

# CANOEING IN BRITAIN

SEPTEMBER 1969

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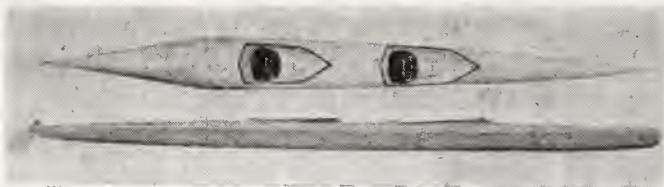
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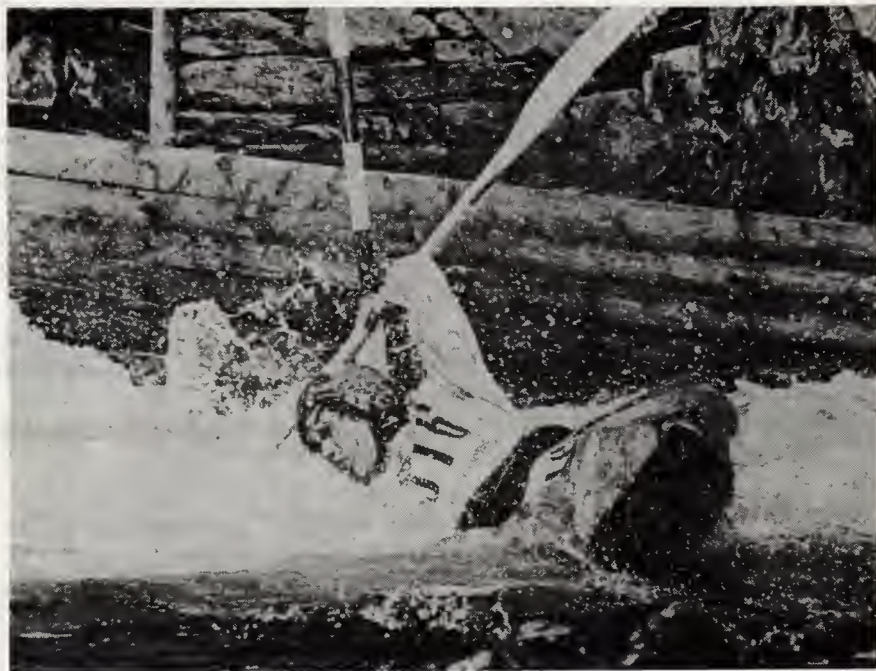
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# INTERNATIONAL CANOE SLALOM

**LLANGOLLEN / SATURDAY / SUNDAY  
18th · 19th OCTOBER**

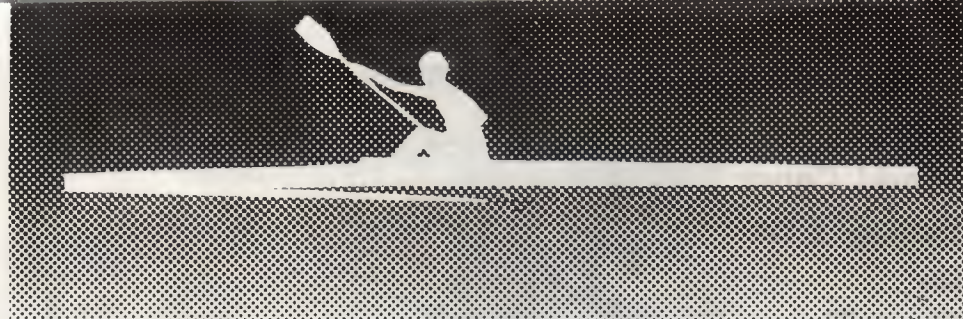
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Organising Secretary:  
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# CANOEING IN BRITAIN<sup>72</sup>

the news magazine  
of the British Canoe Union

## EDITOR

**Jack Levison,**  
11 Martindale Grove,  
Eggescliffe,  
Eggescliffe,  
Stockton-on-Tees,  
Teesside.

## ADVERTISEMENT DEPT.

**Chris Hare,**  
9 Tynebrooke Avenue,  
Hartlepool,  
Co. Durham.  
Tel: Hartlepool 66339

### Editorial Staff :

Eileen Levison

Freda Hare

*Canoeing in Britain* is published in March, June, September and December. Comments, articles, photographs and reports are welcomed and should arrive by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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

## EDITORIAL

### People we can do without

A rather bitter duplicated letter, circulated to all slalomists, was received from BCU Slalom Secretary Chris McAllister, too late for comment in our June issue. It explained why slalom sites were becoming increasingly difficult to find. Ian Pendleton, Editor of *White Water Magazine*, even believes the letter understates the position, is too tactful.

However, it seems that a minority of paddlers at every event is upsetting the local residents by making excessive noise late at night, trespassing, stealing, obstructing roads and being rude when challenged. An example of the results of such actions appears in this issue (Open Forum).

As usual, the innocent are having to suffer for the crimes of the guilty. It is time these thoroughly selfish people grew up, or were thrown out.

JACK LEVISON.

## CALENDAR ADDITIONS

### September

- 20 Exeter Sprint Regatta (M. Carpenter, 52 Wardrew Road, Exeter.)
- 20-21 Sussex Canoeists Association Rally, Cuckmere Haven. (M. Macdougall, Longhill Youth Centre, Falmer Rd., Rottingdean, Brighton.)
- 28 Youth L.D. Race, Viking K.C. (D. Bennett, 18 Howbury St., Bedford)

### October

- 11-12 Wye 100 (Glasbury - Chepstow), Nomads C.C. (B. H. Webb, 7 Hafod Road, Hereford.)
- 25-26 Ludlow Slalom Div. III, Birmingham C.C. (M. Darlow, 8 East Rise, Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.)

## IC 69

# Emus takes World Canoe Sailing Title for Third Time



Britain's brilliant Alan Emus, World Champion in the International Sailing Canoe Class, retained his title at Grafham Water, Hunts., against strong opposition from Sweden, in August.

Eric Ericson of Sweden won the first World Title in 1938. In 1961 Emus snatched it, at Hayling Island, and held the honour at Lake Constance (Germany) in 1965.

The first two races, on Monday, August 4th, were won by Emus, giving him a powerful psychological advantage, but on Tuesday, Swedish competitors scored heavily by taking the first six places. Their fastest canoe on this occasion, Sturebadet, sailed by G. Aggefors, could manage only a finishing time of 2 hrs 13 m 11 s for the ten-mile course, a slow time, with only light winds assisting the helmsmen.

