canoeing instruction.

● A suggestion. Are any B.C.U. members willing to help other B.C.U. members over using their waterways? Would any clubs in, say, Wales offer help and facilities to other B.C.U. members from elsewhere? Would they welcome an approach?

The General Secretary, Alec Kennedy, would be glad to keep a list of clubs willing to offer reciprocal facilities if such a thing is possible.

● *Canoeing in Britain* is arranging for space to be made available at the Annual General Meeting for an exhibition of canoes and equipment by the various advertisers who support the magazine.

● Avoncraft announce as we go to press that their new Phantom K2 has just been launched. They have gone all out to eliminate the gap between Danish and British craft. The design is similar to their K1 in plan form, the front cockpit overlaps the gunwale line considerably, and both cockpits are forward of the widest section of the craft. The waterline is two in. narrower than the Invader K2, and the forward deck is in one piece with the hull, with no gunwale line. They also announce that they have withdrawn the agency rights for Solent Canoe Centre to make or market Avoncraft canoes.

● Ken Littleddyke resigned as director of John F. Pearton (Kayaks) Ltd. at the beginning of the year. Since then, two new names, G. D. Maynard, ex-chief loftsmen of a large aircraft firm and D. S. Milborne, Managing Director of Lee-Smith Photomechanics Ltd., have joined the firm, which is now trading under the name "Pattern-Aides" (John E. Pearton Ltd.). They will still be largely concerned with kayaks, but are developing interests in other forms of marine craft, and anticipate having an interesting dinghy available soon.

● Following requests from the Editor, the following clubs have registered their racing colours with *Canoeing in Britain*: Birmingham C.C., 279 Birmingham Scout Group, Canoe Touring Club, Chester C.C., Exeter C.C., H.M.S. Fisgard C.C., Group One C.C., Hartlepool K.C., Hatfield Y.C., Lincoln C.C., Llandaff C.C., Nuneaton C.C., R.M.A. Sandhurst C.C., Soar Valley C.C., Twickenham C.C., Waveney Valley C.C., Windsor and District C.C., Worcester C.C. We plan a feature on this next year, so if your club wears racing colours, and is not named above, ask your secretary WHY you have been left out. If you haven't a racing strip, and your club enters competitions, why not get one?

A Cautionary Tale

'A Rolling course? Hurray!' they said,
'Proficient we shall be'.
'A Rolling course? We are dead keen'.
They chanted merrily.

So off they set, at crack of dawn,
With boats atop the van,
And flasks of soup, and luncheon packs,
Dead keen to a man.

I waited in the whole day through,
And wondered how they fared,
And thought of the enjoyment
The three keen lads had shared.

At dead of night, when all was still
A knock came at my door.
And three poor creatures staggered in,
And sank down on the floor.

One was full of water,
Another puffed and blew.
The third a mass of bruises
Of every glorious hue.

"We had a lovely day" they sighed.
"Enjoyable! Just so!"
"And did you roll?" I queried.
The three all whispered "No!"

J.W.



● Advance news of the 3rd Noguera-Pallaresa canoe rally and wild water race in Spain gives the dates as 24th July to 1st August, 1966. Details from J. B. Tomas, Rowing Federation of Lerida.

● 1966 Canoe Trips by Coach. Plans under discussion :
 B.C.U. (14 days) South of Ireland or France, July/August.
 Baden Canoe Union (3 weeks) Inn-Drau-Danube, July/August.
 Rhone from Seyssel-Ardeche, Mid-August (Guest groups under responsible leadership).

If interested, write to Touring Secretary, B.C.U. by 20th January, 1966.

● Because of difficulties in obtaining supplies of the Lifemaster jacket, Ottersports are beginning manufacture of a canoeists lifejacket. It has already been approved by the Coaching Committee of the B.C.U., and conforms to B.S.I. specifications, except in respect of whistle and lifting becket. Supplies should be available early in 1966.

THE LIFFEY DESCENT

The sixth successful Liffey Descent L.D. race has made a deep impression on all those who took part in it this year, and even hard-bitten spectators were suitably awed by the toughness of the course.

The 16½ mile international was held on a river swollen by floodwater on 25th September. The organisers were forced to cancel the ladies race, and requested some of the younger competitors not to take part because of the heavy water.

There was a tricky portage at Leixlip Dam, and three major weirs as hazards—Anna Liffey Mills, Wren's Nest (which took an extremely heavy toll in capsizes and damaged canoes) and Palmerston Weir. Irish canoeists won every event, but it is not difficult to foresee that a large British contingent will be planning to go next year to wrest the honours from the home team.

Results :

K1		Class 4	
1. N. Alexander, Ireland	2.05.10	1. V. Hall, W.W.C.C.	2.15.00
2. C. Evans, Britain	2.05.20	2. K. Pereira, Linc.	2.18.00
3. A. Miller, Harlow	2.06.00		
K2		Wild Water Kayaks	
1. Nevin/Glasgow, Ireland	1.55.00	1. J. Gorman, Carrick	
2. Crowley/Lawrence, WWCC	2.00.00	2. A. Kelly, Carrick	
3. Green/Bosher, Ryl.	2.01.00	Slalom Kayaks	
		1. D. Cromer, Salmon Leap	
		2. R. Taylor, WWCC	



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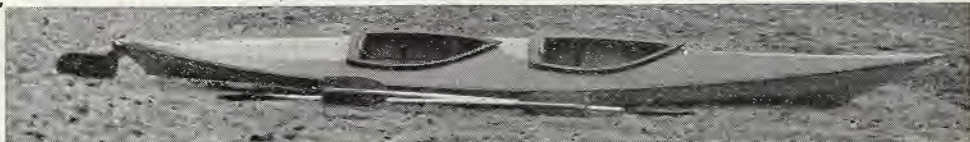
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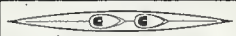



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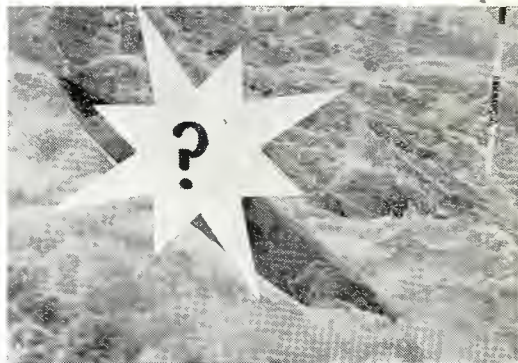
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