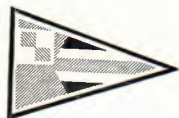


# canoeing in Britain 62



**Calendar Issue**  
**March 1967 1/6**



# canoeing in Britain

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is published in March, June, September and December, by the British Canoe Union. Comments, articles, photographs and reports are welcomed for inclusion in *Canoeing in Britain*. Photographs will be returned after use. Send by 10th of the month prior to publication to—

## ***Editorial Address***

Jack Levison, 11 Martindale Grove, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

## ***Advertisement Department***

Chris Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham. (H'pools 66339)

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of individuals, and do not necessarily reflect official B.C.U. policy.

Enquiries regarding non-receipt of magazines, notification of changes of address and general enquiries should be sent, quoting your membership number, to—

## ***The General Secretary***

***The British Canoe Union,  
Capt. A. R. Kennedy, C.B.E.,  
Room 315,  
26'29 Park Crescent,  
London, W.1.  
Phone: 01-580 4710***

## Staff

Freda Hare  
Eileen Levison  
Alan Rodwell  
Lofty Wright  
Winnie Wright

# Editorial

## Calendar cut considered

One of the B.C.U.'s largest items of expenditure is Canoeing in Britain. When economies have to be made, it always comes under close scrutiny. One suggestion this year was that we should discontinue the poster calendar and revert to the style where the March issue was the Calendar. The disadvantages of this — virtually no dissemination of news arising after 10th Nov. 1966 (copy date for December issue) until 10th June 1967 (publication date of June issue) and loss of advertisement revenue, etc., were felt to outweigh any saving which would accrue.

## Where the money went

Last year we gave a brief breakdown of C in B's accounts, to show what was involved. The approximate figures for 1965/6 are given below:—

	£
Preparation and misc. expenditure	171
Printing 4 issues (17,300 mags.) ...	1,079
Printing calendar (4,400) ...	140
Despatch of mags. ...	216
	£1,606
	£
Sales revenue ...	41
Advertisements ...	523
	564
Net expenditure ...	£1,042

Although we printed 1,100 more magazines than in the previous year, containing

in all 16 extra pages, printing costs were up by only £100 — and don't forget, we increased our page size in March!

Preparation costs rose by £65, due mainly to certain occasionally recurring items — reprinting letterheads, rate cards, etc., and despatching the magazines cost an extra £75.

## Economy

Council has decided to hold C in B's 1966-7 budget at the same level as last year. It is plain that we must be very careful with our money until our growth rate can be determined with more certainty.

As a first economy step I have cut back this issue to 28 pages (eight less than our December issue). I hope readers will, like myself, deplore this short term measure, but realise its absolute necessity at this stage.

## Editor sticks neck out

Readers are invited to write in and say which of our regular features they would cut (as a severe economy measure) if they were editing C in B. A prize is offered for the first letter opened giving the correct number who would begin by ousting the "Editorial".

## Seal hunting controversy

A number of letters have been received on this topic, both for and against seal hunting. There isn't room to print them all, but Chris Hare has agreed to answer these personally.

JACK LEVISON.

## Sailing Notes

The Royal Canoe Club is sponsoring the construction of hard chine sailing canoes based on the "Quest" design of Jack Holt. The mould has been finished and the first three hulls are now building. The idea is to produce a low cost, high performance sailing canoe, which complies with the International Rule, suitable for amateur construction. It is intended to provide a trainer for the more sophisticated IC canoes and for this purpose the hull is buoyant enough to take two, if required, although it normally will be raced single-handed. Two versions are being built, one with the normal vee-deck, the other with an open cockpit which will make it more suitable for sailing

on restricted waters.

It was planned to show a partly built hull of a "Quest" sailing canoe at the CCPR London Dinghy Conference at the Crystal Palace Sports Centre on March 12th.

It is reported that plans are being made to take 3 Swedish I.C. Canoes to Leningrad for demonstration in May. There is interest in the class in Denmark and it is understood that the Japanese Canoe Federation are to promote Canoe Sailing.

We have been in touch with the Australians for some time and there are some 15 now sailing, based on Sydney and Melbourne.

## Coaching News

1. Members will be interested to know the results of the reports which many Coaching Scheme members sent in for the annual report which was sent to the Department of Education and Science. The totals for England and Wales are as follows:—

Total number of Coaches	60
Total number of Senior Instructors	29
Total number of Instructors	455
*Total number of children taught (approx.)	20,000
*Total number of adults taught (approx.)	3,600
*Total estmd. no. schools involved	403
*Total estmd. no. Youth Groups involved	242

These figures show tremendous work that members of the Scheme are doing for canoeing and are most encouraging for the future of the Scheme.

\*These figures are based on replies received; returns were not made by all members of the Coaching Scheme.

### 2. Change of Address — Important

The Coaching Scheme has now transferred to Headquarters office, and all correspondence should be addressed to the General Secretary at 26 Park Crescent, London, W.1, due to Mrs. Littlelyde's inability to cope with the ever-growing volume of work. *Everyone please note.* Geoff Sanders remains Editor of the Newsletter and of the Coaching Handbook.

### 3. New A.C.O.'s

Pressure of work has made it necessary to divide Wales into North and South for purposes of the Coaching Scheme. John Gould will carry on as A.C.O. for South Wales, and Ken Rudram, Bodlondeb, Mill Street, Betws y Coed, Caerns., has agreed to act as A.C.O. for North Wales. Our thanks are due to Ken for agreeing to accept this post on behalf of the Union.

It has also been decided that Cornwall should be treated as a separate area for Coaching Scheme purposes, and our thanks are also due to Archie Beale for taking on the job of A.C.O. for this area.

### 4. Test Fees

At the meeting of the National Coaching Committee in November, it was agreed that there should be slight modifications in the entry fees for BCU Tests. The new rates are: 3/- for BCU members; 6/- for non-members. Successful candidates may have a lapel badge as an optional extra, price 3/-. The price of the Proficiency cloth badge is now 5/-. Entry for the Novice Test will cost 1/-.

### 5. Amendments to Tests and Awards

The National Coaching Committee made certain changes to Tests and Awards at their

meeting in November. Revised details are available from the General Secretary. (Please enclose a s.a.e.).

### 6. Examination Successes

Our congratulations go to the following:  
**Advanced Tests:** Inland Kayak — A. T. Blount, S. J. Baker, P. F. Brown, J. Harrison, A. J. Parnham. Sea Kayak—J. Choat, M. Blundell, C. W. Pease.

**Coaching Awards:** Our congratulations are due to the following, who have accepted awards:— (a) as **Senior Coaches** at the request of the National Coaching Committee: J. C. Barbour, 7 Brookmill Road, London S.E.8; N. N. Brown, 159 Teg Down Meads, Winchester, Hants.; R. E. Gays, 55 Conaglen Road, Aylestone, Leicester; L. Gee, 48 Charles Close, Wroxham, Norfolk; C. H. Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham; G. Sanders, 4 Barston Lane, Solihull, Warwicks.; J. E. Saunders, 5 Hall Drive, Burton-on-the-Wolds, Loughborough, Leics.

(b) **As Coach:** M. R. Eckersley, Embury Heathcote, Embley Park, Romsey, Kent.

### CCPR/BCU Coaching Courses

The CCPR in conjunction with the BCU organises both weekend courses and courses lasting a week, in canoeing for all types of canoeist from beginners to those seeking coaching awards. Details of these courses are contained in the BCU Calendar or can be had from the General Secretary or from the CCPR at 26 Park Crescent, London W.1. In addition to these, the Regional CCPR Authorities organise Regional courses in conjunction with the BCU. The details of these courses are often not known at Headquarters and for information regarding them you should write to your CCPR Regional Office.