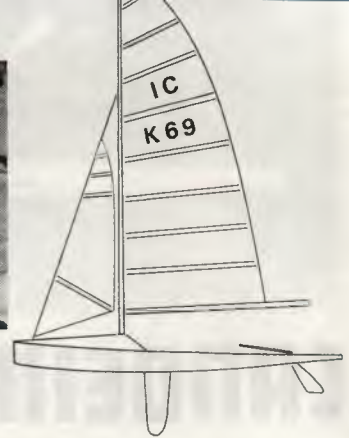
On the Wednesday, a lack of wind meant both races for that day were cancelled, to be held later, and on the Friday, Shrike III carried Emus over the finishing line to give him the 6th race in a convincing 1.51.56.

In all, the British champion won four out of the seven races, and with one discard, seemed an obvious winner. After two protests were heard from Swedish competitors, the final placings were announced, Britain taking 1st and 3rd positions. The highest placing for a German competitor was 11th (G. Kahl in Ballerina), and from the USA, J. Derevensky sailing Manana IV came 16th.

### RESULTS

IC Class	Pts.
1. A. Emus (Britain), Shrike III	16
2. G. Aggefors (Sweden), Sturebadet II	17½
3. J. Biddle (Britain), Dicey	18½

Alan Emus  
and Shrike III



### National Class

1. W. Sulberg (Germany), Vasa
2. L. Ek (Sweden), Petronella
3. B. Zahn (Germany), Take-it-Easy

### National Team Contest

- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| 1. German Federal Republic | 29½ |
| 2. Sweden                  | 32½ |

## CANOEING WITHOUT SIGHT

Whilst packing 'Canoeing in Britain', we came across an envelope addressed to the CONDOVER HALL SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND CANOE CLUB. This set us thinking—was it a Staff club, or were there really blind canoeists? We decided to find out, and here it what we discovered.

Condover Hall is a co-educational special school run by the Royal National Institute for the Blind, for children with, in addition to their blindness, at least one other handicap. This may be physical, educational or behavioural—or combinations of these.

Within their ability all the children take part in a general scheme of "outdoor activities" which includes canoeing.

Simple tests have been evolved to form an award scheme, and a few children have reached the BCUs novices standard and gained the award. Some of these children were, in fact, blind and spastic.

Mr. G. Scott asks anyone who happens to hear of other special schools, particularly for the physically handicapped, which are running similar activities or award schemes, to get in touch with him at Condover Hall, Condover, Shrewsbury.

Enquiries regarding non-receipt of magazine, notification of changes of address and general enquiries should be sent, quoting your membership number, to the General Secretary.

Names and addresses of the principal officers of the British Canoe Union can be found in the B.C.U. Calendar and Directory, on pages 9 - 14.

**The General Secretary,  
The British Canoe Union,  
Major G. E. Tomlinson,  
Room 315,  
26/29 Park Crescent,  
London, WIN 4DT.**

**Tel: 01-580-4710.**

# THE IRISH SEA BY KAYAK

## 27th June, 1969

A personal account by Derek J. Mayes

I think we first considered there was a need for a serious trip last September, when we were all together on the West Coast of Ireland. Four of us had canoed the Cliffs of Moher in County Clare, and Dave and I had 'rounded off' the Irish stay by paddling out to the Aran Isles across the South Sound.

It was obvious that we were not exploiting our full potential. Needless to say, we were exhausting ourselves physically but we were not taxing our reserves or even touching the psychological problems connected with a long 'committing' trip.

An obvious choice for our committing trip was the Irish Sea, for two basic reasons. One, we live within ten miles of it. Two, our part of it, at least, hadn't been done before.

Perhaps we were jolted into action by Ken Rudram's practice trip. Perhaps we soon realised that the only time that was practical for the crossing would be at the end of June. Short nights and stable weather dictated this. Either way we started to plan in April.

Nick Gough was soon to provide us with the 'kick in the pants' that was needed. As we would, to a certain extent, be representing C.C.P.R. and to a large extent Plas-y-Brenin, we had to devote much of our early planning efforts towards safety.

The Central Council has a standing rule about sea canoeing and this involves, to say the least, a safety boat. We immediately saw the problems of 'being accompanied'. To us it seemed that the person most exposed to the problems of a long sea voyage would be the pilot of the safety boat. He would have boredom, frustration, coldness and responsibility thrust down his throat for perhaps thirty hours! It was easy to see that we would be in serious trouble if the engine seized or refused to function. No, a safety boat as such does not hold the key to safety at sea. So it became obvious that we would need a good safety factor and sound reasoning to be able to approach John Jackson, our boss, with the suggestion that we would wish to do the trip without an accompanying boat.

Nick gave us the soundest safety factor for which we could wish. I remember mentioning aircrew S.A.R.B.E.'s to the lads. This is the successor to the famous S.A.R.H.A. This Search and Rescue Beacon, when activated, usually by 'ditched' aircrew,

emits a pulse-signal which can be tracked, very effectively, to within a few yards by a parent device. RAF Search and Rescue Squadrons are equipped with this parent device. S.A.R.B.E. is virtually unobtainable by civilians. The service, put into action immediately the pin is pulled, costs at the very least £15,000 and this privilege is not for the taxpayer! Nick produced almost overnight, via his father, two such beacons. All that was required on our part was a letter on headed notepaper from John Jackson, stating our need for such a device.

Within three weeks we were on our way.

We spent the final week collecting synoptic charts, counting calories, seeking an answer to motion sickness, preparing the boats, and praying for good weather with an East wind, obviously a key factor.

We came together on Friday morning, 27th of June, each with our own plan finalised. We had shared out the major tasks . . . the food to Dave, navigation to Nick, safety to me. When we came together there was little to do except listen to the forecast and make the boats sea-worthy.

We had an early setback from the 14.00 shipping forecast. The Met. Office forecasted a 4-5 westerly and as all of Nick's navigation aids centred around an East to West crossing it looked to be off. Whilst driving to Holyhead in the next hour we worked on the problems of a reverse trip.

*(to be continued).*

### LATE NEWS

#### Disappointment at World Slalom Championships

The events at Bourg St. Maurice, already marred by the withdrawal of the East German and Polish teams, proved disappointing to those who had hoped for a strong British showing from our largest ever entry.

The French authorities allowed only the French team to use the slalom course during the week prior to the event, and the judging was allegedly poor. Nevertheless, sincere congratulations to Ken Langford, Ray Calverley and John McLeod, who took the Silver medal in the K.1 Team Event, and 18-year-old Calverley's 4th place in the K.1 event augurs well for the future. Heather Goodman came 6th in the Ladies K.1, a good placing.

