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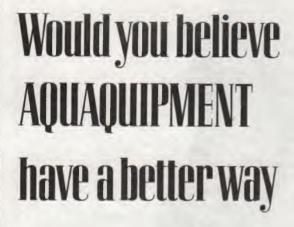
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## GANDEING MAGAZINE

EDITOR

Vol. 10

Mike Clark

October 1970

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#### COVER

The moment of disaster for Lawler/Bosher, their kayak breaking up on the Lucan Weir as they mis-judge the shoot. (Photo: CANOEING MAGAZINE)

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#### BACK IN HARNESS

At last the competitive events are beginning to thin and herald once again the close of another fine season, a season that has taken your editor abroad to more international events than ever before. Since April I have been away almost every weekend to meets and as the summer came to a climax a number of problems with our magazine caused rather late publication of recent issues. We apologise to readers for this but our magazine should be back to usual publication dates by next month. (Around the 10th).

Last trip to the continent of your editor was not for competition but as a holiday for two weeks in the latterpart of September with a canoe tour down the Tarn in Southern France. Yes, to all those racing paddlers it does mean that you will have to bear yet another 'holiday special', sometime in the next few months...! Still looking fit and sporting a great tan, your editor has been working on the article of a trip that proved certainly better than the Ardeche of last year – but I leave more until the article.

#### ASSOCIATIONS-SQUADS

Earlier this year we reported the formation of the Weald Slalom Association and more recently the South East Schools Canoe Association. While members of the B. C. U. are thinking over and discussing the idea of 'regionalisation', these new associations are busy establishing their own regions right now! In the last few weeks The Hampshire Association of Canoeists has been accepted by Hants Education Committee as the advisory body for canoeing in the county schools and to this end now has a Schools Sub-committee which organises competitions and training courses.

A Junior Slalom Training Squad for Hampshire has already been formed and accepted by the B.C.U. Slalom Committee. The aim of the squad is to train potential international standard junior slalomists. A scheme of training is being drawn up in line with the National Team Squad and consultation is at present in progress with two of the National managers. This squad consists of only eight members at present – four of whom are already in Division 1. Entry is by invitation only but anyone is welcome to suggest members to be considered.

The formation of such associations and squads can only add progress to our sport and by bringing the enthusiastic youth of our schools into contact with club canoeists go a long way to preventing the loss to our sport when paddlers leave their schools. Judging from the number of schools that take 'Canoeing Magazine' and assuming that each has an interested nucleus of twenty or more paddlers, our open canoe clubs should be filled to overflowing.

#### **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**

In the winter of last year a group of twenty men and women - all professionally involved in Outdoor Activities - ranging from Wardens, Organisers, Lecturers and Instructors at Outdoor Centres, decided there was a need for an Association to promote standards of teaching in Outdoor Activities. Such a body has now been formed - The Association for Outdoor Education.

To quote the chairman, "I am convinced that standards in teaching in Outdoor Activities are lower than probably any other field of education. "The aims of the Association is to correct this statement, along with other attendant problems.

The Association for Outdoor Activities aims "To ensure that outdoor education is of a standard compatible with the needs and abilities of young people. To identify and report on problems in outdoor education. To ensure efficient information services and relevant publicity. To further the recognition of outdoor education as an integral part of the educational system in the United Kingdom."

#### SPRINT SQUAD

With the Autumn here once again, the Olympic Sprint Training Squad comes together again for a series of training weekends. The list of dates can be found in our 'Month Ahead' page.

One point that was stated in the information supplied by the Sprint Racing Committee is of pleasing ponderance. Point 6. The emphasis of all Olympic Training Squad activities will be placed upon crew and Team training. Individual training, though obviously of immense importance, does not require

the sophisticated financial and organisational arrangements essential to the Team or crews, and will therefore be made use of only as a means of providing for improvements in Team or crew performances. It is essential to fully appreciate this fundamental principle of the Squad's functions, as the whole of the training programme will be prepared with these factors in mind.

My criticism of British Sprint Teams in the past has been that they have very infrequently reacted as a TEAM. Maybe by really forcing 'point 6' home we will see a National Team and not 'us and them'....

For those interested, the addresses of associations mentioned in editorial:

Hampshire Association of Canoeists - G. Lee, Esq., Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Nr. Southampton, Hants.

South East Schools Canoe Association - R.N. Castle Esq., Langley Park School for Boys, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham, Kent.

Weald Slalom Association - G. N. Jackson, Esq., 12 Dowlands Road, Great Bookham, Nr. Leatherhead, Surrey.

The Association for Outdoor Education - Miss S. Marshall (Lecturer), Coventry College of Education, Kirby Corner Road, Canley, Coventry.

\* Extracts from the Association's constitution.

# AROUND & ABOUT AROUND & ABOUT

#### **WOMENS SLALOM**

The ladies only slalom training weekend held at Symonds Yat earlier this year proved to be a great success although a little wet with bad weather. All those taking part agreed the instructors were first class and all benefited from the course.

Now, because the demand seems to be there, Pat Maynard is to run another weekend - 7th/8th November - which will be in the way of a follow-up on the first. The venue will be on slightly more difficult rapids on the River Monnow near Hereford. As before the course will take the form of instruction all day Saturday, followed by a folk evening (to help relax frayed nerves no doubt!), with a 16 to 20 gate

slalom event on the Sunday, which will include a judges event where the girls will be able to see top slalomists in action.

Among those instructing will be John Fazey, Ken Langford and John MacLeod. Full details of the course can be obtained from: Mrs Pat Maynard, 44 Billy Buns Lane, Wombourn, Wolverhampton, Staffs. Hurry, hurry, don't be left out of this weekend...

#### WOLVERHAMPTON L-D

The Wolverhampton Long Distance Race, held over a course from I ronbridge to Bridgnorth on 16th August, was preceded by a night of gales and storm. One wondered what the course would be like.... Fortunately the day stayed dry and surprisingly the river was below normal, although Jackfield rapids proved interesting to the 'K' boats. Times were a little slower this year due to the conditions but the entry was good with 113 paddlers competing, 105 of which finished the course.

#### NATIONAL RALLY OF BOATS

The above rally which attracted hundreds of boats from all over the country and thousands of spectators was held in the centre of Guildford during the second

weekend of August. Local canoe clubs turned out in full force to give a full public relations image the sport has often lacked.

During the four days of the show the British Canoe Union had an attractive stand in the main marquee, manned and erected by members of Woking Adventure Group. The stand was surrounded by 20 full-sized prints, kindly loaned by Canoeing Magazine and contained a K1, a slalom-boat, a B.A.T. and various items of canoeing equipment. Adventure Group members answered questions about the B.C. U., coaching, local clubs etc.

On the Saturday Guildford Canoeists put on an excellent flat water display in slalom boats which was witnessed and well appreciated by several hundred people.

Sunday saw both a slalom and a long distance race arranged mainly for the benefit of the general public. Caterham Canoe Club's organization of the race was excellent and it was unfortunate that the event was not witnessed by more people as the finish was some distance from the main show area. Certainly more spectators were in evidence at the slalom which was adjacent to the footpath to the rally ground entrance.

#### **WOKING CANOE CLUB**

On Thursday 24th September over 60 people attended an open meeting at Woking Youth Centre to discuss the formation of a Canoe Club in Woking. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Eric Corner, Woking District Youth Officer and the motion "That a canoe club beformed in Woking" was proposed by Mr Bob Gray and seconded by Mr John Butt. The motion was adopted by the meeting with a unanimous show of hands and the lively discussion that followed should lead to an extremely active and virile canoe club.

The first Annual General Meeting of the new club will be held on 12th November at Woking Youth Centre, Walton Road, and any interested persons are cordially invited to attend. For this meeting it is proposed to hire a spectacular film of the 1969 World Slalom Canoe Championships to show later in the evening.

The new club is already preparing an active programme of events and a first ambitious expedition has been arranged. This will take twenty-four canceists to North Wales for the second weekend in November to canoe the River Dee near Llangollen. The party will attempt 25 miles of some of the most exciting white water canoeing in Great Britain, including the famous section of the river in Llangollen itself which is used for international canoeing events. In order to canoe this river special permission, which is rarely obtained, has been given by various landowners and salmon fishing interest. It should certainly give the new club a big send off.

Anyone in and around Woking interested in joining the newly formed club, should either attend the meeting or write to: John Butt, 4Lindsay Road, New Haw, Weybridge, Surrey.