### Acknowledgement

Finally, our sincere thanks to Mrs. Felicity Littlelyde, who has worked so hard over the past year as Hon. Secretary of the Coaching Scheme. We hope that since she has had so much to do with the Scheme, we will continue to hear of her canoeing activities now she is no longer submerged with administrative work. On behalf of the BCU we thank her most warmly for all her efforts, and the excellent service she has rendered the Coaching Scheme.

**Sold out! Bound Volumes of Canoeing in Britain 1966.** Single mags still available at 1/9d post free, also Bound Volumes 1965 at 9/6d post free.

Canoeing in Britain, 11 Martindale Grove, Egglecliffe, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Bury Technical College, Bury, Lancs., at 6.45 p.m. on Saturday, 28th January, 1967. This was the first time that the A.G.M. had been held in conjunction with the National Canoe Conference and there is no doubt that it was a great success. The Manchester Canoe Club, the Northwest Regional Coaching panel and many others had put an enormous amount of hard work into the preparations for the Conference and the A.G.M. The Conference drew some 850 visitors most of whom were not members of the B.C.U.

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## BCU AGM Report

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The attendance at the A.G.M. itself was a little disappointing and only about 200 members were actually present. The President in opening the proceedings referred to the need for membership growth to strengthen our position with the Government, Local Authorities and other bodies. He emphasized the great work which had been done by the Coaching organisation and the B.C.U. County and Regional representatives.

In speaking to the Annual Report, the President regretted that, due to an administrative error, the B.C.U. Insurance Scheme report had been omitted. He wished to emphasize the Council's appreciation of the work of Mrs. Baker. The Hon. Treasurer then introduced the accounts and pointed out that there was a deficiency of £569 12s. This had arisen because the grant which we received from the Department of Education and Science for the year had been far less than we had expected. When the Council had considered the 1966 budget it had expected a deficit of £250 which would be met by the increase in grant for which we had hoped. Unfortunately, during the year additional expenses arose through our taking over a larger office at the Headquarters and for the first time we made a loss on the Coaching Scheme. Due to the difference between our financial year and that of the Government we do not know our grant until about July, and by this time we were committed to the additional expenditure. An appeal had been made to the Department of Education and Science, who had increased our grant for 1966/67 by £200 and now that a full time assistant had been engaged we were entitled to a further £75 for the quarter ending 31st March.

The results of the elections of Union Officers and Council were declared:—

President—J. W. Dudderidge, O.B.E.

Elected members of the Council—Messrs. J. Bright, R. Emes, Miss E. E. McLellan, Messrs. R. M. O'Keefe and L. Williams.

A postal vote had not been necessary because there had been insufficient candidates. D. Dancer was again elected as Hon. Auditor.

The meeting then considered the motions on the Agenda, and the Council motions making alterations to the Rules were carried by a substantial majority. Unfortunately, Mr. Law's police duties prevented his being present and there was no other supporter for his motion to reduce the subscription to 10/-. The President on behalf of the Council appealed for a period of stability and several members spoke against the proposals for one reason or another. The motion was defeated unanimously on a show of hands.

Mr. Emes then informed the meeting of the details of the Olympic Raffle by which he hoped to raise a large sum of money for the support of the Olympic Team. Any member willing to help sell tickets should get in touch with Mr. Emes either direct or through Headquarters office.

In closing the formal proceedings, the President referred to the great services of two members of the Council who were retiring this year through pressure of their own affairs. Rodney Baker, who had given 10 years' service to the Council, and acted as Hon. Secretary from 1959 to 1964, was now leaving London and would be unable to serve on the Council for the present. Major Bruce had given long service to the Council, particularly to the L.D. and Competition Committees. He had been chairman of the Competition Committee since its creation. He was now unable to continue work in the Council but would still be able to continue with the L.D. Committee.

After the formal meeting concluded, Awards of Honour were presented to Messrs G. Sanders, J. Spuhler and R. F. Tyas and the major trophies presented to the winners.

After the meeting a large number of members were able to attend a most enjoyable and much needed dinner at the Royal Hotel. The whole week-end set a very high standard which it is hoped will be repeated in the future.

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**Columnaris — do YOU disinfect your boat ?**

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**Contributions are needed for**

# canoeing in Britain

- Photos, reports, articles, news
- Next issue copy date May 10th.

## Touring Topics

Chris McAllister

### Future of the Guide to the Waterways

The latest edition of the Union's 'Guide' (the 4th to appear, and wonderful value at only 16/- from 26 Park Crescent) still contains some errors and inaccuracies which were in the 1960 edition, which was itself little changed from the 1951 edition. Nothing less than a complete re-writing of the present Guide is long overdue.

We have all read the Guide's description of our favourite rivers and noted errors and omissions; weirs which have disappeared; Grade III falls and rapids which are never mentioned (e.g. Castle Rock at Settle on the Ribble); incorrect mileages and notes on Gradings and techniques that are more appropriate to a pre-Duffek, pre-fibreglass age. We do not want to perpetuate these blemishes in the next edition of the Guide, but the task of correcting them river by river is too much for one person to tackle, especially if they are not brought to his notice. The Union must have the help of local experts, and the first task is to enlist the aid of Club secretaries in finding these people.

Then we have to decide what to put in and what to leave out. A great deal more is known about a great many more waterways than in 1951. We need not try to cover Ireland in such detail—the Irish are busy at work on their own Guide—but Scotland along with many other areas deserves more space than it gets in the present edition, and it would seem that material will be forthcoming to fill up all that extra space and more. The resulting Guide might well be twice the thickness and three times the price of the present volume. We doubt the wisdom of producing a Guide quite so elaborate and expensive as this, especially as the information given would be out of date very quickly.

One suggested solution is to split our touring information up among a number of publications instead of trying to fit all of it between the covers of a single volume. A completely revised 'Guide to the Waterways' would then appear, which would include many more waterways, but would not try to describe all of them in the same comprehensive detail. Many rapid rivers, canoeable only in spate water, and then preferably by canoeists using specialist equipment and technique, would be omitted, and the Guide would concentrate instead on giving accurate and comprehensive information on those waterways which are more suited to canoe touring in the real sense (i.e. expedition work, carrying camp-

ing gear) and which can be paddled all the year round.

### Regional Rapid River Guides ?

What about the rapid rivers? The idea is to produce a series of regional rapid river guides in a cheap inexpensive format. These would include very detailed information, and full notes on access. They could be revised easily, and brought up to date. For some areas, work on these is already under way; Colin Mortlock is preparing a Rapid River Guide to Central Wales, and the Leeds Canoe Club has been selling a Guide to the Yorkshire Rivers for the past year or so.

All this added together; the new Waterways Guide and the Regional Rapid River Guides amount to a mammoth undertaking of the kind that will not succeed, unless a great many canoeists up and down the country rally round and give the Union the benefit of their local knowledge and advice. Those who would like to help should write in the first place to: The Touring Secretary, 45 Lammas Park Road, London, W.5. Chris McAllister, of the Leeds Canoe Club, has undertaken the job of co-ordinating the work in the early stages.

### River Advisers' New Role

Some Touring Committee delegates complained that the impression they had of the Union's River Advisers was that they had a very negative function—that of simply telling canoeists that they could not use such and such a waterway. Nobody likes to take "No" for an answer, and because of this some members of the Union were ignoring the River Advisers and attempting to "Go it alone". But unless all canoeists voluntarily accept the discipline of the Union on these matters, the position in regard to River Access will get worse, not better. Colin Mortlock, River Adviser for the Upper Wye and its tributaries disagreed that the function of the advisers was bound to be negative, and said he found that because he lived in the area, he could take on the much more positive task of making personal contact with the landowners, etc., concerned—usually with favourable results. After discussing the matter, landowners and anglers who had previously tried to enforce a complete ban on all canoeing, often came round to see the sense of allowing paddlers to use a river in winter or in times of spate. The trouble was, however, canoeists living a distance away could not know when a river was going to be in spate.