Unfortunately an unhappy atmosphere prevailed over the British camp, and efforts are now being made to overcome this by rendering the team management more efficient.

At home, offers of help are sought for the International Slalom at Llangollen (18-19th October). A beer and bangers session is planned for the Saturday night, at the Town Hall—a limited number of tickets are available (free to helpers).

## Round the Clubs

The FORTH C.C. L.D. race was run again after missing several years. A rising wind and fog on the triangular course produced exciting conditions, especially at the eastern and northern sides of Inchgarvie where the crosswind on the incoming tide produced conditions which were especially difficult for K.1's and K.2's, all of which retired.

The only double to complete the course was "piloted" by David and Gordon Cuthill gaining first place for Forth C.C. The singles event was won by John S. Young in his own designed and built canoe.

CHELMSFORD B.C. membership has risen so fast that their new boathouse is already full, and they are trying to finance a new building by selling £5 loan bonds to members.

ROYAL CANOE CLUB news. Charles Evans, well known for his successes in sprint and L.D. racing is seeking new worlds to conquer. He has just bought the I.C. class Shrike and if he tackles sailing with the same determination that he puts into his paddling there is no doubt that he will quickly reach international standards.

POOLE youngsters are now able to go canoeing, thanks to the provision of a redundant Fire Station for a base. They run a twice-yearly beginners' slalom at Langham Waterworks, attracting about 100 competitors each time.

Competitors came from a wide area to the VIKING K.C. Youth Sprint Regatta in July. This catered for youngsters in two age groups—12-13 years and 14-16 years. A long distance event for the same groups will be held later this month. (See Calendar additions).

LANGLEY PARK SCHOOL, ELTHAM COLLEGE and CRAWLEY CANOE CLUB have jointly organised two non-ranking slalom competitions at Leigh Sluice near Tonbridge, in an attempt to provide needed local competition for youth in the S.E. Similar competitions, both slalom and racing, are planned to give people starting canoeing an opportunity to compete in a very simple novice competition.

We have recently received a copy of the rules of Bat Polo from Bede College K.C. Anyone interested in this six-boat baths contest should contact Roger Greenhalgh at Bede College, Durham.

The press and TV at Whitsun was agog about the yachtsmen who put an end to the firing practice in St. Brides Bay. But why was the important contribution of the BIRMINGHAM CANOE CLUB ignored? The latest ancillary activity to canoeing meets is kite flying. Alan's super large mark 6 version on its extended high altitude string was obstructing the flight path at the

(cont. at foot of next column)

## SECRETARY'S NOTES

### Membership

Figures as at the 7th August compared with the same dates in 1968 showed a satisfactory overall increase of 7.17%—details being as follows:—

	1968	1969	% Increase
Full ... ..	2741	2932	6.96%
Youth ... ..	1009	1103	9.32%
Family ... ..	380	391	2.90%
Total ... ..	4130	4426	7.17%

Enrolment of new members has been very satisfactory but due to pressure of work and staff problems, non-renewals are very much greater than last year. However, one reminder has already been despatched, and a second and final one will be in the post in a few days. It is hoped that this will give an additional boost to membership between now and the end of the financial year.

### Supplies

Those interested in the River Thames in all its aspects will find "Nicholson's Guide to the Thames" of considerable value.

This publication is now available from Headquarters at a price of 12/6d (plus 1/-d postage to non-members).

It is with regret that we have to advise a very large increase in the price of "White-water Sport" by Whitney. This volume is published in the United States and the publishers have recently imposed a 50% increase which means we have to charge 45/-d per copy.

Copies of "1,000 Miles in the Rob Roy Canoe" by MacGregor are still available but stocks are reducing rapidly. If you want a copy get it now and avoid disappointment as it will not be reprinted. The cost is 6/-d only.

### National Canoe Exhibition

Full details will be available with the December issue.

Don't forget to mark your diary for the 14th February, 1970 as an important engagement.

### Renewal of Membership

Included in this issue is a form for the renewal of your membership for the year commencing 1st November 1969 and ending 31st October 1970. Please complete it and forward it to Headquarters together with your remittance before it gets mislaid or completely lost.

end of the runway and the aircraft could not take off. True! Yes, their helicopter landed specially on the campsite to ask him to take it down.



Attractive Sgt. Lauri May, WRAC, negotiating Gate 2 at the Army Slalom Championships, in which she came overall Lady Winner.

## CANOEING AT THE CROSSROADS

C. E. Quaife, Area Coaching  
Organiser, S.W. Midlands

Part of the work of an Area Coaching Organiser is to represent canoeing on the Local Sports Council. I am now beginning to get the feel of the direction in which sport in general is heading because of the trend towards increased leisure time. This means more pressure on sports facilities and demand is outstripping supply. Other sports are setting about working out what their requirements are so that they are catered for in national and local planning for sport. An encouraging principle, which is rapidly gathering acceptance, is that of making the maximum use of what facilities are available by sharing between various interested parties.

### Planning

Where does canoeing stand? It is one of the rapid growth sports, but only a minority of canoeists are in the organised sector, the B.C.U. On a local basis canoeists are not in touch with each other, and as a result the vital planning in the majority of areas is not being done and cannot be done. Apart from any other consideration it is most important that all canoeing groups are affiliated to the B.C.U. to provide the vital contact and means of communication.

### Communication

Because of its growing popularity canoeing is increasing the demand for water. The dual use principle gives real grounds for optimism, but how can the BCU implement future agreements with riparian owners, anglers and other water sportsmen if it cannot communicate with so many canoeists? BCU negotiators will not be treated seriously if they are unable to do this. More water sports centres are being planned, but is canoeing getting a fair share? This will only come about if canoeists can be brought

together locally so that their needs over the next decade can be stated and quantified.

### Crusade

In my opinion it is sufficient for groups who canoe to be affiliated members of the BCU: to provide the necessary links we do not have to tackle the more difficult task of promoting individual membership. From the BCU point of view individual membership will follow later when members of affiliated groups see the advantages, or enter the competitive field. What we need is virtually a crusade to gather all canoeists into the BCU. If our sport is to have its rightful place, we *must* succeed. This is where every BCU member can help by pressing every canoeist he meets to join. It is the members of the coaching scheme who have the most opportunities to do this: they must seize those opportunities. Consider the implications of failure!

● We are sorry to record the death of Frank Clement of Canada, who was a member of the I.C.F. board of management, President of the Canadian Canoe Federation and of the British Commonwealth Canoe Federation. His untiring enthusiasm for the development of canoeing is remembered by all who knew him.