#### **SLALOM SECRETARY**

The British Canoe Union Slalom Committee Secretary, C.E. McAllister, has yet again changed his address. New address: C.E. McAllister, Hon. Secretary, The Flat, Mere Bank, Sandy Lane, Weaverham, NORTHWICH, Cheshire.

#### **SCHOOLS SLALOM**

The first Schools Slalom Championships were held on 13th September at Woking. The standard of competition was very high (including one 1st Div paddler) and it shows that canoe slalom is beginning to thrive in the schools and youth clubs in the South East of England, despite the lack of white water.

Langley Park School showed great strength in depth, taking the first two places in the Open Team event, as well as 13 of the 15 trophies – the other two being won by Battersea County School and Woking Grammar School. It is to be hoped that these regional championships are the first step towards starting a National Schools Slalom Championship.

R. N. Castle, B. C. U. Coach.

It is interesting to note that in these first championships competitors from twelve schools or youth groups took part. (Ed.)

#### **USK RIVER RACE**

After one years lapse - caused by withdrawal of permission to use the river by one of the riparian owners after misbehaviour of canoeists - the Chalfont Park Canoe Club will be again organising the Usk River White Water Race. The date is 7th/8th November and the event will have ranking status. Entries should be sent to: John Freeman, 20 Woodberry Gardens, London, N. 12.

This event will be held under I.C.F. rules and competitors are reminded of the following points:

SAFETY - All boats must be rendered unsinkable. All competitors must wear protective headgear and buoyancy aids having a minimum of 6kg. Loops to I.C.F. standard (6mm. cord hand width loops) must be provided at each end of the boat.

ASSISTANCE - Any competitor seeing another in apparent danger shall give him all assistance in his power. Failure to do so may result in his disqualification for life.



# touring part 2 the BARROW by T.F. O'Sullivan.

#### CONTINUING FROM LAST MONTH....

It was a long, low sloping affair of great stone blocks, with a concrete still, and a railway bridge built over it. The water slid back and polished under the bridge, to break into a torrent of white foam where it dipped over the spillway, between branches of ash and alder jammed there by the winter floods, under the weir a thin curtain of delicate mist hung over the tumbling water, tinted briefly with rainbow hues where the sunlight caught it. We paddled under the only navigable arch of the bridge and lined the Kayel down over the end of the weir, empty save for her load of camping gear. This procedure was to serve us well on most of the Barrow weirs, which in that season had enough water to take an empty boat, but not sufficient to make it possible to shoot them.

There are twenty-three weirs between Athy and the head of the tideway at Saint Mullins, forty-three miles to the south. The navigation consists of stretches of navigable river, interrupted every couple of miles by weirs, with bypass lock canals to carry on around the rapids and shallows. The Barrow is navigable by barges and cruisers, like the Thames, but with a notable difference in that the barges ceased to run ten years ago and only eight ornine cruisers a year pass through the navigation. On this busy Easter weekend we met two cruiser parties and one cheerful bunch of Trinity College students in an ancient lifeboat, very much the worse for wear, with a great jagged hole in its foredeck as though it had been hit by an artillery shell.

"We like lots of ventilation," they told us gravely.

You can tell an unfrequented waterway by the behaviour of the swans. On the Liffey and the Grand Canalnear Dublin, they will eat out of your hand, but here on the Barrow, even where the river was a hundred yards wide, they flapped frantically ahead

of our boat for miles, flogging the water with their wings and uttering loud, snorting croaks of alarm: thus proving that the Mute Swan has a voice of a kind - though very little brain - and that the Barrow is a little used navigation. It was no use trying to pass them out by putting on a sprint. Swans sitting on the bank would even waddle stupidly into the water at our approach to join in the crazy croaking and flapping. April is the nesting month, and Brian had a theory that the swans weren't all that dum: maybe the great display of alarm was intended to distract dangerous characters like ourselves away from the nests. The thing began to give us a guilt complex, as though we were polluting the environment or something. It went on until the swans reached that mysterious barrier marking the end of their own stretch of territory, when they would labour into the air and wheel back up river, suddenly transformed, regal and beautiful as they passed high above us on singing wings.

We went shopping at Carlow, a fine old town which in mediaeval times was the strongest fortress on the frontier of the Pale. Wherever we went on the Barrow we found no difficulty in revicualling, for the shops in all the little towns on the river were excellently stocked. But this was Easter Bank Holiday, and all the shops in Carlow seemed to be closed. We tried knocking on side doors and even back doors, but to no avail, and we were about to give up in despair when we found one of those tiny grocery shops which the supermarkets are supposed to have put out of business long ago, where a silverhaired old lady in a flower-patterned apron sold everythingfrombutter to bulleyes in a space seven feet square. Sun-tan oil posed a problem, for it looked as if that glorious Easter sunshine would last for ever, and we were beginning to look like a plate of lobster Thermidor. The old lady had none of the usual preparations, but she insisted that olive oil was better.

"Sure that III give you a finer tan than anything

you'd be getting in the chemists, if they were open itself." So we smeared ourselves liberally with the sick-making stuff and sailed on southwards, no longer lobsters but Portuguese sardines!

The castle at Carlow, once a corner stone of the Pale, is now reduced to one frowning wall with a tower at each end. There would be more of it to see were it not for the misguided enterprise of a certain Dr. Midleton, who in 1814 proposed to turn the oldkeep into a lunatic asylum. In order to increase the capacity of his institution he thought he would reduce the thickness of the walls, and his way of doing this was to set off a great charge of gunpowder inside, bringing most of the castle tumbling down. It is not known whether the doctor achieved his ambition to build a madhouse, or for that matter whether he spent a spell in one himself, which might have done him some good at that.

Milford Weir is like a hockey stick with a broken handle. This was once a busy milling centre and there were millraces leading off from both ends of the weir. Most of the flow seemed to go down the right-hand one, which started at the long end of the weir - the handle of the hockey stick. A short distance below this, the water, unable to continue up the overgrown mill leat, burst its way with a roar through a great breach in the weir, creating a very

heavy rapid in the river all the way down to Milford Bridge. Across the entrance to this-breached mill-race there was the sunken hulk of a canal barge, presumably to prevent cruisers from entering the leat and being carried down to the breach. A narrow gap remained between the stern of the barge and the weir wall and through this the water gushed as though down a sluice. We shot through this gap like a bullet, ducking our heads to avoid being decapitated by the tiller bar of the barge which leaned murderously across the gap. A great stopper wave, only to find ourselves hurtling down the leat towards the breach in the weir....

"Back up" I bellowed above the roar of the water. I'm not sure how I expected us to in that torrent, but our desperate backsweeps resulted in a frantic form of the ferry glide which deposited us against the wall of the weir a few yards above the breach. We got wetly out to review the situation and found that we had attracted a sizeable attendance of spectators from County Carlow and other parts of the province of Leinster, who were enjoying the action from the roadway above.

A certain amount of dignity seemed called for in the circumstances, and we decided against trying to shoot the breach. (a) Because we didn't want to lose anice new boat and a lot of expensive camping



Black Castle at Leighlin Bridge, Co. Carlow.

equipment. (b) Because we didn't feel like taking a ducking in full view of a large part of the population of the eastern counties and (c) because we weren't lunatics. There would be plenty of excitment anyway, in running the gaunt let of the rapid in the river below, where the water came roaring out of the breach. So we carried down on the dry spillway well above the breach and launched out into the fast water. We followed the line of the weir until we had plenty of turning room and then headed downstream, paddlinghard to get way on for to tussle with the cross current from the leat. As we came level with the break in the weir the water from the millrace hit us amidships with a crash, but the Kayel took it like a steeplechaser and joyfully bounced her way down through the boiling rapid to where the water was smooth and silent again as we shoot under the arches of Milford Bridge.

Dusk was coming on as we pulled into the left bank and pitched our tent in the lee of a fallen tree, about a mile below Milford. Here the river divided around a small island, all overgrown with alder, ash, and salley. The navigation followed the far channel, but on ourside of the island the river muttered and gurgled over rocky shallows and swirled in dark eddies under the bare, overhanging branches - good places to try for trout. While Brian finished getting the tent up, I went in search of dry driftwood to

starta fire. There was no shortage of this, desposited all along the banks by the winterfloods. The Barrow tends to be muddy below its banks, but here above the Island the floods had built up a gravel shillet that made a firm, crescent-shaped beach just under our campsite. It bore the many prints of coot and moorhen, and again higher up the river; five claws and a pad; the seal of an otter.