### Water levels

Colin Mortlock is willing to supply information about the likely height of the rivers in his area to any canoeist who cares

to telephone him beforehand at Glasbury 272.

Chris McAllister, River Adviser for Yorkshire, is willing to do the same for canoeists who want to know the state of rivers in his area if they telephone him at Leeds 26701. He also said that full duplicated notesheets on these rivers (Tees, Swale, Ure, Nidd, Wharfe, Rye and Derwent) were available from him on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. His address is: C. E. McAllister, 11a Springfield Mount, Leeds 2. The Touring Committee hopes to extend this service to other areas as soon as possible.

## Rapid River Situation

### England & Wales

**Eden:** permission essential for several stretches.

**Lune, Leven, Yorkshire Pennine Rivers, Rye:** Canoeing restricted to certain times of year or water conditions.

**Ribble, Dee:** Serious objections; right of passage on Ribble not yet resolved.

**Derbyshire Derwent:** Permission unlikely above Darley Dale. Fishing objections for two miles below Cromford.

**Dove:** Not above Rocester.

**Upper Wye:** Avoid fishing season (spring and summer).

**Usk above Crickhowell:** Severe restrictions. Elsewhere, serious objections.

**Towy:** Objections increasing.

**Teifi, Upper Severn:** So far little difficulty.

**Devon Rivers, Hampshire Avon, Test:** Inadvisable at present.

### Scotland

No serious difficulty reported.

### Ireland

No difficulties (fishing often free); fine rapid rivers near Dublin and in the South. Advice from John Walsh, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow. (Touring Sec., Irish Canoe Union).

**GF Ban.** Bournemouth Education Committee have banned the use of glass fibre as a building material within their schools and youth clubs, pending an enquiry. Two reasons have been given—that glass fibre can cause dermatitis, and the risk of explosion or fire on authority property.

**Objection to Canoeing.** At the Canoe Conference a gentleman stated that he was being stopped from carrying his canoe down a public footpath by the landowner whose land the path crosses, at Nibthwaite, on the eastern shore of Lake Coniston. What is the legal position?

looking  
back  
at the

## CANOE CONFERENCE '67

The 1967 National Canoe Conference may have seemed just like the others—only bigger, with more lectures and exhibits, and with many more people, attendance statistics for the last three Canoe Conferences showing almost 100% increase for 1967 over 1965.

An estimated 850 people, B.C.U. members, local youth leaders and schoolchildren packed the halls and baths at Bury Technical College on Saturday, January 28th. A year's hard preparation by the B.C.U. Conference Committee in conjunction with Manchester Canoe Club, ably led by two of their leading officials, Edgar Whewell and Maurice Rothwell, had resulted in this first National Canoe Conference, held in conjunction with the B.C.U. A.G.M. The C.C.P.R. North-West Region and Bury Town Council all helped to make this occasion the first great success in the Canoeist's calendar for 1967.

The Mayor of Bury, introduced by our President, opened the Conference at 10 a.m. Early arrivors packed the Hall to hear him and to listen to Oliver Cock's subsequent lecture on Learning to Canoe. Being able to run the Canoe Conference with the A.G.M. meant that many specialists in the B.C.U. could be roped in to give lectures, thus the organiser could have as many as four lectures and demonstrations going on at the same time.

The lectures were not only for the populace of the North and Midlands wishing to be initiated into the art of canoeing. There were also specialist discussions and lectures; the Safety Panel not only thoroughly aired the Life-jacket question (with certain unnamed Competitive Canoeists saying Life-jackets were all baloney!) but brought to light other important topics such as winter clothing.

Films rounded off the formal Canoe Conference, before the A.G.M. This gave time for the B.C.U. members to foregather and for the non-B.C.U. man—and prospective member, to look round the exhibits before wending his way home through the football crowds returning from Bury and Bolton matches. From the point of view of the Trade exhibitor, it seemed that the Canoe Conference had been worth the trek up to Bury, for not only were the stands full of prospective customers on the Saturday, but also those B.C.U. Committee members in Conference on Sunday were able to see the latest designs in Canadian and Kayak.



World Class Czech C2 paddlers, Jirina and Josef Sedivc, out on the water at a slalom weekend at Hambledon. Aquaphoto.

### **B.C.U. Olympic Training Fund**

The British Canoe Union have always experienced difficulties in providing sufficient money for Olympic training, but the problems of the past pale into insignificance when compared with those involved with the preparation of canoeists for the Olympic Games in Mexico City, 1968.

At the A.G.M., Ron Emes asked for volunteers to sell the Easter draw tickets for the B.C.U. Olympic Training Fund to raise £1,000. Anyone interested in supporting this cause should write now to R. Emes, 147 Gravelly Hill, Erdington, Birmingham 23. Prizes include Moulton Bicycle, Gold Wrist Watch, Tape Recorder, etc. etc., all for 1/-, winners notified by post, draw 27th March.

### **C.C.P.R.**

The C.C.P.R. runs many courses each year for beginners, leaders, instructors, coaches experienced canoeists etc. See B.C.U. Calendar for dates, write to C.C.P.R., 26/29 Park Crescent, London, W.1 for details.

### **Canoeing Courses**

**Association formed.** On 27th January representatives from schools in the North Riding formed a Schools Canoeing and Sailing Association with a view to co-ordinating canoeing activity which is going from strength to strength in the Riding. A nucleus of teachers owning sailing boats are to be asked to try and attend a week-end to start off sailing in the schools.

**Wharfe Week-end.** Well over 20 canoeists were on the Wharfe at the start of the first combined club cruise on 18th-19th February. Manchester, Leeds and West Yorks members attended in strength, to canoe and as support party. They began at Conistone, with the sun shining weakly, ice on the banks and snow on Great Whernside in the distance. Everyone was "with it", Conistone Fall being shot by all but two of the party, Ghaistrill's by the majority, and the lower half of Linton Mill Weir by half a dozen "tigers".

After this, because one's senses become sub-normal in cold water, Loup Scar Rapid was child's play, being shot by everyone, even a pure beginner on his first cruise.



# LETTERS

## Seal Hunting

Dear Sir,

The following members of the Windsor and District Canoe Club would like to express their disgust at Chris Hare's proposal to start seal hunting by kayak round the coasts of Britain. Eskimos kill these creatures for food and clothing, others kill to protect their fishing interests, but to kill seals for pure sport is sickening, especially when one considers the method used.

British canoeists are not brought up from childhood to hunt seals, and one can well imagine the number of wounded seals that would be swimming free whilst Chris Hare and comrades were learning their gory sport.

I am sure that Chris Hare would find hunting with a camera much more of a challenge than hunting with a harpoon and a small bore rifle, and I am certain that he would also find his audiences much more appreciative.

Chris Hazell, Dave Watts, Bob Clarke, Paula Braybrooke, Graham Snell, David Hedges, Jim Sibley, Mike Crossman.

. . . I am surprised that a magazine of any stature and integrity should give advertisement to so horrid a sport, with no qualifying statement of any sort other than the usual disclaimer. Surely canoeists could find some better and more rewarding way to spend their spare time, other than organized killings of these charming animals, in the name, to quote Mr. Hare again, of "Seal Hunting Fever" . . .

Kathleen Totty.