● A Hungarian film—"The Kayakists" has won a plaque awarded by the Italian Olympics Committee at its recent Sports Film Festival.

### ● Bound copies

We have decided to discontinue binding 'Canoeing in Britain' volumes at the end of each year, because of the increasing costs of this operation, which is making it uneconomic to offer this service.

We are, however, making arrangements for binders to be available. Details for ordering these will be published in December.

## The First

**SEVERN BORE RACE**

4th May 1969

Mick Powell

Legends have grown up about the Severn Bore, so that many people, even those that live locally, have the idea that it is some sort of earthquake-monster that sweeps up the estuary once every seven years, engulfing cottages and farm houses as it passes!

The fact is that the bore occurs, twice daily, on about 130 days out of the 365. The Sharpness Tables are the best guide. If these show a high tide of 26 feet or above, there will be a bore of some kind.

The biggest bores are during February and September, during the so-called "Equinox" (i.e. when the night and the day are of approximately equal length). Few people see it, because it tends to occur during bad weather, at a time when most of us would rather be in bed; but in recent years canoeists from Worcester and other parts of the midlands have made a fairly regular sport out of "riding" it on the ten-mile stretch between Newnham and Minsterworth.

The waves can easily be five or six feet high. When the front wave breaks it sucks anything near it into the roller, and a boat can be carried half a mile or more before being left behind or, more likely, "dumped" on a sandbar.

A trial run during February established that the rough water was not absolutely impossible for the narrower types of racing canoe, and on that occasion waves of about five feet were experienced. A date was picked, when a 30 ft. tide was expected at Sharpness.

It was a misty, drizzly morning, though warm, and the start looked more like an aquarium full of fishes than a canoe race. The 55 boats varied from sleek international racers down to tubby craft intended for

beginners, facing in all directions, as it was left to their own discretion whether they would tackle the bore forwards, backwards or sideways.

There was no starting pistol. The bore itself was the starter. As it swept past the spectators at Newnham, Robin Powell started the "clock", and it was stopped again as the wave passed the "Bird in Hand", a riverside inn just south of Minsterworth. On this occasion it took 63½ minutes to travel the distance of approximately ten miles.

The first competitor was B. Gilliver, of the Soar Valley Club, paddling a "Prison" white water racer. He arrived 2 minutes 12 seconds behind the bore. Second was a home made two-seater, paddled by Crowther and Harvey of the Torpoint Rowing Club; third, Chris Hillman, one of the Worcester Canoe Club's most experienced young racers in international competition.

Hillman capsized in deep water about a mile after the start, and the winner, Gilliver, was one of those who helped to empty his boat and settle him in the cockpit again. Deep-water rescues of this kind call for a high degree of canoeing skill, not to mention sportsmanship in staying behind to help someone who might be a rival for the winner's place; but if next year's race is held when the bore is bigger, as most competitors seem to wish, then both the skill and the sportsmanship will be even more necessary than they were this time.

This was an experimental race. No prizes were offered and no entry fee was charged. If it is to be run in future years the recording of finish times will need to be much more efficient—coping with so many craft all arriving together proved impossible this time, and only the first fourteen out of fifty were timed in.

Pictures of the race appeared on the B.B.C. T.V. 6 p.m. News on Sunday, 4th May, and very good it looked.

**TRENT RIVER RACE & NOTTS. REGATTA**

The Nottingham City K.C. managed on two successive days to produce one of the finest spectacles of canoeing seen in this country.

A well produced sixteen page programme and a public address system kept spectators well informed and the regatta running perfectly to schedule.

The extensive pre-race publicity produced the finest and almost certainly the largest ever entry for a spring regatta held outside London. In the long distance race, the entry was double last year's entry.

A warm sunny afternoon produced a very

fine day's racing with very many close finishes. In one of the Senior K.1 semi-finals, only nine inches separated four crews. In the Senior events, Mark Whitby and Howard Dyer were outstanding while the Junior events were dominated by Richmond Canoe Club.

Sunday's long distance event produced a fine day's racing with all the top paddlers out to impress the Sella River Race selectors. In the Senior K.2 Bolam and Mean just inched home from Hollier and Baker after a neck and neck struggle over the whole 23 miles. In the Senior K.1 Mark Whitby came home in fine style some minutes ahead of Martin Bosher in second place.

## L.D. RACING Sue Pluthero

### POOLE HARBOUR

We left London in brilliant sunshine, prepared for a really hot race on a probably calm sea—we should have known better! As we approached the coast we ran into sea mist and the sun disappeared. The water looked grey and uninviting, with a swell starting to get up. Conditions at the start were slightly choppy, and I understand that it became quite rough rounding Brownsea Island on the senior course. The tide was falling this year, and by the time most of the competitors reached the turn at the mouth of the Frome, the water was extremely shallow, making a mile or more of hard paddling. The channel here winds so much that it is very difficult to follow, and this means going quite a bit further to follow it. The organisation this year did not seem to be as good as usual—some confusion was caused by competitors not removing their old numbers from their boats, but this did not account for the winner in my class (3C) having no time when my own was recorded, or for the fact that my name does not appear in the result sheet, although I came second!

### HEREFORD

The Nomads held their race on a new course this year—according to the information, designed to cater for improved paddling standards and better boats. If you were a senior you certainly needed the latter! The senior turn was a short distance up the River Lugg, one of the Wye tributaries, and went up a broken lock with some rapids above and down what was once the weir stream. Preferred methods of getting round this obstacle were varied—some competitors favoured the sideways method, while others held that really stern first was the only way to do it. Surprisingly few damages occurred on this turn, although Mark Giddings was forced to scratch after breaking his paddles on a practice run before the race. The course otherwise was a good one, apart from the fact that it was a very long drag back up against the current, with frequent rapids. On the whole competitors were well spread out at the finish, the only really close finish being in the senior slalom class, where only ten seconds separated Powell of Worcester, the winner, from D. Smith of Birmingham. Two particularly notable performances were those of B. Gilliver in Class 3A and Burn and Hamlin in Class 4A, both of whom led their classes home with eleven minutes to spare. Burn and Hamlin look as if they are a promising partnership—they only started paddling this year and have already had considerable success in Class 4A.

## CHELMER

A lower water level than usual made some of the Chelmer portages more difficult—it's all right if you're tall! The very hot weather made the thirteen miles seem a long way, but this did not deter the top boys and there were some close fights, particularly in senior K.1, where Mick Mean won by only four seconds from Mark Whitby.