We built our campfire there on the gravel beach, and the appetising smell of frying bacon soon mingled with the tang of the woodsmoke. On the far bank, beyond the tip of the island, a man fished for perch from the trackline in the gathering dusk. Behind him to the west, over the black bulk of the Baunree woods, the sky glowed red; tomorrow would be yet another warm day. Later we lay in our sleeping bags and listened to the river talking drowsily to itself as it spilled into the dark pools where the trout slept. Now and then the watery croak of a moorhen came from the reeds. The moon would be up presently; would otter be frightened away by the man-scent, or would it come from the river and run along the beach again?

Leighlinbridge is a quaint little spot, with the oldest bridge on the river, built in 1320 by Canon Jakis, the engineering churchman from Kildare, and the ivy-clad Black Castle hard by, a relic of the days when this was a strategic river crossing.



The Barrow at Graiguenamanagh, Co. Kilkenny. (Irish Tourist Board photos.)

You pronounce it 'Lacklenbridge', and you can translate it as the Bridge in the Middle of the Glen, for here the Barrow divides its valley in two. Bagenalstown, below it, is delightfully situated on a bend of the river where it washes the foothills of the Blackstairs mountains. Its name recalls its founder, Walter Bagenal, who intended it to be of considerable architectural pretensions and to bear the name Versailles!. I have always had great sympathy for people with lofty ambitions, and a tendency to fall flat on their faces, and such a one was Walter Bagenal. For when the coach road was built it bypassed the new town, Walter's plans came to nought, and today the only building with architectural pretensions is the courthouse, a love 1y little Greek temple over the river.

At Borris, further south, dwelt another remarkable character who was rather more successful at realising his ambitions than was Walter Bagenal. This man not only built a town: he built a railway as well, and this was truly remarkable, for he had neither hands or feet. In ancient times this part of the Barrow belonged to the MacMurroughs and the Kavanaghs, kings of Leinster. It was a MacMurrough who invited the Normans to invade Ireland, and a succession of MacMurroughs

and Kavanaghs gave them a hard time as soon as they landed. Art Oge MacMurrough Kavanagh, who harried Richard II on his march up the Barrow, was the most fierce rebel, against whose power all Leinster could not stand. His descendant, Arthur MacMurrough Kavanagh, was born in 1831 with only short stumps where his arms and legs should have been, but he showed himself possessed of the indomitable spirit of his illustrious ancester. He learned to ride at two years of age, was a crack shot and keen angler, undertook a journey on horseback through the Middle East, Russia and India with two companions (neither of whom survived the trip), returned to Ireland to rescue the family estates from the effects of the famine of 1848, built a large part of the village of Borris and brought the railway there at his own expense, and became a Member of Parliament. No doubt he would have been a keen canoeist - he was almost drowned shooting the rapids of the Nile - and he was certainly an enthusiastic yachtsman. When attending Parliament at Westminster he liked to sail his two-masted schooner across the Irish Sea and up the Thames, reviving the ancient privilege of M.P.s to moor directly under the Houses of Parliament.

TO BE CONTINUED ....

## **AUSTRALIAN EVENTS**

With the ever increasing sale of 'Canoeing Magazine' in Australia and the interest shown by canoeists 'down-under' we feel there is now sufficient demand to run the list of events in Australia for the coming season.

NOVEMBER

8th/MANLY-WARR. LONG DISTANCE TOUR. Fullers Bridge, Lane Cove River, to Berry Island. All classes, no entries.

15th/CENTRAL COAST SPRINT REGATTA. Wyong Creek, Wyong. All classes.

22nd/MANLY-WARR, LONG DISTANCE. Manly to the Spit. Touring, kayak, canoes, surf skis. Entries 6/11/70.

28th-29th/ILLAWARRA JUNIOR SLALOM. Burrier on the Shoal-haven River. Events for canoeists from six to sixteen.

DECEMBER

6th/ILLAWARRA SALT WATER RACE. Wollongong Harbour to South Beach. Open TK1, open C2, mixed C2.

4th-6th/RIVER CC BIRTHDAY CARNIVAL. Bents Basin, Nepean River.

13th/ST. GEORGE ROWING CLUB SPRINT REGATTA. Cooks River. All classes including surf skis.

26th-31st/RIVERCCCHRISTMASCARNIVAL. River to be decided.

JANUARY 1971

1st-3rd/ILLAWARRA SLALOM. Childowla, Murrumbidgee River.

17th/ST. GEORGE SPRINTREGATTA. Cooks River. All classes including surf skis.

24th/STATE LONG DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS -N. S. W. CANOE ASSOCIATION. Entries 8/1/71.

30th-31st/STA TE SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS - N. S. W. CANOE ASSOCIATION. Wyangala or Childowla.

FEBRUARY

 $7 {\rm th/ST.}$  GEORGE SPRINT REGATTA. Cooks River, All classes including surf skis.

13th/LILLI PILLI TO AUDLEY RACE (4 miles). Lilli Pilli Baths, 1 p.m. All classes, entries at start.

14th/NEPEAN ANNUAL REGATTA. Bents Basin. All sprint races also fun races and polo (1) ladies and (2) men. Entries before start.

27th-28th/SPRINT CH

27th-28th/STATE SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS - N.S. W. CANOE ASSOCIATION. All classes. Wyong Creek, Wyong.

MARCH

13th-14th/CANOBOLASCC LACHLAN RIVER RACE AND SLALOM Lachian River below Valves to Cowra. Juniors may start at Darby's Falls. Down River Race 9am. Sat., slalom at camp site Sunday.

20th-21st/AUSTRALIAN SPRINT RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS(QId).

APRIL

9th-11th/(Easter)LILLI PILLI SLALOMAND DOWN RIVER RACE. Uriarra Crossing, Canberra. All classes. Entries at venue.

9th-11th/RIVER CC EASTER TRIP. River to be decided.

18th/LILLI PILLI PORT HACKING CLASSIC (last year's Bicentenary race). Audley to Royal Motor Yacht Club, Gunnamatta Bay. 3 of a kind to make up a class. Entries at the start.

JUNE

13th/RIVER CC COOKS RIVER RACE. Cooks River. All canoes.

SEPTEMBER

4th-5th/RIVER CC 25 MILER. Nepean River.

For additional information on any event please contact the secretary of the club involved.



## TOWARDS MUNICH

Blondhair, 25 years old - that is "Miss Munich 1970". She will be playing the lead in the third promotional film to be made by the Organizing Committee for the 1972 Olympic Games. The 20-minute colour film will be called "A Town Invites You". The hostess who will act as guide through the film will be wearing "Dirndl" (local costume), evening dress, jeans or a Rococo costume, and her name: Uschi Badenberg. She was chosen from 235 candidates by a 10-man jury headed by President Willi Daume.

The competition rules stipulated that the winner must be charming, amiable, witty, adaptable and an outstanding personality. That's what the Munich newspapers wrote when they called on all the pretty girls in Munich to enter the competition. And Uschi fits the bill. Munich (Olympia Press).





## BEGINNING CANOESPORT

STANTON/CLARK

part 10

#### FERRY GLIDE

We are sometimes called upon to cross a fast flowing river without running foul of moored craft or rocks etc. The principle involved is as follows. If the kayak, near one bank, is headed toward a point on the other bank, it will obviously not make that point as it will be carried down stream while crossing the river. The answer here is to head somewhat up stream in order to arrive at the chosen mark. (fig. 120) shows this being done. The angle between the fore and aft centre line of the kayak and the direction the stream is flowing, will vary the speed of the stream and the speed of the kayak. The speed of the stream is seldom constant all across the river, and as it varies, the speed and/or heading of the kayak must be changed in order to make the chosen mark. No strokes are barred. You may sometimes go all the way across by sweep strokes on one side only. The only important thing is to go in the chosen direction. It is also important to be able to do this going astern. That is to say, with stern upstream.

#### GENERAL REMARKS

By now the relationships between the different strokes will have become apparent. You should be able to change from one stroke to another instantly to meet any change of circumstance, and execute them all on either side of the kayak.

You can also use your imagination to develop combinations such as:-

A combination of running draw and straight draw.

Something between a high sculling lift and a sculling draw (a useful draw in rough water).