*(It is appreciated that the subject is controversial, but it is my policy to print articles which I believe to be of general interest, and in this context, contributors are free to expand on their experiences and opinions. Readers are equally free to form and express their own criticisms, moral or otherwise.—Ed.)*

Chris Hare replies:—

*As the Windsor letter seems to sum up the feelings of a number of people, perhaps I can clarify the various points raised.*

*Firstly, we intend to do as the Greenlanders (Eskimos) and hunt the seal for its food and fur. I can assure you that seal meat is palatable and the liver delicious, and whose wife objects to a fur coat? I also see this as a step in the direction of the*

*canoeist touring the coasts and living off the sea rather than carrying thousands of tins and manufactured food.*

*Secondly, "when one considers the method used". This presupposes the writers are familiar with the other methods used in seal hunting throughout the world, which of course they are not, for the method described is one of the more humane systems. I agree that my own first attempt described in the article was not perhaps as they would have wished it, however as in most truthful recordings of life it does not always have the fictional happy end. It is not usual to wound the seal, this was the result of my own inexperience, it is normally killed as I recorded earlier in the article.*

*I have had some constructive correspondence with John P. Kendall, of London, on the matter of the weapon used and he suggests that a shotgun of 16 or 12 bore loaded with either Special SG., SSG. or AAA., would be adequate for a seal up to 50 yards. Normal shooting distance for a hunt is about 20 yards anyway. I think that for the learner hunter this type of armament would be a good idea, however it would make it much easier to capsize (remember you are in a kayak!). The learner could then graduate to a .22 and harpoon.*

*Third point, as to the number of wounded seals swimming free while I and my friends are learning the sport. There will be none. I have learned and profited by my own experience which will be passed on to others. We will hunt in pairs and have agreed on a number of points which we feel will eliminate the possibility of a wounding and escape.*

*Fourthly, I have over a long period hunted animals by camera and challenging though it was, it was not so challenging as my first seal hunt. Big game hunting from a kayak in Great Britain is a practical and exciting proposition, and when one considers the bull seal, which is the specie we intend to restrict our hunting to, could weigh 6 to 8 hundredweight, the odds are not going all one way!*

*Mrs. Totty's comments are of course part of a longer screed, but I fail to see why the magazine should print only what she prefers to read.*

*Finally, if these people do feel as they report why did they not attend the B.C.U. A.G.M. as two other objectors did and discuss the matter with me? We publicised the fact that I would be there with the Greenland seal hunting equipment.*

more LETTERS on P. 12

Please note that Mrs Joan Baker has moved to Sheffield, and BCU Insurance business is now transacted from :

62 Rupert Road, Sheffield 7, Yorks.

# Around the clubs



Has it always been your secret ambition to paddle a K4? It has been for a number of EXETER C.C. bods and now it is likely to come true, for they have acquired a Rowing Four. It is being stripped of all offending gear and turned into a K4. It has already been tried out and it sure does move. The Rowing Club have given them a challenge for the Regatta — should be interesting. Who does your money go on?



BIRMINGHAM C.C. chairman relates how recently they gave cause for complaint by leaving "Litter" in their best liked stretches of a river: "This was the occasion of the loss of a canoe wrecked in the Downton Gorge—our first total loss so far as I can remember, yet on the theory 'What goes down must come up' some of us (and I was one!) should have foreseen the sequel . . . the wreck drifting to the bank . . . the look of horror on the passer-by's face . . . 999 . . . frantic searching, dragging, dredging for miles around. A timely word to the local police station could have prevented their fruitless and frustrating efforts, yet NOBODY thought about it. Well, we live and learn, so next time a canoe, life jacket, clothes bag, or pair of paddles go to a watery grave, we all know what to do—in addition to saving a lot of worthy people a lot of time and trouble, you also stand a good chance of being rewarded by getting your lost property returned!"



Inter-University Competition. Robin Lees, of Peterhouse College, CAMBRIDGE, would be glad to hear from other interested Universities with regard to canoe competition this year.

PENZANCE C.C. groups inform us that they have in 1966, canoed round Lands End and the Longships lighthouse.



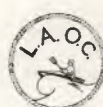
WINDSOR C.C. have bought one of the first production C2's made by K.W. Despite being any a few months old, this canoe has already capsized on the Dee, stood on end at Hambleton, and capsized and rolled many times in the

baths and river. Having started on the ground floor, as it were, of C2'ing, they hope to go rapidly up the ladder of success in the coming season.

John Lloyd comments, "Congratulations to the organisers of this year's B.C.U. A.G.M., especially on the catering. Really more Southerners should make the effort to go. What a crowded week-end! Canoeing in the baths (just the thing after a heavy bacon-and-egg breakfast!); exhibits; talks; films; technical meetings; a first class dinner, and, of course, the endless canoe talk—and how we can!"



A note from LINCOLN C.C. points out that they have won the Hasler Trophy for the third successive year, the first time any club has done this. Well done, Lincoln!



The LEICESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CANOEISTS has joined forces with the Wigston C.C., to form a combined club. They intended to "do" the Channel Isles this summer.



A record attendance of 50 members at the A.G.M. of the LEEDS C.C. heard the Committee report that 1966 had been a record year; and with 70 members already paid up for 1967, the coming season looks like being even better. The Friday night training sessions at Kirkstall Road Swimming Baths are more popular than ever; so much so that efforts are in hand to lease a bigger swimming pool, or a bath with two pools.

The Leeds Club also has a reputation as an organiser of big, successful slalom competitions which run like clockwork, such as Grandtully and Appletreewick, and has got itself the nickname of 'The Witter Machine'. We mention this in passing, because, since the Bury Conference, some have had the mistaken notion that the Witter Machine was a kind of clockwork C2.



The ROYAL CANOE CLUB reports that at the end of the year total membership stood at 208, a net increase of 32 during the year. It is aimed to reach a total of 300 members by 1969.

At the boat-house at the Royal C.C., there are four club owned K.2's and five privately owned. With the sprint and L.D. season upon us, will it be possible to have all these complete with crews at one meeting? This surely would be a record—9 K.2's from one club.

# 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.  
(Phone: 01-580 4710)

**Treasurer:** Ted Owen, 138 Cubbington Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Warks. (Leamington Spa 22954)

**Touring (Home):** Ralph Tyas, 19 Pine Hill, Epsom, Surrey. (Epsom 21665)

**Touring (Abroad):** Miss E. E. McLellan, 9 Downsway, Sanderstead, Surrey. (SANDerstead 4692)

**Public Relations:** Peter Rogers, 553 Romford Road, London E.7. (Grangewood 4295)

**"C in B" Editor:** Jack Levison, 11 Martindale Grove, Eggescliffe, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham.

**"C in B" Advertisements:** Chris Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, West Hartlepool, Co. Durham. (Hartlepoons 66339)

**Slalom:** Julian Shaw, 4 Greenside, Edgcumbe Park, Crowthorne, Berks.

**L.D.R.:** John Woolley, 25 Binswood Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warks.

**Sprint Racing:** R. A. Sowman, 4 Landor Road, The Cape, Warwick.

**B.C.U. Supplies:** Capt. A. R. Kennedy, C.B.E., 26/29 Park Crescent, London W.1.

**Sailing:** Peter Wells, 55 Arnison Road, E. Molesey, Surrey.

**Coaching:** Capt. A. R. Kennedy, 26/29 Park Crescecent, London W.1.

**Youth Championships:** Geoff Law, 18 Kings Head Hill, London E.4.

**National Coach:** Oliver Cock, "Rivertrees," Wargrave Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

**Sprint & L.D.R. Coach:** David Green, 2 Highfield Road, Impington, Cambridge.

**Film Officer:** Maurice Rothwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester 10.

**Insurance:** Mrs. Joan Baker, 62 Rupert Road, Sheffield 7, Yorks.

**Scottish Canoe Association:** D. R. Winning, 1 Ashburn Gardens, Gourrock, Renfrewshire.

**Canoe Association of Northern Ireland:** S. A. Littlewood, 22 Dillons Avenue, Newton-abbey, Co. Antrim.

**Irish Canoe Union:** Derek Martin, "Derreen", Barnhill Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

**Irish Touring Enquiries:** John Walsh, Bagenalstown, Co. Carlow, Ireland.

For names and addresses of **RIVER ADVISERS**, see the 1967 BCU Canoeing Calendar enclosed with this issue.