## New Insurance Scheme

May I draw your attention to the leaflet enclosed with this magazine, which gives full details of a scheme arranged for LIFE ASSURANCE for INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS of the BCU.

Briefly, it is for Life Assurance for a sum of £500 (or multiples thereof) payable immediately on proof of death from any cause, up to the age of 55.

Participants in this scheme *must* be Individual Members of the BCU. There is no surrender value or paid-up value if you opt out of the scheme later on, but if you leave the BCU you may convert your cover to a Whole Life or Endowment Assurance.

Entry into the Scheme will be on a set date in each year. Thus, if you miss out this year, you will have to wait a whole year before you can enter.

If you are interested, please complete the tear-off portion of the leaflet, and return it as quickly as possible to:

BCU Insurances,  
62 Rupert Road,  
Sheffield, S7 1RP.

As soon as I know how many members wish to take part in this scheme, I can make arrangements for its commencement.

JOAN BAKER.

**Remember:** All these insurance schemes are for the Union's benefit, as well as yours!

### ● Change of address

John Dudderidge, O.B.E. (BCU President): "Sunny Haven", East End, North Leigh, Witney, Oxfordshire. (Freeland 5142).

● The British Society for Sports Psychology has been formed with the intention to foster the relevance of psychology in sport. Their next conference will be held at Loughborough College of Education, from 10th to 12th April, 1970. Full details are available from Mr. Clive Bond, Loughborough College. Subscription for 1969-70 is £1.

● Joseph and Jirina Sedivec, the Czechoslovakian and World mixed C.2 Champions who were in England in 1967 and 1968 and made many friends here, are now living in California. They recently carried off many of the honours in the Arkansas River Race.

# TRADE REVIEW

## The "Otter" 81

This latest Ottersports model (1) embodies a very robust construction, symmetrical underwater shape and elliptical cross section, giving initial lateral stability but retaining easily controlled characteristics. An excellent boat in surfing conditions, it conforms to I.C.F. Regulations and is offered at the attractive price of £35. Designer is Alan W. Bye.

Specifications: Length 13 ft. 6 in. (411 cm.)  
Beam 2 ft. (61 cm.), Weight 42 lb.

## COUNCIL NEWS

Council met on the 13th June at 26 Park Crescent, London WIN 4DT, and the next meeting is due to take place on Saturday, 20th September, at the same venue.

The last meeting in 1969 has been arranged for Saturday the 29th November and all nominations for elected members of Council must be received before that date.

The following members of Council are due to retire at the next A.G.M.: Messrs. C. B. Manton, P. C. A. Rogers, C. M. Rothwell, J. Spuhler and R. F. Tyas.

All nominations will be welcomed but must be signed by two full members (Rule 62) and accompanied by brief biographical details of the person nominated.

Let's have an exciting election.

## Canoeing in Northern Ireland

One of the primary objects of the C.A.N.I. is the administration of a Coaching Scheme, and again this year beginners' courses, introductory racing courses, etc., are being run.

On the racing scene the retirement of Neill Alexander, followed by the illness of another top paddler, has meant slightly more open racing.

The tendency this year is for courses to contain less obstacles such as weirs, rapids, etc., though the roughest course livened events up somewhat by shattering several K.2's.

Teams are being arranged for International events, and one top Northern Ireland Junior K.2 team has competed in several English Sprint Events this season.

## Power Tool Test

Recently, representatives of the Students' Association of the South Devon Technical College, Torquay, took part in a canoe-building contest (2). Using Bosch Combi electric domestic hand-tools, two five-member teams—one male and one all female—built two Kayel Otter touring double canoes, in three weeks, spending about 40 hours each boat. The girls won!

## Lifejacket updated

On the 24th June, the B.S.I. published the revised British Standard 3595 (Lifejackets). This reduces the required amount of inherent buoyancy to 13½ lb., which is more or less as we forecast in March this year, and increases the inflated buoyancy to 35 lb. The reason is to allow canoeists to swim *downwards* to clear an obstacle.

Ottersports have redesigned their general purposes lifejacket (3) to this specification. Features include closed-cell foam, instant release buckle and bright orange colour for maximum visibility. Price is £6 10s., discounts are allowed to Clubs, Authorities, etc.

## Picture Parade

Chris Hawkesworth (Northern Wild Water Centre) has copied his best films which are now available for hire or sale. They include (in 8 m/m and 16 m/m) the first ever kayak trip down the Grand Canyon of Colorado, U.S.A., shot last year, the Slalom internationals of Spittal 1966 (Austria), Augsburg 1967 (West Germany), and Tacen (Yugoslavia).

Almost ready for circulation are three separate 16 m/m colour sound films of: Building a glass fibre canoe, from raw materials to the water. (35 m/m slides also available of this film); paddle and rolling techniques for the beginner; and paddle and rolling techniques for the advanced canoeist.

## We try the Bivibag

The Bivibag (4) is a two-person polythene tent in blue 500 gauge material. We found it was easily erected according to the instructions. Space inside was adequate for a bivouac, though there was little room to spare with two occupants. The clear side panels protect ventilation holes and provide some storage space, but the problem of condensation beneath sleeping bags remains. The manufacturers recommend a foam rubber underlay or mattress to prevent this.



We would have preferred the tent to be about 1 foot longer, to allow a six-footer to close up the end and lie straight, with perhaps a further flap to provide something to sit on when entering.

But it was very pleasant to lie in the Bivibag, hearing the rain patter on it, knowing that to touch the roof and walls would not result in a leaking tent. The Bivibag was warm, reasonably tough (the manufacturers reckon it will last for about 12 week-end expeditions), light ( $3\frac{1}{2}$  lb.) and compact. No groundsheet is needed and the dimensions are 7 ft. x 3 ft. x 2 ft. high. The price is reasonable at 42/6d. and we consider this tent to be worthy of serious consideration by any canoeists wishing to go off canoe-camping with the minimum outlay and preparation.

The Bivibag is manufactured by Roberts Enterprises who will supply further details. Write c/o Canoeing in Britain, marking your envelope "Bivibag".

#### Explorer Exported

Ten "Explorer" kayaks, a trial order, have left Endcliffe Design's factory at Whitchurch, Shropshire, bound for Indianapolis, where Mr. Charles Moore, President of the U.S. Canoe Association, has been given exclusive selling rights in America of "Explorer" Kayaks.

"Now we are awaiting the reaction of America's leading exponents of water sports. If it is favourable—and I am confident our kayaks are superior to those under production in the U.S.—then it could open the door to big business", said Endcliffe Director, 29-year-old Colin Austin.