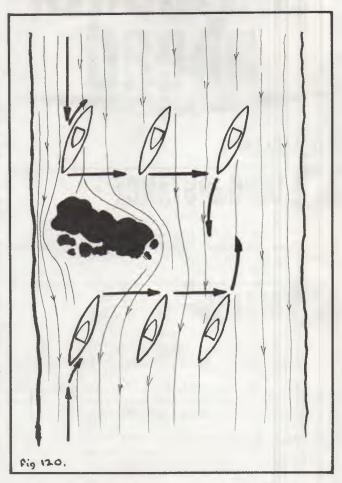
First half of a back sweep, last half of a high back sweep, half a sculling draw, and repeat.

Twist to bring the blade nearer the canoe when doing a sculling draw, so that the kayak is moved ahead or astern rather than sideways.

Generally speaking, make your strokes long and steady. giving the boat time to move during the stroke.

A quick dab will do little more than get the paddle blade wet.

Then you can forget the instructions and just put the boat where you want it.



Thus we conclude the article on basic strakes. With practice and experience these strokes can be shortened or adapted to suit your own needs. At slaloms, Long Distance or Sprint racing events you, the novice, may see many of these strokes executed in greatly varying ways but remember, it is only by a thorough knowledge of these basic techniques that experts can modify such strokes.

This series has not been intended to make you a top slalomist or sprint racing paddler but rather to put you on the way to being a better canoeist, a master of the element and your craft, thus able to enjoy more fully the sport of canoeing.

One last word, never play the fool in our sport and always respect the water. Whether placid river, calm lake or sea, water has a great power, a power that can turn against you within a very short time. ALWAYS RESPECT THE WATER.

I record my thanks to Dennis Stanton, who did so much of the work in preparing this series. At a later date the whole series, along with many more line drawings and diagrams, will be available in bookform.

# the month ahead

#### NOVEMBER



### **LONG DISTANCE**

15th/EXE DESCENT CANOE RACE. B19 P10. Details: C. Leach, 41, Old Tiverton Road, Exeter Devon. (EXETER CC).



#### SLALOM

1st/LUNE SLALOM, (1st DIV). Details: J. Iceton, 153, Dale Road, Spondon, Derby, (MIDLAND CC).

1st/LUDLOW SLALOM, (3rd DIV). Details: R.B. Leadley, 1, Silver Birch Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, Warks. (BIRMINGHAM CC).

15th/WELSH DEE WILD WATER RACE (IV). Details: F. Bennett, 22, Chaucer Avenue, Reddish, Stockport, Cheshire. (MANCHESTER CC).

15th/LEVEN WILD WATER TEST. Details: as above.

#### **DECEMBER**

6th/ SLALOM COMMITTEE MEETING, Manchester.

13th/TEES WILD WATER RACE (IV). Details: West Yorks CC c/o 6 Ash Lane, Ferry Lane, Stanley, Wakefield, Yorks. (WEST YORKS CC)



#### NOTES

RIVER SWALE WHITE WATER RACE - THE TELEMARK CLUB

The organiser of the River Swale White Water Race has been posted away from his unit and all enquiries regarding the race should now be sent to: OIC Canoeing, 24th Signal Regiment, Messines Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks. The race will still be held on the date published in the racing calendar.



#### COURSES

SCOUT/VS and GUIDE CANOE COURSES at the LONGRIDGE CENTRE and covering all aspects of the sport. Full details available from: The Warden, NSBAC Longridge, Quarrywood Lane, Marlow, Bucks.

CANOE COURSES, both for beginners and advanced paddlers, organised by CCPR/BCU at Bisham Abbey Marlow, and Plas y Brenin, Snowdonia. Details: General Secretary, Dept. B, 26 Park Creseent, London, WIN 4AJ.



#### CANOE ROLLING

Since the beginning of October 'Canoe Rolling' has become the in-thing. Sessions start once again throughout the country and if clubs will supply information, details will gladly be put in our pages.

#### - LONDON

Canoe Rolling instruction will commence each Tuesday from the beginning of October 9pm – 10pm at Fulham Public Baths, North End Road, S. W. 6. 3/per session. Admission is by ticket only and details can be obtained from: S.F. Holtorp, 54 Claygate Lane, Esher, Surrey. Tel: 398 3118 (evenings).

#### STOLEN OR LOST

PRIJON PHANTOM SPRINT

On 2nd October a kayak and three paddles were removed from a car in Droitwich, Worcester. The kayak was a Prijon Phantom Sprint 2, made by the Northern Wild Water Centre, and was a clear hull with deep red deck. It had several patches as well as team squares and number discs on the deck, also a new seat had been mounted above the original one.

The paddles were all left-handed. One was a Moldau from which the veneer was beginning to peel, the other two were J.H. Paddles with translucent amber blades, one having a yellow covered medal shaft.

Readers in the Worcester area are asked to keep a look out for the above equipment which is likely to be in the hands of inexperienced canoeist or canoeists unattached to a club, and report any details of the whereabouts of such a kayak to: Stuart Fisher, Priors! Cottage, Middleton, Welshpool, Montgomeryshire.

#### STREAMLYTE BANNER

Streamlyte of Lancing are trying to trace their banner last used and missing after the Grandtully Slalom at Easter. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the banner should contact: Streamlyte, Marlborough Road, Churchill Estate, Lancing, Sussex.

### MIKE CLARK on competitive CANOEING

#### NATIONAL SPRINTS

The latter part of August saw the British Championships both of Sprint and Long Distance Racing.

Pangbourne was once again the venue for the National Sprint Championships and the full programme of events, which were very well attended by paddlers both from the south and far north, produced some really exciting finishes, if not altogether predictable results. The senior events brought medals for L. Oliver of Lincoln in the K1 500m, K1 1000m, with A. Edwards in the K2 500m, while the Argonauts won both the K4 and Relay events.

In junior events all the medals went to members of the Royal Canoe Club, being shared between West, Phelps, Lawrence, and Perrin, a very fine display of talent from Royal that has worked hard on its younger members during the past year. Of the Womens events, Pauline Squire of Leamington retained the K1 500m title, while teamed with Di Lawler of Richmond, the pair took the K2 event.

This year Pangbourne was quite a changed venue with a fine buoyed course and recently clean banks. However with Holme Pierrepont being used later this year for Olympic Team Training I would assume that this will now become the venue for National Championships in future years.

#### NATIONAL LONG DISTANCE

The British Long Distance Canoe Championships went this year to Exeter and once again held over the August holiday weekend. Unlike in the past, the Championships were held over three days, the singles classes being held on the Saturday, a non-ranking sprint regatta on the Sunday, and the doubles classes on the Monday. For the first time this enabled paddlers to race both singles or doubles if they wished and the whole event went off very well. In both classes the entry was exceptional – 64 in senior K1, 39 in junior, and 15 in womens K1, while in the doubles there were 37 senior crews, a rather small 14 crew entry in the juniors, with 5 in the womens – and once again our friends from Denmark and Ireland competed.

Of the course, this was a little disappointing with quite low water making a difficult and dangerous







shoot of two weirs, while further down there were many shallows that put more than a few competitors out of the race with damaged rudders or holed kayaks. However organisation was extremely good and the Exeter Canoe Club are to be congratulated on their efforts. One point of great interest was the start gate. This was of the type used in horse racing until the introduction of starting-stalls and although tried earlier this year at Worcester - where it was of little success - the Exeter one was a good professional job and worked efficiently making the starts of large field pretty fair.

In the senior singles event it was N. Jackson of Grappenhall who once again retained his champion-ship title. Jackson did not lead off the start but was well placed throughout the course and by the portage off the river he was third, making a great effort to take the lead over the last miles and it was only the final sprint that gave him the win over the Danish boy E. Christiansen - only 19sec separated them. D. Parnham of Richmond managed to hold off L. Oliver of Lincoln to take the third place. In the senior doubles it was the Danish crew all the way - J. Soren-

sen/E.Christiansen - making a fine win against a very strong challenge from the Royal Marine crew of Evans/Alan-Williams. The Richmond crew of Bosher/Lawler took third just under three minutes down.

In junior events there was a great tussle in the singles with J. West of Royal Canoe Club holding off the Danish paddler T. Jenson to win by just under a minute, while in third and fourth there was a surprisingly strong challenge from the two Irish boys. In the doubles the win went to the Danish crew with Ireland taking the second. From the results it will be noted that the third crew of J. West/J. Phelps was disqualified. Leading off the start and on to both weirs, the Royal crew sustained boat damage on the first and were forced to make temporary repairs at the second, leaving the weir almost in last place. However the pair were soon pushing through the field and on catching a slow senior crew, swapped kayaks - and it might be added not into a top K2. The pair then proceeded to push right through the field and pull into third place by the finish. However an objection to the boat change forced organisers to



disqualify them - a pity for had the race been just a little longer they would have had to disqualify their first place ...!