## News from the

Scottish / Canoe Association

"The Association is in good heart, and capable of serving as the National Governing Body of the Sport of Canoeing in Scotland," so writes Caroline H. Stevenson, S.C.A. President in her Annual Report.

The National Open Youth Championships and the Scottish Canoe Association Regatta were well supported and held in splendid weather. The Youth Championship winners went to the finals at Bedford and performed with credit to the Association, gaining a second in individual competition and a third in the relay event. Their Honorary President was present at the Regatta to congratulate the winners. He was later seen afloat both with and without a canoe.

Alistair Wilson and Marianne Tucker have been awarded Usher Star Awards in the Usher/Vaux Sportsman and Sports-woman of the Year Competition.

## NYC 1967 Youth Championships

1. It has been agreed that the Army should hold separate area heats.
2. The National Youth Championship finals are to be held in conjunction with the L.D.R. International Race on 2nd-3rd September.
3. Distances for boys and girls are to be 250 m. in area heats and finals.
4. The areas are to be rearranged to conform to local education areas.
5. A single design of boat is to be introduced. David Green will prepare the specification.
6. A coaching scheme is to be introduced for training suitable coaches and youngsters.

The Long Distance Racing Committee's administrative difficulties have now been settled. John Woolley remains as secretary, with Martin Boshier as Assistant Secretary. Allan Witham, 16 William Road, West Bridgeford, Notts., takes over as Competitive Secretary. Names and addresses of the present administrative officers have been circulated to clubs.

## Slalom Round-up

The Slalom season this year, with the World Championships in June, and Great Britain at least standing a good chance of being in the medals, is a most important one. What a boost for the sport if we could again boast a World Champion or champions. In preparation for the new season most of the manufacturers have brought out new models. John Critchley has the Cougar, the Canoe Centre the S.L. 7 kayak and the superb looking Vivak C.2, and Vardy has introduced a new lightweight slalom kayak to his range of racing boats built on the principle of a plywood monocoque hull reinforced with fibreglass. Streamlyte Mouldings are continuing with last year's models. Most of the boats were on show at the A.G.M. in Bury and were tried out in the baths.

As slaloms start again so the White Water races finish and Dave Mitchell looks like becoming our first National Champion in this branch of the sport. At the time of writing one Dee race remains to complete the programme, but Dave has been unbeaten throughout the winter. Unfortunately, of the eight ranking races only the second Dee race was in really high water. The other races on the Dee, Tees and Usk were nevertheless exciting, and were in the main well attended, showing the increasing popularity of this side of our activities.

At the last slalom committee meeting, Maurice Rothwell and Julian Shaw were elected to continue as Chairman and Secretary, but there has been quite a shake-up within the executive committee. Dave Mitchell, Ken Langford, Robin Lees and Robin Witter were all voted on to join the wise heads of Jack Spuhler, Margaret Belford, Alan Sharples and Ian Pendleton, who have served on this committee for some years.

The selection committee met afterwards and agreed not to name the final World Championship team until after the International Slalom at Zwickau in May for which a team has already been nominated. They have now included Heather Goodman and Pauline Squires in that team—congratulations to them both. Heather's selection seems almost automatic, but to Pauline, who has improved so markedly over the last twelve months, and who always competes so determinedly, this is a just reward for the hard work and training she has put in. The selectors have also been very impressed at the rapid improvement in several C.2 pairs, and may consider including a Canadian double for Zwickau. They have deferred a final decision until after the Grandtully slalom. This improvement has been mainly due to the presence of

Josef and Jirina Sedivc in this country, who have been so willing to demonstrate Canadian technique.

Also in Bury during the A.G.M. weekend was Zdenek Valenta, triple C.2 World Champion with Miristlav Stach. He wasted no time in getting changed and into the baths, and spent a lot of time instructing. Now the Editor of Canoeing has had a letter from another Czechoslovakian Canadian paddler wanting to come to Britain for his holidays and to do some canoeing.

Slalom canoeing is a growing sport with considerable potential as a public spectacle, at present few people outside of the canoeing fraternity seem to realise its existence. Rodney Witter has ideas about this and has agreed to take on the job of external publicity, to try to rectify the position. Job one—to try and get National Press coverage for our major Div. I slaloms. (After all, it is a sport, isn't it?). Rodney would be very pleased to hear from anyone with ideas, or contacts, or any club trying to arrange Press or T.V. coverage for their event.

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## LETTERS

Dear Sir,

I would like to draw your readers' attention to the weakness of one type of well known canoe trailer.

The trailer is of the type with two upright posts (with crossarms) welded to a base plate and then bolted to the main chassis member. The upright posts, if not well braced, oscillate when towing, and the weld fails through metal fatigue.

This happened to me whilst towing six canoes to the River Loire last summer on a trailer that was only one year old. Both uprights had failed together, and one of the bottom canoes was badly damaged as a result of this.

Yours sincerely,

P. A. WILLIAMS,

Senior Scout Leader,  
3rd Orpington Group.

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### Bookshelf

**WAVEOLOGY.** Alan W. Byde. Well known for his usual easy-to-read style, the author here tackles a difficult subject. The abundantly illustrated script is the result of a talk he gave at the Crystal Palace and frankly if you were not there, then it will not be easy to read. In breaking this new ground an attempt has been made to relate wave size, speed of wind, etc., to what the canoeist would find dangerous. Definitely one for the enthusiast.

Rating★★★



Pauline Squires from Coventry C.C. out on the rough water at a recent slalom training weekend on the Thames. Aquaphoto.

HASLER TROPHY 1966	Points
1. Lincoln C.C.	187
2. Nomads C.C.	174
3. Southampton C.C.	160
4. Royal C.C.	114
5. Harlow C.C.	105
6. (Dewsbury A.C.	81
6. (Warrington Sea Scouts C.C.	81
6. (Viking C.C.	76
8. (J.L.R.E. Dover	76
10. Maker with Rame C.C.	69

TEES RACE	20 Nov. 1966
<u>Racing Type.</u>	
1. C.J.Hawkesworth, Leeds C.2.	19.07
1. Rodney/Robin Witter Leeds/B'ingham Univ.	22.13
<u>Slalom Type.</u>	
1. A. T. Young, W.Yorks.	20.00
2. D. Swift, Leeds	20.28
3. (G. Dawson, Sunderland	20.58
3. (K. Jenkinson, Leeds	20.58

DEE RAPID RIVER RACES	13 Nov.
<u>Dec I.</u>	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	85.2
2. C. Skellern, Worcester	88.5
3. K. Langford, Manchester C.2.	90.0
<u>Decs</u>	
1. Robin & Rodney Witter, Leeds/B'ingham Univ.	880
2. J.Hacloed & C.Hawkesworth, Manchester	975
<u>Team Event.</u>	
1. Manchester	770
2. Chester	778
3. Worcester	856
<u>Dec II.</u>	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	89.0
2. C. Skellern, Worcester	91.5
3. K. Langford, Manchester	91.9
<u>Dec III.</u>	
1. D. Mitchell, Chester	86.0
2. C. Skellern, Worcester	88.2
3. K. Langford, Manchester	91.2
<u>Canadian Doubles.</u>	
1. R & M Powell, Worcester	990
2. R & R Witter, Leeds/B'ham U	1000
3. Haberdashers School	1240
<u>Canadian Single.</u>	
R. Gays, L.A.O.C.	1147

## Canoe Plans Takeover

The "Canoeing Publications" Plans Service is now under new management. Just after Christmas Brian Skilling decided that increasing demands on his time, coupled with his printer withdrawing the dyeline service, had forced him to close the Canoe Plans Service down.