"Our craft, built on hydrodynamic principles, have a design and cost advantage over American models."

#### Inexpensive buoyancy

Made in tough lightweight plastic, a new buoyancy aid for children of from 3 to 12 years, is just coming on the market. American designed, it weighs less than half a pound, slips on to a child rather like a sleeveless sweater; is inflated through a simple blow-it-up-yourself valve, and costs 19s. 11d.

When inflated the aid's air chambers are so arranged that even an unconscious child would float with his or head out of water. It is distributed by Safesport (Horley).

#### The Ultimate Slalom Boat?

Actually an Ironbridge pattern coracle (5) built in glass fibre under BCU Senior Coach Alan Byde's direction, as part of the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme, by young people in Oxford. It is 5 ft. by 4 ft., and 15 inches deep, and can be sculled 50 yards in 37 seconds. The mould will shortly be available, we understand, through Trylon Ltd., Wollaston, Northants.

2



3



# BIVIBAG

5



## BOOKSHELF

Did you know that the secretary of the British Canoe Union is Rodney Baker, 34B Mornington Road, Chingford, London E4? That the Wild Water Runs and Slaloms Officer is D. Lucas, 5 Harts Leap, Sandhurst, Berks., that BCU Supplies operates from 147A Station Road, London E4? This and a great deal more totally erroneous information is contained in the paperback edition of **Canoeing** by **B. Jagger**, published by **Arco Mayflower Handybook**, priced 7s.

This publication claims to take the tyro from the purchase of his canoe to the highly specialised branches such as slalom and sprint racing, and falls short. Although the chapters on buying a canoe, canoe building, basic canoe handling and canoe camping are adequate in what they set out to do, when the author goes into the specialist fields he does so sketchily, leaving the reader frustrated.

The most disconcerting aspect of the reprint is that virtually none of the addresses and data in the appendix are correct, in some cases they are at least five years out of date! It should be incumbent on a publisher and author when reprinting a technical book to ensure that the data therein is accurate. Had I bought this book, I would be inclined to ask for a refund of the purchase price—C.H.

Rating ★

**Nicholsons Guide to the Thames — From source to sea. Edited by Paul Atterbury. Price 12s. 6d.**

Trendsetters in book production are hard to come by these days—but this is one. It sets a new high in guide books with the most attractive layout I have ever seen. Extremely comprehensive—maps, restaurants, pubs, sport, archaeology, botany, ornithology, boat hirers, you name it and this guide seems to have it. It has a light style which is both educational and amusing. Appealing to me was the fact that fishing does not come under sport! Profusely illustrated—I strongly recommend anyone to buy this if there is the slightest chance of your being in the Thames area. One complaint is that there is not enough mention of canoe clubs.

Rating ★★★★★

### Points from the I.C.F. Bulletin

Proposals for discussion by the I.C.F. Congress in 1970 include removal of the minimum beam restrictions on racing boats, over the next few years, and the amendment of Senior Championships programmes to drop the K.1—4 x 500 m. race, which has lost its popularity, and to replace it with C.1

**Water Rallies—David E. Owen (Dent 40/-).**

A highly readable account of a number of journeys to rallies by the author in his cruising boats. Dr. Owen tells how neglected sections of waterways have been re-opened by volunteer labour, often under daunting conditions, organised by the Inland Waterways Association. Practically nothing about canoes as such, but if anyone still needs convincing that we must make every effort to save existing canals from extinction, let him read this book.

Rating ★★★★★

**How to build a Glass Fibre Canoe—A. W. Byde (Trylon, 5/0d.)**

A very useful booklet for anyone contemplating group building in glass/resin. Current costings, referring to Trylon's own materials, are given. For the absolute beginner, more illustrations, especially of some parts of the building process, would have been helpful, as would a glossary explaining the jargon of glass fibre work.

Rating ★★★★★

**Canoe Touring Abroad—Gabriel Seal (Robert Hale, 35/0d.)**

This is an account of the author's canoe journeys in France and Germany. Taking a river at a time, Mr. Seal gives us historical references and personal reminiscences. There is no ripple by ripple description of the waterways—rather the character of each is laid out for us. A good book for the winter nights, if you are thinking of a pottering holiday on the Continent.

Rating ★★★

**Coaching Handbook 1969 (BCU 12/0d. post free to members, 17/0d. to non-members).**

In presentation this is a great deal more ambitious than any previous effort, very nicely laid out and printed, though one can criticise the quality of illustration here and there.

What can be said about the contents, except to say that this is the crystallised wisdom of the BCU's most experienced experts in Coaching, Examining, Life Guards, Duke of Edinburgh's award, Safety, Pool work, Rolling, Sea canoeing, Event organisation, etc., etc. Every club must have one.

Rating ★★★★★

and C.2 500 m. races. Repechages would be included in the programme.

It was also suggested that the lower age limit in Junior events should be dropped, but that medical certificates should be produced. C.6 and 1,000 m. races should be introduced.



SOUTHAMPTON L.D.

Table listing names and scores for Southampton L.D. under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

BATH/BRADFORD ON AVON L.D. RACE

Table listing names and scores for Bath/Bradford on Avon L.D. RACE under various categories like Class 1a, Class 1b, etc.

SHEPPINGTON SALOON

Table listing names and scores for Sheppington Saloon under various categories like Div III, Class 1, etc.

CHILSFORD CANOE DASH

Table listing names and scores for Chilsford Canoe Dash under various categories like Senior Double, Junior Double, etc.

BOSTON REGATTA 500 M 7 June

Table listing names and scores for Boston Regatta 500 M under various categories like Junior K.L., Class 1e, etc.

THIRD CIRCUIT RACE

Table listing names and scores for Third Circuit Race under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

YOUTH CANOE OLYMPIADSHIPS

Table listing names and scores for Youth Canoe Olympiadships under various categories like Class A Girls, Class B Boys, etc.

TATTON PARK REGATTA

Table listing names and scores for Tatton Park Regatta under various categories like Senior K.L. 1000 M, Class 1b, etc.

VIKING SPRINT REGATTA

Table listing names and scores for Viking Sprint Regatta under various categories like Class 1b, Class 2a, etc.

MOCKLES TO BRINKLEY L.D. RACE

Table listing names and scores for Mockles to Brinkley L.D. Race under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

ROYAL C.C. SPRINT REGATTA

Table listing names and scores for Royal C.C. Sprint Regatta under various categories like Senior K.L. 1000 M, Class 1b, etc.