The womens events produced a win in the singles for Miss Jane Rowse - that exile from slalom - and although I personally would have rated her in the first three, I feel it was only the damaged craft of Miss Squires and Di Lawler that gave her the win. Taking the second place was young Kathy Smith of the Royal - not quite being able to catch Jane - a girl who will certainly get a great deal better during the next couple of seasons. The womens doubles went to form with Miss Pauline Squires/Mrs Di Lawler of Leamington/Richmond making a fine win over the Irish girls by some four minutes. The second British crew was in fourth place, that of Miss Kathy Smith/Miss Christine Battie ot Royal.

The 500m sprint regatta on the Sunday went off very well and provided an interesting interlude between the championship events, however I regret there is not space to make other comments.

#### THE LIFFEY DESCENT

The first week in September saw the XIth International Liffey Descent, sponsored once again by the Bottlers of Coca-Cola. This year the course was changed to take in three new weirs on a slightly longer course but cutting out the long drag into Dublin at the finish. My own opinion is that this new course is even more spectacular than before, providing greater interest for both paddlers and spectators.

In past years the Liffey Descent has always received 'rave' reports in 'Canoeing Magazine' but for the last two years I have often had the comments from paddlers that the course was not as hard as expected or implied from these reports. Conditions of course change from year to year and I have never seen the rapids at Celbridge anywhere near as good as the first year I covered the race. Paddling techniques over the last few years have greatly improved – who would have even thought of shooting that monster Lucan Weirfour years ago? And certainly the last two years have seen complacency or almost contempt for such









- 1. The start of senior singles at Exeter.
- Leaders in the singles at Exeter making the canal portage.
- 3. Jane Rowse at the turn on Exeter race.
- 4. Kathy Smith making portage at Exeter.
- 5. Irish womens K2 making weir portage.
- Danish winners of the senior class at Exeter – on the canal.
- 7. West/Fhelps making Double Locks portage.
- 8. Successful shoot of Lucan on Liffey.
- K1s over Staffan Weir the new killer of the Liffey.
- 10. N. Jackson behind spray on Palmerston.
- 11. Time even to look round for winning junior crew on Liffey!
- 12. Who's this? None other than the Kirton/Irish Frecision pair!
- 13. Juniors winners portaging Lucan.
- 14. Touring doubles winners Royal Signals making shoot a Palmerston.

hazards as the Wren's Nest or Palmerston Weir. This new course no-one can be complacent about..! Just take a look at the new 'terror' Straffan Weir, less than 1000m from the new start. Looking down on the weir from the above bridge before the race, most were of the opinion it would be an easy shoot -how wrong can you get! Certainly it looked interesting but the water could not really be judged until you can see a kayak going over - then you have the comparison of size.

The Danes wrote off £200 worth of kayaks, Gray/Gilliver travelled from England to do just 1000m, while many of the K2s kinked over the first weir causing greater trouble further down the course. Certainly the 'Descent' has gained back all respect from paddlers that it enjoyed five years ago....

First off were the K2s - both seniors and juniors - and after this first shock at Straffan and the other two weirs above Celbridge, the lead was taken up by the junior crew of G. Kolar/D. Lawrence of Richmond /Royal Canoe Clubs - two lads I had brought over to the race and arrived only at 5.30a. m. that morning, thus not having seen a single weir on the course save this first one! "Where do we go!" was their shout at all the weirs. Where did they go indeed, the pair were doing just great and well in the lead....

Through Celbridge, over the Leixlip Dam, and down to Lucan. Here a quick portage and on to the three hazards of Anna Liffey, Wren's Nest and Palmerston Weirs. At Palmerston the pair were still out in front and taking anything and everything with ease. Over Palmerston in fine style – with even time for Lawrence to look round! – and now the boys were certainly on their way to not only winning the event but also making a better time than that of the seniors...!

A full six minutes clear of the Irish crew in second place and over seven minutes faster than the seniors, G. Kolar/D. Lawrence came into the finish at Islandbridge to win their first Liffey.

In the senior doubles, with most top crews having retired - P. Lawler/M. Bosher of Richmond once again making a very spectacular photo as they tried to shoot Lucan (see cover) and Danish crews all out after the first three weirs - the win went to 'the old men', D. Green/A. Stonley of Viking Kayak Club, with Pawlow / Wink of the Royal Signals taking second. N. Jackson yet again won in the senior singles, being over five minutes ahead of the only Danish paddler to finish - E. Christiansen. J. West of Royal took the junior class in fine form, while in the womens singles the win went to Jane Rowse.

One outstanding performance went to the winning crew of the touring doubles R. Story/M. Bull of the Royal Signals Canoe Club. These two had been practising the day before and severely damaged their kayak, completely breaking off the front four foot. When I arrived in the early hours of Saturday, there they were busy repairing the kayak in the main marquee – it was just ready in time to race...! Well done lads.

If you didn't race the Liffey this year and think its a piece of cake - try it next year....







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### ARKANSAS RIVER RACE

#### raced and reported by Peter & Eda EGGER

#### 

A report on an American 'classic', by an Australian, for an English magazine – you can't get much more 'international' than that!

The official programme states: "A group of men sitting around a coffee cup gave life to one of the most talked about events in boating. Twenty-two years ago, the race was conceived. It came about in an unpublicized, undramatic fashion. Two merchants, drinking coffee (because it was too cold that February day to do anything else) challenged each other to a canoe race from Salida to Canon City through the Royal Gorge. The race would cover 56 miles. Word of the challenge spread and two Swiss boysheard of the race while in this country running other rivers. Their boats were small folding boats. They announced that they wanted to enter the competition. Of the 23 entrants in the race that year only the Swiss boys reached the finish line (the coffee drinkers did not run). "

"The Swiss winners suggested the course be shortened and for the second year the race ended at the mouth of the gorge. It was suicide to take small boats into the Gorge between towering thousand foot cliffs and the 56 mile course was an expedition of endurance only."

"With the race in its third year the course was shortened to its present length, which still makes it the longest amateur White Water Race in the U.S.A. To-day, it is rated as one of the sport spectaculars of the nation. Each June boatmen from all over the world gather in Salida, Colorado, to fight the 25.7 miles of white water held on the Arkansas River. Boatmenfrom France, Germany, England, Switzerland, Austria, Canada, U.S.A, and even the Ironcurtain country Czechoslovakia – the world's finest boaters – have pitted their skills against the roaring boulder strewn river."

"During the first years every conceivable boat from bomber belly tanks to cataract boats were seen in the race. Although these craft were safer, the canoes and folding boats were turning in the best times."

"Also changing the complexion was the appearance of the foreign boatmen. The Slalom is a good example of this. Slalom racing is very popular in Europe so it was only natural that the first Slalom race held in America should develop in Salida in 1953."

Salida (a Spanish word meaning 'Gateway') is a

smallish town of 7,000 people situated in the Rocky Mountain Range which runs up the middle of North America. The town has an altitude of 6,500 ft and is in a lush basin surrounded by mountain peaks in the 14,000 ft mark.

The races are held every June when the snow is melting and the water is at its highest. The water this year really drove that point home! Two weeks prior to the competition a large fall of snow was recorded all over the Rockies. Two weeks of hot summer sunshine brought smiles to the organisers faces, worries to the competitors and an atmosphere of excitement to the whole festivities.

All foreign canoeists were housed in the FIBARK (First in Boating Arkansas River) Clubhouse which was on the river bank and a training course was set up for the practice during the week. Competitors came from many parts and included canoeists from West Germany, Austria, Australia, France, Canada, Czechoslovakia, England and the U.S.A.

Friday 19th June saw the start of the competition with the first run of the International Slalom. Women, junior, men, in K1, C1, C2, and mixed C2 all paddled the same course, which was set about 800 yards in length with nineteen gates in the most difficult spots.

The Saturday started with a parade, and then events for skin-divers, fishermen and a hooligan race for young kids. In the afternoon the second run of the Slalom was held, with the competition becoming very intense. The West German, Berndt Kast 21 years old from Augsburg who had been sponsored by the German Canoe Association, had taken the lead in the first run with a total of 197 points, leaving quite a substantial gap to second and third places. For the past five years he has been German K1 Champion and was part of the winning team in 1969. One could sense the concern that many paddlers felt about this situation and the above facts alone inhibited many.