David Andrews, Steven Benn and Dick Gays have now taken over, on behalf of the BCU, and all profit not paid out as designers Royalties will go to BCU funds.

Council has promised full support for the scheme, but has made it quite clear that there must be no suggestion that the plans produced are the only "recommended" ones, and that the BCU accepts no responsibility for the correctness of the plans or for the stability of any canoe built according to them.

The service will operate under the name of "Canoe Plans" and all enquiries should be sent to 55 Conaglen Road, Aylestone, Leicester.

The aims of the service are :

To make available plans from which the home constructor, school group or canoe club can easily make a variety of canoes and canoeing accessories to fulfil every need, specialising in plans for the types of canoe and equipment not readily available from any other source.

Designers are invited to submit details of any canoe or equipment they have developed, for consideration.

They hope to have available shortly line drawings for a White Water Racing Kayak and a new Baths Boat.



# Times of high tides, London Bridge 1967

G.M. Time. Add Summer Time.

	MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE			JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER				
	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H	Aft	M	H
Breanhead	1	5:58	18 22	1	6:42	18 50	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30	1	8:30	20 30		
Blyth	2	5:53	17 23	2	7:51	19 50	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56	2	10:20	22 56		
Boston	3	6:17	18 51	3	9:20	21 31	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55	3	10:44	22 55		
Bowling, Clyde	4	7:12	19 52	4	10:21	22 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54	4	11:33	23 54		
Brewwater	5	8:30	21 16	5	11:37	23 51	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56	5	12:22	24 56		
Brighton	6	10:8	22 46	6	13:14	25 11	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16	6	14:18	26 16		
Bristol, King Road	7	11:30	23 57	7	14:11	26 11	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16	7	15:15	27 16		
Broughty Ferry	8	12:54	25 11	8	15:23	27 26	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31	8	16:27	28 31		
Budehaven	9	1:33	14 35	9	4:21	16 41	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46	9	5:25	17 46		
Budehaven	10	2:39	15 32	10	5:27	17 43	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48	10	6:31	18 48		
Buchanness	11	3:45	16 29	11	6:33	18 38	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43	11	7:37	19 43		
Bull's Mouth	12	4:51	17 26	12	7:39	19 25	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30	12	8:43	20 30		
Burntisland	13	5:57	18 13	13	8:45	20 12	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17	13	9:49	21 17		
Burntisland	14	7:03	19 00	14	9:51	21 00	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05	14	10:55	22 05		
Burry Port (Llanelli)	15	8:09	19 47	15	10:57	21 46	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51	15	12:01	22 51		
Call Sound	16	9:15	20 34	16	11:53	22 33	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38	16	12:57	23 38		
Call Sound	17	10:21	21 21	17	12:59	23 20	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25	17	14:03	24 25		
Campbeltown	18	11:27	22 08	18	13:55	24 07	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12	18	15:07	25 12		
Campbeltown	19	12:33	22 55	19	15:01	24 54	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00	19	16:13	26 00		
Cardif	20	1:39	23 42	20	16:07	25 41	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46	20	17:19	26 46		
Cardif	21	2:45	24 29	21	17:13	26 28	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33	21	18:25	27 33		
Cardif	22	3:51	25 16	22	18:07	27 15	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20	22	19:19	28 20		
Cardif	23	4:57	26 03	23	19:01	28 02	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07	23	20:13	29 07		
Cardif	24	6:03	26 50	24	20:55	28 49	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54	24	22:07	29 54		
Cardif	25	7:09	27 37	25	21:39	29 36	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41	25	22:51	30 41		
Cardif	26	8:15	28 24	26	22:23	30 27	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32	26	23:35	31 32		
Cardif	27	9:21	29 11	27	23:09	31 14	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19	27	24:21	32 19		
Cardif	28	10:27	29 58	28	23:55	32 01	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04	28	25:07	33 04		
Cardif	29	11:33	30 45	29	24:41	32 43	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46	29	25:49	33 46		
Cardif	30	12:39	31 32	30	25:27	33 22	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31	30	26:35	34 31		
Cardif	31	1:45	32 19	31	26:13	34 07	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00	31	27:21	35 00		

Tidal predictions for London Bridge are supplied by the University of Liverpool, Tidal Institute and Observatory, copyright reserved.

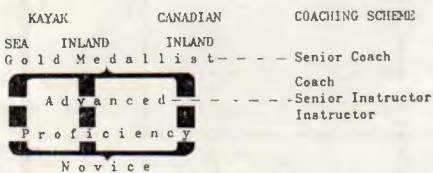
\* denotes very approximate values.

## My Column – Oliver Cock

So many people have asked me such surprising questions about the Coaching Scheme that I think it would be a good idea if I devoted this Column to describing what it is all about and how it works.

First and foremost it is aimed at assisting the beginner, at enabling the recreational canoeist to become more proficient, and at helping him to become proficient at his chosen competition should he so desire. It is run by a committee consisting of a Chairman, a Secretary, myself (ex officio), a representative of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, a Senior Coach and/or Organiser from each of our Regions (which are planned to match the C.C.P.R. Regions as much as possible) and a representative from each of our Competitive Committees. This body, besides running the Scheme, is also directly responsible for grant-aid, both for running the scheme and also to our teams, whether for coaching them or sending them abroad.

One of the difficulties of our sport is its immense ramifications. So many people, devoted to one section, imagine that theirs is the be-all and end-all of it, and that, therefore, everybody else must subscribe to it. This is unfair. It may be the be-all and end-all to them; but in an earlier Column I have said that we are all different. Must one do exactly the same as another? That is a nonsense! Right at the beginning one has to make a choice, so let us draw a little diagram to see what confronts a beginner.



This diagram shows only the recreational side of canoeing. A novice can, if he likes, step straight into his canoe and go out racing, or slaloming; but he is doing it the hard way. It would profit him at least to learn how to canoe first.

You will see that the novice starts with having to make a choice: by which of the three lanes is he going to proceed; a kayak at sea, or inland, or a Canadian inland? (A Canadian is not really a sea-going canoe. It cannot face the rough seas that the kayak can handle). His test is one which allows him to make his choice. After this, to pass his tests he must specialize. At each stage he gets a lapel badge; at the Proficiency stage it is bronze, and at the

Advanced stage it is silver. If he achieves all three silver badges he gets a gold badge—and deserves it!

Now let us look at the Coaching Scheme, and I must immediately underline an anomaly of the English language. 'Coach' can mean either 'teacher', 'tutor' or 'trainer'. Just now we are regarding the word as meaning 'teacher'.

The Instructor has passed his Proficiency Test, can teach up to that standard, and can examine Novices.

The Senior Instructor has passed his Proficiency Test, and is up to (but has not necessarily passed) the Advanced Test. He can teach to advanced standards, and can examine in the Proficiency Test, and Instructors.

The Coach has passed his Advanced Test, can examine for it, and can examine Senior Instructors and below. As well as this he must know more than the rudiments of the competitions, so that if asked he can organise one of them or start people off in them.

The Senior Coach is on a par with the Gold Medallist, and is a gentleman to be reckoned with. He, obviously, can examine everybody else, and will be able at least to help the competitor in his training.

Beside and above this there are the four competitions with their representatives on the Committee: Sprint Racing, Long Distance Racing, Slalom and Sailing. Each Committee can run its own, internal coaching scheme and most of them do; but here 'coaching' means 'training'. The work is not at all the same as 'teaching'. An 'ordinary' recreational-type canoeist can go into competition whenever he likes and he will then be taken over by a trainer.