Senior K.L. 1000 M

Table listing names and scores for Senior K.L. 1000 M under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

PADDLING CHALLENGE CUP

Table listing names and scores for Paddling Challenge Cup under various categories like Open 10,000 K.L., Class 1e, etc.

OPEN 10,000 K.L.

Table listing names and scores for Open 10,000 K.L. under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

CHELSEA CANOE RACE

Table listing names and scores for Chelsea Canoe Race under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

VIKING SPRINT REGATTA

Table listing names and scores for Viking Sprint Regatta under various categories like Class 1b, Class 2a, etc.

RIVER SEVERN - WORCESTER

L.D. RACE 11 May

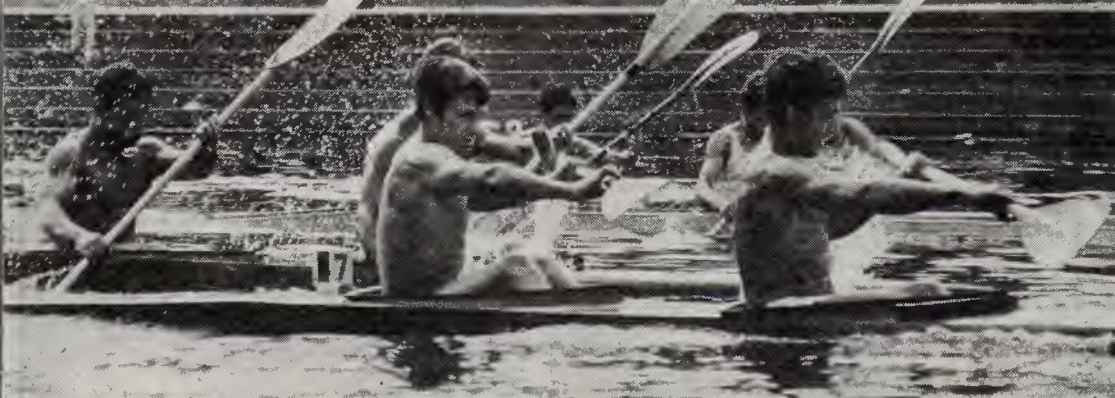
Table listing names and scores for River Severn - Worcester L.D. Race under various categories like Class 1e, Class 2a, etc.

ROYAL C.C. SPRINT REGATTA

Table listing names and scores for Royal C.C. Sprint Regatta under various categories like Senior K.L. 1000 M, Class 1b, etc.

AMEN CANOE RACE

Table listing names and scores for Amen Canoe Race under various categories like Boys 13-16 Single, Class 1b, etc.



Junior K2 Semifinal, Nottingham Regatta.

Photo: Bill Richmond.

## COACHING NEWS

The newly printed edition of the Coaching Handbook is now available, price 12/- including postage to members, and 17/- including postage to non-members.

This book is a veritable 'Bible' and our congratulations must go to the Editor, Geoff Sanders who is also the Chairman of the National Coaching Committee, for his hard work and ability in producing such a comprehensive and attractive volume.

The 1969 Coaching Register is in course of preparation and it is hoped will have been distributed to Senior Instructors and above before these notes appear in print.

Copies will be available from Headquarters for all those who require them (send a large stamped addressed envelope).

We have an ambition in future years to publish the Coaching Register by the end of April. Unfortunately a large proportion of the members of the Coaching Scheme are notorious for late payment of subscriptions! If our ambition is realised, those unpaid as at the 31st March will be omitted from the list, so guilty parties please note.

The newly printed Proficiency Test Entry Forms are now available from Headquarters and have been well received. Full details were published in the May News Letter.

The forms are normally supplied in pads of 20 with full instructions on the cover, but single copies can be supplied if required.

### Canoeing on River Teifi, Pont-allt-y-cafan to Henllan.

All canoeists intending to canoe this stretch of river should write to Messrs. John Francis & Son, Land Agents, Carmarthen, to request permission; failure to do so may well close the river permanently to canoeing. The waters concerned are from just above Pont-allt-y-cafan Bridge to half a mile or so below the bridge at Henllan.

### OLD WINDSOR SLALOM

17/18 May

<b>U 11</b>	
G. Ball, I.V.C.C.	65.4
I. Usher, Leeds	68.2
P. Marshall, Shepperton	75.0

<b>Col.</b>	
I. G. Dunsdale, Chalfont	313
G. Goldsmith, Reighton	384
J. Albert, Chalfont	394

<b>Col.</b>	
I. Evans/Edwards	416
G. Goodman/Gibson, S.V.	986

<b>Team Event.</b>	
1. Reading 'A'	564
2. Saer Valley	704
3. Icknham Valley 'B'	809

<b>Single Event.</b>	
1. M. Crossman, Reading	344
2. M. Whitlock, I.V.	346
3. R. Papp, Reading	403

<b>LEVERN WILD WATER TEST</b>	22 June
1. N. Merley, Lakesland	6.05
2. P. Livesey, Blagley Col.	6.54
3. N. Merley, Lakesland	7.04

### LOUGH ERNE - 10 sq.m. CANOES 17/18 May

1. A. Bame, Hayling Island	
2. M. Peaster, Burnham on Sea	
3. J. Bidale, Hayling Island	

### ADRI CANOE UNION SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS, SHEPPERTON 17/18 May

<b>Open.</b>	
I. G. Page, ACC, Aldershot	251
G. Walker, RUMS, Aldershot	367
J. Cooper, AFPC, Shorcliffe	412

<b>Intermediate.</b>	
I. M. Page, ACC, Hounslow	213
S. Robinson, AAF, Barragate	218
J. Hutchinson, 1st Kings Catt.	243

<b>Novice.</b>	
I. J. Dardman, 1st Jt. Dr. Gwentry	97
2. Muthros, AFPC Cove	125
3. M. Longman, Cove	133

### Scottish Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Scottish Canoe Association will be held this year in Edinburgh at the Compass Adventure Centre, Granton Square, on Sunday, 7th December, 1969.

Forth Canoe Club, who are this year's hosts, are organising a Dinner-Dance in the Minto Hotel on the night before—Saturday, 6th December, 1969. Overnight accommodation in Edinburgh can be arranged.

For further details, write to the Purser, Forth C.C., 21 Craigleith Drive, Edinburgh 4.

### WANTED — International Slalom & River Racing Team Trainer

Recommendations are being put to the Selection Committee by Ian Pendleton, for the appointment of a non-paddling Trainer.