Berndt Kast of course won the event, not bettering his first run, while second place went to Chuck Lyda, a seventeen year old from the U.S.A. Chuck was a member of the party who went to the World Championships last year and the experience he gained in France has blended his reflexes and stamina into a very successful style. His best score was 232pts, followed by a Canadian and Austrian paddlers.

On completion of my own second run I was in second place but by the time all paddlers had made the course, my placing was pushed down to 7th with a best score of 248.2 points. In the Women's event, Eda came 8th with 905 pts. in a field of 12, the winner being from the U.S.A. with 364pts.

The mixed C2 event was won by the Czechoslov-akian team with a very polished performance and best score of 466 pts.

On Sunday 21st the Down River Races were held. The women and juniors were off first, paddling through 5 miles of rough water and finishing at Bear Creek Rapids. Our Australian girl was 1 min 50 sec behind the winner and making 6th place.

Next off was the Men's K1 and I was first away,

the paddlers starting at 30sec. intervals. Fifteen finished the course with Berndt Kast again taking the line honours with a very creditable 1hr 58min 40.9 seconds – breaking the previous record of 2hr 4min. A Canadian took second place with 2hr 3min 6.5sec. followed again by an Austrian with 2hr 14.5sec. I was placed 13th with 2hr 16min 16.7sec.

As mentioned earlier the water level was very high and although some of the dangerous holes could be by-passed, one had to look for short-cuts with fast clean water rather than be caught in the choppy water. Two rapids which were renowned for their danger, (Tin-cup and Cottonwood) had a large pressure-wave\* so making it most difficult to maintain forward direction. Many competitors lost valuable minutes in being spun around in these rapids.

Although I did not bring home any trophies, it was very heart-warming to know that I was not very far behind the winners in both the Slalom and Down River Race. More so with the Down River Race, since it

(\*The Australians, I think, give the term 'pressure wave' to a 'stopper'. Ed.)

is considered the main event, yet I was able to manage only 17.5min behind the leader over 26 miles. Considering that I was not well most of the week, that I had not paddled the whole course before, that I had to borrow a touring kayak as no Down River Racer was available, and that I do not rate as the top paddler in Australia, I think Australian paddling is not very far behind the Americans who have been over to several World Championships. Our approach to style and techniques, to boat design and organisation ability has a very substantial background which is relatively unaffected at present by foreign ideas. This me ans that we have put a lot of our own ideas into CANOEING in Australia and this makes our chances in further International Competition even more encouraging. Hand in hand with this is the Australian-wide encouragement and well wishes we were given as we left, implying that all 'Aussie White Water Canoeists are very keen to get Australian Canoeing on the map!.

For this encouragement Eda and I would like to thank everyone very much. We only hope that other canoeists will be able to share in the overseas competitions in the years to come.

# COMMENT LETTERS to the EDITOR

#### DEVIZES - WESTMINSTER AGAIN

I was most interested to read in Canoeing Magazine of the possibility that the DW rules may be changed to permit feeding of crews by supporters; also to read Brian Webb's criticism of such a move.

For my part I welcome this sign that the organisers do not regard the existing DW rules as sacrosanct. For some time it has seemed to me that the increased entry and competition in DW has highlighted areas that can be improved both as regards the rules and the way the race is run.

May I be permitted to list some suggestions? It would be interesting to hear an organisers opinion. A letter that I sent direct some years ago failed to raise any comment from them. It would also be interesting to hear other DW competitors opinions.

The suggestions, which are listed below, concern the senior race.

1. How about a singles entry for the race? The rules to specify that an entry must consist of two singles racing as a pair. The singles pair to remain in hailing distance at all times. Retirement to be compulsory for both if one member had to give up. The same minimum kit requirements for singles pairs as

for doubles. The South African Pmb to Durban marathon includes singles entries in this form and it seems more popular than the doubles entry. Portageing is achieved by carrying the two singles in rick shaw style and presents no special difficulty.

- 2. Why are female entries not allowed? Presumably not many would wish to enter, but nevertheless why should they be barred?
- 3. Can't the amateur declaration on the entry form be dropped?
- 4. What about more publicity for the race, or for sponsorship? At the moment publicity seems non existent outside canoeing publications. Money so derived could be used to defray costs and reduce the stiff &3 10s. entry charge.
- 5. Is it really necessary to charge separately for the rule book, the course diagram, and for extra entry forms, in addition to the £3 10s. entry fee?
- 6. Can a list of entries be sent to competitors about a week in advance of the race? The competitors list in the published programme is not a satisfactory substitute as one often cannot get ones hands on it until after the race.
- 7. Why not publish a competitors intended start time? I don't forsee any objecting, and it would make spec-

tating more interesting.

- 8. Would it be possible to organise kit checking at Devizes so as to enable a crew to elect to have their kit checked well in advance? After checking the canoe and kit to be placed in a checked compound where it would have to remain until the crew concerned started. This would help reduce the fearful scramble around 8am Good Friday when scores of crews are attempting to get themselves checked. It would also benefit crew and checker by avoiding a check in the dark when a crew chooses to leave during the night Friday/Saturday.
- 9. On the subject of compulsory kit, which I favour retaining, although I don't think it promotes realistic camping kit:
- Could a minimum 2lbs weight blanket be reintroduced as an alternative to a sleeping bag?
- Can't the stove fuel be exténded to allow solid fuel? This would permit the use of Meta.
- 10. On the subject of water points:
- Could they be in the same place each year?
- Can they be clearly locatable from the instruction (Newbury water was at the junior campsite not Newbury Lock)
- Can water points be (invariably) lit at night?
- Can check point officials know the location of the next water point so as to be able to answer a thirsty competitors query?
- 11. Couldn't adequate control of the race be achieved with less check points and more roving officials? The constant "whats your number" shouts must get local residents down during the night.
- 12. Would it be possible to reintroduce that excellent reception team at Westminster to help competitors out of the water and get the boats up the steps? If in difficulties one seems to have to rely on the goodwill of spectators in this respect.
- 13. Would it be possible to have a results board at Westminster, easy to find, intelligible and up to date?
- 14. After the race could the aim be to get results sheets out to competitors within two weeks? At the moment it seems about two months before it arrives. Also a drive to get it right. Could the times to Reading be reintroduced?
- 15. What about a veterans prize? To be awarded to the fastest crew with a combined age over 70; alternatively to the oldest pair to finish (after the style of the Waterside series).

Finally can I add a thanks to the many who so kindly give up their Easter holiday to help run DW, so often in bad weather without the warming benefits of propelling a canoe down the course.

Yours sincerely, Mike Sutton-Pratt.

#### BEGINNING CANOESPORT

Geoffrey Good, Senior Instructor at the Calshot Activity, certainly started something with his comments on the series of articles on basic paddling we have been running in the magazine ('Comment' August issue). Certainly I could have told Geoff there are

many unattached paddlers who take our magazine, apart from a very fast growing world wide subscription. In the past weeks I have been receiving many letters defending the series as thoroughly worthwhile.

"Could I comment that I am one of those receiving the magazine, contrary to G. Good, who has of yet not received any instruction due to the fact that my interest in the sport being aroused by building a canoe for a friend ...." M. Haile, Berks.

"May I take this opportunity to compliment you on a really first class magazine, your 'Beginning Canoesport' I find very useful. "D. Lunn, B.F. P. O. 15.

Since publication of his letter Mr Good has had second thoughts and writes: "An apology is due. Last month you published my letter casting doubts on the usefulness of your series 'Beginning Canoesport'. Not only has closer study of the articles refreshed my own mind on several points, I have also located some new ideas to incorporate in teaching basic strokes. But I still think the models should wear life-jackets!"

From your editor: No more comment needed....

#### BATS IN SURF.

My son, aged 15 years, enjoys surf canoeing, and so a week of this years holiday was spent at Rhossili, where he could surf as much as he wanted. He took his canoe, and also a Mk. IV Bat, in case there was little surf, in which the canoe would not be much good.

There had been a blow-up, and the surf was really good, with the canoe looping every other wave. On the second day, he got out to some good surf, and the canoe received a battering, and the deck was smashed in. The maker's have examined the craft, and it is beyond repair. (Glad it was insured).