But somebody will query the presence of the C.C.P.R. representative. He is there because that body has the entrée into the Educational World, and this is the world that I as National Coach have mostly to deal with. Besides, the C.C.P.R. in its rôle as Counsellor gets asked questions, and we have the answers.

In all this I have deliberately kept away from detail. If you want to know the details of the Tests, or the examinations for the coaches' awards, the Coaching Secretary has them all nicely printed out. Write to him, and he will be glad to provide you with a copy.

Any competitor who competes in a canoe, which is an obvious copy of a manufacturer's design, will be liable to disqualification at a slalom or white water event. Canoes at the events will be scrutinised and obvious copies will be referred to the Protest Committee.



## SECRETARY'S NOTES

### Rights of Canoeists on Waterways

Have you written to your M.P. about canoeists' rights? If not, please see your Club secretary about this.

### BCU Headquarters, 26 Park Crescent

The Headquarters has taken over the responsibility for the administration of the Coaching Scheme. Please note the telephone number is now:

**01-580 4710**

The old number still works as well for the present.

### BCU Organisation

If you have paid your 1967 subscription you should by now have received a BCU Rule Book. If you have not done so please let us know. Many members appear to be uncertain about the organisation of the BCU Council and Committees. May I draw your attention to the description of the Council and its Committees which are contained in the Rule Book as follows:

**Rules 39-41**—these describe Council.

**Rule 71**—This allows the Council to establish Standing Committees to conduct the current affairs of the Union. The main Committees which have been established are:

- (a) **General Purposes Committee** which deals with finance, general administration and touring and coaching matters;
- (b) **Competitive Committee** which co-ordinates the activities of all the racing committees.
- (c) **Access Committee** which deals with the campaign to obtain more rights for canoeists on privately owned water and

- for more access to waterways generally.
- (d) Other ad-hoc Committees are established from time to time.

**Rules 72-78** describe the Technical Committees and their membership. It is worth noting that all Clubs who qualify under Rule 12 can send members to any Technical Committee in which they are interested and that each Technical Committee itself elects two members to Council. Thus any club which has a matter to raise can do so through the appropriate Technical Committee.

### BCU Membership

From the Club reports received we have calculated that there are some 13,000 members of affiliated clubs. This figure does not include groups affiliated to canoeing Associations. In 1966 we had only 3,532 individual members, many of whom are not members of affiliated Clubs. Club officials are requested to have a drive on getting more BCU individual members.

There are probably more than 50,000 canoeists in the country, which would be quite a strong body if they would only get together and support the BCU.

### Canoeing in Britain

Canoeing in Britain is only being despatched to those who have paid their 1967 subscription. If you have any friends who complain that they have not received their copy, ask them if they are fully paid up.

### Vacancy for Assistant Secretary

Miss Dudderidge leaves us early in March. If any canoeist with typing, shorthand, filing and general office experience would like to work in London, please get in touch with the General Secretary as soon as possible.

## BASIC SKILLS

Copies of the new film "The Basic Skills" can be purchased for £50 in 16 mm. colour with optical sound or reduction copies for £36 in 8 mm. with magnetic sound.

**Made by the National Coach**, it contains a brief survey of the potentialities of canoeing and explains in detail the basic methods of handling the canoe on and off the water, how to paddle it backwards and forwards and how to manoeuvre it. It finishes again with the expert illustrating all the manoeuvres and how to cope in minor emergencies, such as a capsized. The film is a "must" for anyone wishing to learn how to canoe.

Purchase from C. M. Rothwell, 21, Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester 10. Hirings from the British Film Institute, 42-43, Lower Marsh, London, S.E.1., whose recent change of address should be noted.

## Sprint Racing News

**Awards:** Dexter Trophy—J. Roberts, Oxford R.C.; Unwin Bowl—A. Wilson, Ayrshire K.R.C.; Farnham Cup — A. Wilson, Ayrshire K.R.C.; Richards Cup—J. Rowell, Ayrshire K.R.C.; Femina Trophy—Miss S. Jackson, Royal C.C.; Thistle Cup — Not rated; Lightcraft Trophy—To be decided; MacGregor Paddle—Richmond C.C.

**Promotions (to Senior):** J. Roberts (Oxford R.C.); J. Rowell (Ayrshire K.R.C.); M. Boshier (Royal C.C.); A. Kirkby (Royal C.C.); N. J. Lilley (Lincoln C.C.); A. Miller (Harlow C.C.).

**To Junior:** M. Whitby (Richmond C.C.); I. Balfour (Nomads C.C.); A. Laws (Lincoln C.C.); F. Royle (Lincoln C.C.); M. Giddings (Richmond C.C.).

## MINI-CANOES

To all but a rhinoceros it must be obvious that the only place to learn to roll is the swimming baths—in this country anyway. Canoeing in the baths presents certain basic problems. First of all try getting an eskimo kayak of up to 18 ft. through a swing door and round two corners of 180° or so. Having achieved this imagine the face of the baths superintendent when sand, seaweed, dead leaves, soil and polystyrene float to the surface of the water after a couple of rolls. No wonder rolling courses are hard to come by.

To overcome these problems in this 'mini' age, we now have the 'mini' canoe. There are several being made by leading canoe manufacturers. They measure from about

8'6" to 11' long according to make and beams are scaled accordingly. There are kits and ready mades for reasonable prices. There are baths boats for both adults and children; they roll and manoeuvre well and can also be looped by rapid acceleration up the pool. They are not too stable either; avoiding giving the beginner a false sense of security.

This new type of canoe will certainly fill a long-felt need, provided the sponsors of rolling canoes will outlay the necessary capital to obtain and maintain a fleet of these boats specifically for baths work.

Details of various mini-canoes can be obtained from Canoe Plans (55, Conaglen Road, Aylestone, Leicester); Avoncraft; Ottersports and Solent Canoe Centre.

## SURFING WEEK AT BUDE 1967

September 9-17  
inclusive

The arrangements for this Week will this year be somewhat different from the past.

**PURPOSE.** The Week is arranged so that people who already have some experience of canoeing in surf can improve their technique in the most difficult conditions that can be found on the beaches of this island. Study can also be made of using a canoe in life saving work, and an examination can also be made of other possibilities in this field.

**SAFETY.** The Week will be under the supervision of Mr Oliver Cock, the National Coach, as usual. Those attending will be required to observe the strictest discipline concerning safety precautions, so essential under the conditions which usually prevail. Everybody will be required to read and sign the Rules of Safety which have been drawn up specially for this event.

**GALA.** A Competition Gala will be held on Sunday afternoon, 17th September. If so, these will be run off on Saturday afternoon, the 16th and on Sunday morning. Therefore all entries will have had to be put in by Saturday at noon.

**ACCOMMODATION.** The camp site is moved this year to that of Bude Caravans Ltd., where we are promised a field private to ourselves. Details of how to get to this site will be sent to all those who announce their intention of attending. Local Hotel accommodation is available for those who prefer it, but such people are asked to make their own arrangements.

**ELIGIBILITY.** All taking part MUST be good swimmers, and should bring their own canoes and full equipment. Conditions of acceptance are that all members MUST be able to roll and should have had some previous experience in surf. Canoes MUST be of a white water type and should be packed to capacity with buoyancy. Applicants should indicate ability and experience on their applications.