The trainer ought to have P.E. Instructor status or better, and preferably some knowledge of slalom and river racing, and top class competition. He must direct and accompany the three regional training groups in preparation for the World Championships in Merano in 1971.

Anyone wishing to volunteer his services or seeking further information should write immediately to I. D. Pendleton, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester 10, outlining his qualifications and ideas on future training.

# OPEN FORUM

## Council Elections

Dear Sir,

I also agree that the probable cause of non-voting is that the people we are supposed to vote for are unknown to us.

Perhaps this could be overcome by the BCU holding regional meetings, in the form of social evenings, throughout the year, perhaps twice in the Midlands and twice in the North. In this way members would get to know fellow canoeists throughout their area, instead of just members of their own club. West Bromwich. ALAN JUKES.

## More Slalom Trouble

Dear Sir,

Both Chalfont Park Canoe Club and ourselves have gone to great lengths to maintain good relations with local residents when organising Slaloms and obtained the use of ground owned by a local sailing club for car parking. Regrettably this has been lost, the following extract from a letter received by me from the club will show why.

"It is with much regret that I must advise you that my committee has decided that any further applications from Canoe Clubs to use our land must be refused. The reason for this decision is that on the two occasions this privilege has been granted this year one or two users of the land have created cause for complaint by their irresponsible behaviour. On the first occasion a caravan was parked and used for overnight sleeping accommodation, this is contrary to local by-

laws and could have prejudiced the good standing of this Club had the Police taken action. On the second occasion we had complaints from some of our members whose children play in the wooded part of this land because this area had been fouled by human excreta.

Whilst appreciating the fact that you cannot exercise control over every individual who attends your Slaloms, my committee must protect the interest of its members and therefore by this action may help you to impress on members the necessity for exemplary behaviour when granted use of other people's property".

Further comment from me would be superfluous.

E. C. TAYLOR,  
Teddington. Chairman, Shepperton C.C.

## Pat on Back

Dear Mr. Levison,

I am writing to let you know that my address as from 1st September will be . . . Baltimore, U.S.A. I would be obliged if you would see that future copies of 'Canoeing in Britain', to which I shall continue to subscribe, are sent there . . .

In closing I should like to congratulate you on the high standard you have maintained in the production of your magazine. I look forward to receiving future issues with pleasure.

Cambridge. BILL OVERTON.

*(Thank you, Bill, and the many others who have written in similar vein in the past. It has encouraged us to go on seeking to improve C in B).*

## OLYMPIC CANOEING HITS SNAGS

### Slalom Puzzle

The International Olympic Committee decided at the beginning of June that canoe slalom would be included in the programme of the Munich Olympic Games in 1972.

After 1972, either slalom or wild water racing can be included, provided that the course is in the neighbourhood of the Olympic Town.

The site for the 1972 Olympic slalom was to be on the Isar River at Maximilians Bridge, in the heart of Munich itself.

Now, reports are coming in of moves to hold the slalom at the reserve site on the Ice Canal at Augsburg, where the World Championships were held in 1957. As this is some 60 km. from Munich, it contradicts the principle which Munich chose to support its application — that all Olympic venues would be within a limited radius of the city.

The International Canoe Federation has informed the I.O.C. that only the Munich course will be acceptable.

### Sprint Venue Difficulties

Striving to follow the superb course Xochimilco, pictured on the cover of our December 1968 issue, the Germans intended to build the regatta course on a canal at Karlsfeld, but exaggerated demands by the landowners prevented this on grounds of cost.

A new site, at Feldmoching, 7 km. from the Olympic village, has been chosen after considerable chopping and changing. The 2,225 m. course will run SSW to NNE. Its width will be 140 m., and depth 3.5 m.

There will be no separate canal for training — the course will simply be divided into two lanes, 80 m. for rowing and 60 m. for canoeing. Total cost of this course is an estimated 60,000,000 DM.

## TRADE DESCRIPTIONS ACT 1968

### NOTICE

Advertisers ARE WARNED that all prices, trade descriptions, qualities of goods, sizes and compositions of the articles referred to in advertisements must be accurate and accord in spirit and letter with the requirements and conditions of the Trade Descriptions Act, 1968.

### CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

**B.C.U. MEMBERS:** Rates 3d. per word—minimum 4/-. Trade and non-members 4d. per word—minimum 6/-. Chris Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Co. Durham.

### MAPS

**CANOEING MAP OF ENGLAND AND WALES.** All rivers and canals suitable for canoeists. 14 miles to 1 inch. Paper folded 6s. net. Write for leaflet.—Edward Stanford Ltd., 12-14 Long Acre, London W.C.2.

### BOATS AND EQUIPMENT

**KLEPPER SL5** Slalom Canoe, Paddle, Spraydeck, £20 o.n.o., or £25 with Wet Suit. D. J. Brown, Tel. 01-954-0327.

**15ft. MOONRAKER** Class 3 L.D. racing kayak. Paddles, Spraycover. New condition, £30 or offers. Taylor, 12 Edgar Place, Handbridge, Chester. Chester 41996.

**STRUER RIBELLE K2**, £45 o.n.o. Vardy Mk 3 £23. Both in very good condition. Smith, 1199 Evesham Road, Astwood Bank, near Redditch, Worcs.

### FILMS

**35, 16 and 8mm COLOUR** Canoeing Films for sale or hire. Grand Canyon Colorado Expedition U.S.A. 1968, Augsburg and Tacen Slalom Internationals 1967, Canoe building (16mm Sound and 35mm 1969) Surfing, Looping, Slalom, River Racing, Technique, Slow motion. Chris. Hawkesworth (Films), 'Ridge-Side,' Hillcrest, Collingham, Wetherby, Yorks. LS22 5DN Phone Collingham Bridge 3198.

### COACHING

**NORTH EAST COACHING PANEL** Weekend Conference on Sea Canoeing. The date of this weekend—as advertised in the last edition of the magazine has now been changed to October 10-11-12th. Full details from Chris Hare, ACO North East, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue Hartlepool.

**C.U. MIDLANDS COACHING WEEKEND** 10/12 October 1969, Woodlands Centre, Glastbury-on-Wye. Whitewater, Canadian, LD, Design, Advanced Inland Kayak Tests (extra charge). Senior Instructor Course. £4 all found. 9"x4" s.a.e. for details from: C. E. Quaffe, A.C.O. S.W. Midlands, 70, Coopers Road, Birmingham, 20.

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## Films

Send S.A.E. for lists

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British Film Institute, 42-43 Lower Marsh, London S.E.1.

### LOOP PURCHASE

C. M. Rothwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester.

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