He then asked if he could take the Bat out, and reluctantly I agreed, provided he did not go out beyond the first four waves. After about 15 minutes, he came in and asked if he could go out to the 'big stuff'. I pointed out that should the Bat break up, he would have to come down to normal swimming, but eventually agreed, knowing that the Bat would be no good.

How wrong I was. The Bat behaved perfectly and he was having runs in, some of which were lasting in the region of 15 seconds, and ending with a loop. The surf was still such that another canoeist with a K.W. 7 was still looping regulary.

Since being home, I have spoken to other canoeist, and the reaction about a Bat in surf is, 'Well, O.K. in 2 or 3 feet surf'. No one will believe that the surf was good, sufficient for a K.W. 7 to loop.

There must be other canoeist who have tried the Bat in good surf. Please, please let me know, as 'they just don't believe me'.

Yours faithfully, L. Capumter.

## INTERNATIONAL CANOESPORT



NEWS AND REPORTS from our correspondents around the world

#### CANADA

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Canadian Canoe Championships were held on the Richelieu River at Otterburn Park, about 30 miles from Montreal, August 8th and 9th. More than 700 athletes representing 25 clubs extending from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, to Port Moody, British Columbia, were there to fight for the "Burgee", the Coveted flag of supremacy. A beauty contest was also held where each club entered a representative. Toronto's Mississauga Canoe Club walked away with the honours winning both the burgee and the beauty pageant.

The five athletes who had been racing the better part of the summer in Hungary returned home after a stopover at the Copenhagen World Championships, just in time to retain the crowns in their speciality events: Chris Hook: C1. Dean Oldershaw: K1. Miss Claudia Hunt: Ladies K1. Scott Lee and John Wood: C2.



Betty-Ann Cowans and Maureen Custy of Lachine.



Junior war canoes.

Banook of Dartmouth came onto the grounds confident they would upset Mississauga's four year winning streak, but Missi took the point lead in the early races and never looked back. Quebec slipped by Banook for the second place position by winning the junior, senior, and 1500 metre war canoes along with both the juvenile and junior C2's.

Chris Hook of Banook won the senior event of Canadian Canoe racing, the 1000 metre C1, by a deck over Scott Lee of Mississauga. It was a stroke for stroke battle on lanes 2 and 3, Hook having the edge. John Wood of Missi came across from lane 10 to get in the fight, but it was Hook's day and Wood had to settle for third. In the 10,000 metres held on Sunday, Chris won easily over a weak field.

In the senior K1 event, Dean Oldershaw fought off an international field defeating immigrants Lief Jorgenson of Denmark and Frank Bartik formerly of Czechoslovakia by a good three lengths. The following day, at the 10,000 s, it was Jorgenson over Bartik. Dean Oldershaw teamed with brother Reed to take the K2. The senior 1,000 metre C2 victory went to Lee and Wood over Hook and Graham. They won it by 12 seconds in record time of 3:57. 8, although this along with other records will not be official, as the championships were raced on a downstream current.

Lachine had her glory in the senior ladies events. Claudia Hunt won the 500 and 5000 metre K1 race, Betty Anne Cowans and Maureen Custy were first in K2, and Claudia Hunt with Debbie McCrory came second.

Five recalls in some of the junior category races forced the Saturday regatta to be one of the longest in the last 20 years with the last race going over the finish line close to 9 o'clock in the evening!

As a result this may be one of the last times we will see 15 lanes at a champion ship regatta.

from ERIC WHEELER
'Canoeing Magazine' correspondent,
CANADA.

#### DENMARK

DANISH MARATHON

For the third year the Gudena 117 km canoe marathon was held in Denmark over the weekend 19th/20th September. This time the race attracted more paddlers than ever - 184 competitors from 8 nations, including 11 paddlers from Britain. But only two of these were among the top class - more about this later.... First the story of the kayak singles.

In very fine weather on the beautiful lake by the picturesque town of Shanderborg, 78 paddlers lined for the start, the starters gun broke the silence and the third Danish marathon was under way. Right from the start there was little doubt about what the result of the senior or junior events. Jens Chr. Sorensen (senior) and Hans Pape (junior), both from the Silkeborg club went out in front and worked as a pair over the course, Sorensen making a new record time of



9hrs 05min 07sec - 12 minutes better than his old record set in 1968 - with Pape taking the second place only three seconds down.

But what of the Englishmen? Yes, its a sad story, a story of how J. West - from Royal Canoe Club - could only make the 5th place overall and 3rd place in junior, been beaten by his old rival from the British National L-D and International Liffey Descent, Torben Jensen of Fredericia club - but there's always next year Jonathan! The story goes on and tells of how Martin Bosher managed to beat Norman Jackson - but well down in 10th and 11th places.... while four places behind these was Chris Tatam.

Part two of the story tells how two Englishmen -Charles Evans and Anthony Alan-Williams - came, saw, and conquered all .... Once again back to the start at Shanderborg and again from the off the English pair took the lead, holding it almost the total distance of the race, although at one stage a strong challenge to the pair came from the Danish K2 of Svenning Jorgensen/Johnny Schmidt, A fine wash from a passing tourist boat gave the English pair a great free push and saw them a minute ahead of all others at the close of the first stage. Sunday, and still the British crew - ahead on time - raced side by side with Jorgensen/Schmidt but were also in company with a junior crew from Norway. Riding each others wash the trio paddled throughout the day, sometimes the English pair breaking from the other two, only to be caught later. Thus at Randers it was two happy and very tired paddlers who reached the finish - having made most of the pace this was not surprising. Evans/Alan-Williams could well be happy with their winning result for their time of 8hrs 31min 05sec was some 25 minutes better than the old record .... Well done the British pair.

But we must not forget the other British crews. We must tell that MickPerrin/David Lawrence were in 5th place with 9hrs 00min 02sec, taking second place in the junior event which was won by a very fine Norwegian pair (Morten Morland/Erik Mathiesen). The other senior K2 from Britain - that of Courtman

/Vesey - were 4mins down from the British juniors.

What of the womens class? Here 5 girls were battling the 57km course and amongst these was Jane Rowse of Britain. However the continental girls proved too strong for the British girl and Jane could only make 3rd place, some 14 minutes down on Miss Kate Olsen of Rose Canoe Club, with Miss Merethe Sorensen of Silkeborg taking the second.

Gudenanext year? Try and make it, its a great race ....

from JORGEN HANSEN, 'Canoeing Magazine' correspondent, DENMARK.

#### **AUSTRALIA**

AUSTRALIAN SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Australian Canoe Slalom Championships were held over the weekend 29th-31st August on a course on the Swan River in the Walyunga National Park, West Australia.

The Championships were organised by the West Australian canoeists and paddlers from the east — who travelled nearly 3000 miles to compete — voted them as top class. Although the water was not very high, there were plenty of rocks around to keep all paddlers occupied.

The course was the same for all classes and thus, looking at the results (see Result Round-up) it would seem there are one or two very promising juniors coming up. Peter Egger, who recently competed in America at the Arkansas Slalom, took second in the Mens K1 but his score was bettered by Mike Denny in the junior class.

from FRANK WHITEBROOK,
'Canoeing Magazine' correspondent,
AUSTRALIA.

## TEST REPORT

#### No 1: PLASCO 'SHARK 1'

During the past few years 'Canoeing Magazine' has often been requested to give 'test reports' on the many new craft entering the canoeing scene. Test reports from paddlers who have brought new boats ifeel are always bias towards the new craft and thus from test reports we have received in the past (and not used) there was very little criticism in kayaks that have not always been of top class. However with a constant call for such reports, the magazine will undertake to cover as many as possible of the new boats in the future, and we hope giving a fair report on each craft.

PLASCO is a new firm to the canoeing world and they have recently introduced the 'Shark 1'. This kayak, intended as a general purpose craft but suited to rough water and sea work, was first brought out in plan form back in 1967 for the home builder and was then known as the BS Trier.

When I first saw the 'Shark 1' I can't say I was highly impressed with the kayak. However once on the water my feelings for the boat changed. The paddling position is quite comfortable, although I would suggest the seat could be trimed a little at the back as it tends to rub the base of the spine. For a kayak with quite a degree of rocker and lines of the slalom, the 'Shark I' has good directional stability yet is able to make tight turns. Both paddling forwards and backwards the boat holds a line and I would guess there will be little problem here for the novice. Under decks there is ample room for camping gear but the craft is not that high out of the water to cause worry in any wind. For general stability there would also be little worry for the beginner.