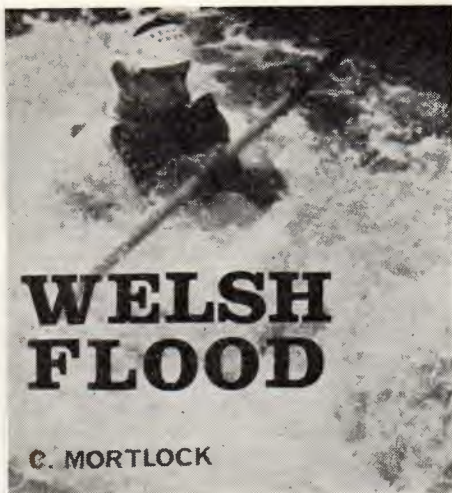
**FEES.** The charges for the Week are given in the table below:—

	BCU mbrs.	Non- mbrs.
Adults (per 24 hrs.)	3/-	3/6
Juniors (under 19) (per 24 hrs.)	2/-	2/6
Non-campers (per day)	2/-	2/-
'Camp Followers' (per 24 hrs.)	2/-	2/-
(not small children under 7).		

**Note:**—BCU membership number MUST be given. These fees will be collected on the camp site.

The entry fee for the Gala will be 2/6d. per head, and will be collected with the entry form. Any number of events may be entered in the Gala.

All applications should be made in the first place to Mr Oliver J. Cock, at 'River-trees', Wargrave Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon., who will send enquirers full particulars of the situation of the camp and of the week. Entry forms for the Gala will be obtainable at Bude.



# WELSH FLOOD

C. MORTLOCK

Photo: W. J. Richmond.

January. Almost continuous rain for a week. Fates had conspired for some eventful canoeing as the nucleus of the C.U.C.C., had come to stay a few days with me at Glasbury-on-Wye. While I worked teaching canoeing to beginners, they 'warmed up' on the Upper Wye Gorge, Upper Usk and Towi. My free day arrived. The five of us drove to the White Water race section of the Usk.

As we donned our bizarre canoe gear at Talybont bridge I felt a distinct sign of foreboding. Beneath the bridge the Usk flowed quietly, but it was a dirty brown and moving fast. My imagination concerning the Mill Fall and Spuhler's Folly section left me quietly shuddering. There was a good six foot flood at the bridge.

Once on the water I still felt uneasy. The miles shot by effortlessly until suddenly we were at Mill Fall. Mike and the others disappeared down to the extreme left of the island. As I helplessly followed I realised that I was on an enormous standing wave. Terror . . . Panic . . . I capsized. Tried to roll. Came up. No time to think. Fight, the water. Must stay upright through these vicious waves. River going like an express train. No rocks or stoppers, just very large waves. Everything brown flecked with white surf. As I glanced at the others in front I thought of a battlefield and feelings of survival. Everyone seemed to be paddling hard trying to keep the canoes pointing down river.

Gradually I tried to relax, remembering that it was the key to efficient recovery strokes. Through the very heavy rapid on the left bend above Llangyndir bridge the canoes were tossed about like flotsam. The centre arch of the bridge loomed up suddenly, and then we were through on the right like corks out of a bottle.

Below the bridge a succession of angled standing waves tried to batter us off our route. Timing of our paddling kept the boats generally on course. Spuhler's Folly somewhere down here. Where's it gone? That must be it where Mike disappeared through a wall of water. No fall here. Just a giant standing wave with breaking crest. Lindsay goes up the crest—upturns dramatically. Steve and canoe repeat the act. "I'm canoeing uphill." Terror. No. "Relax". Crest submerges me in a deluge of water. "This is it". I try two quick recovery strokes and, amazed, I am sliding down the other side of the wave upright. Relief.

Steve and Lindsay and one canoe thrown up on the bank. "Thank God they are O.K. Quick, catch the upturned boat". Ian, Mike and I chase it. One mile and much effort later, we get the canoe into the bank. Steve, weary from his cross country joins us and we continue to the end of the white water course.

As it is only mid-day someone suggests doing the course again. Certain unprintable replies follow. We drive off in search of easier things. The O.S. map reveals a thin blue line linking with the Monnow. Up the Honddhu valley we go to the 750 ft. contour at Llantony Abbey. The river is a streamlet about six foot wide. At least it is fast white water. For the next six miles the Honddhu falls at about 60 - 70 feet a mile. It took us about three hours and involved innumerable capsizes, three portages, falls, trees galore, and barbed wire at head height round bends in a murky light. By the end of the trip we resolved that streamlets could be dangerous and technical.

The Honddhu is not worth repeating except for the comments after the trip. The Usk, however, in flood conditions, is superb and comparatively safe. Someday the Usk white water race will coincide with the Usk in flood. When it does the race will have reached full stature.

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## COURSES

THE HAMBLE SAILING AND CANOEING CENTRE. See canoeing course for those of moderate experience, 3-7 April. Applications to The Moorings, Rope Walk, Hamble, Hampshire.

## BOATS WANTED

WANTED, 14g/f Slalom Canoes, also large assortment new/used canoes For Sale. Apply Saturdays, Canoe Exchange, Jessamy Road (off Thames Street), Weybridge, Surrey.

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N.C.K. 1 Ply Hull. Renovated and redecked. No steering gear, £9. Brown, 15 Rosafeld Avenue, Halesowen, Birmingham.

Continued on p. 20

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- KAYEL OTTER** (Double). Two years old, built by woodwork teachers. Carefully maintained. Full equipment. Spray covers, paddles, seats, rudder etc., £30 o.n.o. Apply Thompson, 15 Robinswood Crescent, Penarth, Glamorgan.
- CLYDE SINGLE**. 16ft. Sea Tourer, also suitable for inland waterways. Paddles, spray deck, seat, buoyancy. Hardly Used. £21. Bishops Waltham 2353.
- SINGLE SEATER** Glass Fibre 16ft. Sea Rapier Kayak with spray covers and built in buoyance. Cost £40 will sell for £18. Two seater Granta Kingfisher Canoe. Tough plastic skin. Spray covers. Offers over £15. **FOR HIRE** Two seater Klepper Folding Canoe, excluding period July 7 to August 12. Apply to Secretary, Haberdashers' Aske's School Canoe Club, Elstree, Herts. Tel. evenings Radlett 5978.
- USED CANOE CAMPING EQUIPMENT** For Sale at very competitive prices. Wide range of canoes. List from P.G.L. Holidays, Ross-on-Wye.

**MAGAZINES AND BOOKS**

- BYDE'S BOOKS**. "Instructor's Aid." Based on Inland Kayak Proficiency 5s. "Methods of Canoe Recovery". Deep water rescue techniques 2s. "Waveology". A study of sea waves, their cause and classification 2s. 6d. From Alan W. Byde, 27 Bredon Close, Albrighton, nr. Wolverhampton.
- WHITE WATER Magazine** issued quarterly. 10s. per annum post free or 2s. 6d. per copy, post 6d. 21 Windsor Road, Manchester 10.

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**VACANCY FOR TEMPORARY CANOE INSTRUCTOR**. Northampton County Borough Education Committee require a B.C.U. Senior Instructor or Instructor, preferably female, for 15 courses of approximately one week in duration from mid March to mid September. Fees £1 per day, together with full board and accommodation at the Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Black Mountains, near River Wye. Apply to the Education Office, Springfield, Cliftonville, Northampton, for further details.



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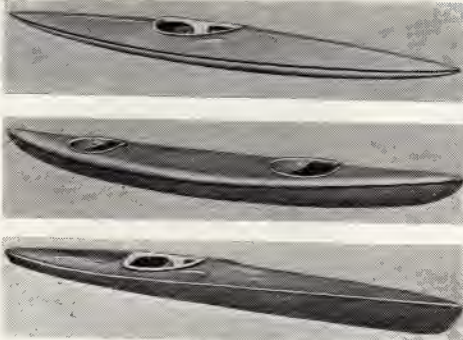
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*Dave Mitchell at Hambledon—Photographs by courtesy of Stewart Fraser*

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