On the construction side, there are a number of points that need attention. The finish on the cockpit coaming was a little lacking, while the monocoque principle of construction, although adding strength to the craft does not give 'nice' lines to the hull and I would rather see the hull mould in one piece with the deck added in sections. The footrest is rather interesting being of a unique type that is certainly fully adjustable and wedges into any desired position but again I would rather see a traditional footrest in the boat. The fibreglass is of good quality and overall finish quite reasonable. The kayak I tried was a little soft, but this may have been due to recent manufacture.

For the beginner and novice the 'Shark 1' offers good value for money being priced at £29.0.0. As optional extras there is also available spraydeck and knee bars. The 'Shark 1' is also available in kit form at £23.0.0.





SPECIFICATIONS	
LENGTH	13' 6"
BEAM	24"
HEIGHT	11"
WEIGHT	35lbs Approx.
Choice of colours – si	ngle or two-tone.
Available from:	PLASCO, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

## AGE-TRADE PAGE-TRADE PAGE-TRA

#### THE NEW K1s

Our'Trade Page' of last month featured the new K1s recently introduced on the market. Due to a printers error, where two lines of type were missed out, a totally wrong recommendation was made for the new Struer 'RANGER'. The line 'The Ranger is recommended for heavier paddlers...' should have read - The 'RANGER' is recommended for paddlers between  $10\frac{1}{2}$  to  $12\frac{1}{2}$  stones (60 to 80 kilos), while the 'LANCER' is recommended for the heavier paddlers.



I trust no 14 stone paddler has rushed out and bought one of these fine kayaks on our recommendation, but if so our 'Small Ads' rates are 6d per word ....!

#### THE CANOE CENTRE

A further development in the Kirton Kayak/Canoe Centre tie up is the formation of a new company, CANOE CENTRE (TWICKENHAM) LTD., the directors being: W.J. Snell, A.G. Snell, D. Green and M. Bosher.

As from November the new organisation will become the sales outlet for all KLEPPER, STRUER and KIRTON Designs. Mrs. Shirley Reardon will continue to look after the Beauchamp Road premises, while Mr. Reardon is retiring from the business due to pressure of work at Portable Boats Ltd. where he is making boat accessories.

The new company will continue to operate from both Twickenham and Crediton and it is anticipated that as a result of the new management, the Canoe Centre will be able to offer an even better service.

#### TYNE TYPHOON K2



This month Tyne Canoes Limited bring onto the market an entirely new K2 racing kayak - the 'TY-PHOON'. Built in glassfibre on modern K2 lines, it is especially designed for the Long Distance Racing enthusiast and brings Tyne Canoes once again into the field of competitive canoeing. The Typhoon looks good and feels good on the water, running smoothly at speed without any undue bow lift or stern drag, while through choppy water there seemed to be no 'ploughing'.

Ideally suited to Long Distance expert or novice crew alike, the Typhoon is a kayak with a degree more stability than many others of its class.

Manufacture: Tyne Canoes Ltd., 206 Amyand Park Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham, Middx.

Passage from a motoring page describing the new Range Rover...

Obviously, this is a car for all seasons and every purpose, from Police, Fire and Amulance use to holidays of the increasingly energetic variety—camping, CANOEING, and so on — for which it is unequalled. The price,  $\pounds$ I, 998. including Tax. <sup>1</sup>

Of course our canoeists could afford two of these each...!

### RESULT ROUND-UP



WOLVERHAMPTON LONG	DISTANCE	WOMENS KI		Longridge SGCC	1. 23.27
16th August.		1. Heather Goodman		2. K. Smith	
01 4 0 0 4 4		Lakeland CC	400.2/441.1	Royal CC	1. 26.55
CLASS 1A		2. Audrey Keerie	533.5/521.2	3. M. Barker	
1. P. Lawler Richmond CC	1 24 10	Sunderland CC 3. Carol Gostling	333, 3/321.2	Ireland	1. 27. 45
2. G. Mackareth	1. 34.16	Chester CC	615.8/549.2	K2	
Grappenhall ACC	1. 35.28	Chester GG	010.0,0.0.0	1. P. Squires/D. Lawler	
3. Mason	1. 33. 20	CANADIAN SINGLES		Learnington/Richmond	1. 11.15
Nottingham KC	1. 38.58	1. G.Goldsmith		2. M. Barker/K. Clarke	1, 11.10
		Brighton CC	498.7/482.5	Ireland	1. 15.59
CLASS 2A		2. R. Osborne		3. C. Vekins/G. Nally	
<ol> <li>Gray/Gilliver</li> </ol>		Edinburgh Univ. CC	654.6/512.0	Ireland	1. 21.12
Nottingham KC	1. 27.06	3. T. McEwan	E 47 E / E 20 7		
2. R. Downing/P. White	. 25 22	U.S.A.	647. 5/529. 7	INTERNATIONAL LIFFEY	DESCENT
Wolverhampton CC 3. K. Yates/G. McLachrie	1. 36. 33	CANADIAN DOUBLES		Ireland. 5th September.	
Wolverhampton CC	1. 39.06	1. Witter/Witter		SENIOR EVENTS	
Worver Hampton CC	1. 39.00	Chester CC	499.0/430.7	Mens K1	
CLASS 3A		2. Allen/Williams	133. 0/ 100. 7	1. N. Jackson	
1. C. Skellern		Sheffield CC	464.3/457.2	Great Britain	2. 15.50
Worcester CC	1. 44.10	3. Court/Goodwin	· ·	2. E. Christiansen	
2. R. Davis		North Staffs, CC	590.3/516.1	Denmark	2. 20.10
Itchen Valley CC	1. 47.22			3. C. Tatam	
3. B. James		BRITISH NATIONAL LONG		Great Britain	2. 22.04
Grappenhall ACC	1. 48. 45	CHAMPIONSHIPS. 29th Au	gust.		
CI A CC //A				Mens K2 1. D. Green/A. Stonley	
CLASS 4A  1. C. Vare/G. Cottle		SENIOR EVENTS		Viking KC	2, 13, 55
Waterside/Bradford	1, 41, 51	Mens K1 1. N. Jackson		2. M. Pawlow/D. Wink	2, 13, 33
2. D. Allen/R, Charlton	1, 41, 51	Grappenhall ACC	2, 08, 41	Royal Signal CC	2. 16.45
Sheffield CC	1. 43.44	2. E. Christiansen	2	3. A. Maher/R. Farrell	
3. G. Downing/J. Smith		Denmark	2. 09.00	Salmon Leap CC	2. 22.15
Wolverhampton CC	1. 44. 33	3. D. Parnham			
		Richmond CC	2. 09.42	JUNIOR EVENTS	
CLASS 1B		4. L. Oliver		Mens K1	
1 T C		Lincoln CC	2. 15.21	1. J. West Great Britain	2. 20.35
1. T, Cornish Longridge SGCC	1. 09.56	5. Alan-Williams	2, 15.32	2. G. Long	2. 20.33
2. F. Jones	1. 09, 50	Royal Marine CC	2, 15.32	Belfast CC	2. 22.35
Bourne Youth Wing	1. 11.12	Mens K2		3. J. Marshall	2. 22.00
		1. J. Chr. Sorensen/E. W.		Belfast CC	2. 29.05
CLASS 2B		Christiansen			
<ol> <li>I. Why/G. Jackson</li> </ol>		Denmark	2. 08.39	Mens K2	
Longridge SGCC	1. 08.18	2. C. Evans/Alan-Williams		1. G. Kolar/D. Lawrence	0 00 10
2. N. Daniels/A. Bennett		Royal Marine CC	2. 08.52	Great Britain  2. I. Maclean/R. Rowe	2. 06.10
Pangbourne CC	1. 08.28	3. M. Bosher/P. Lawler	0 11 07	Belfast CC	2. 12.55
CLASS 3B		Richmond CC  4. W.Reichstein/G.Mackar	2. 11.27	3. 1. Pringle/M. Keating	2. 12. 55
1. M. Gollings		Scotland	2. 12. 57	Salmon Leap CC	2. 36.40
Gailey CC	1, 16,07	5. B. Gilliver/C. Gray	2. 12.01		
2. M. Walshe		Nottingham CC	2. 15.40	WOMENS KI	
Gailey CC	1. 24.18			1. Jane Rowse	
		JUNIOR EVENTS		Great Britain	2. 51.25
CLASS 4B		Mens K1		2. June McCrea	0 50 10
1. M. Beamond/D. Russell Gailev CC	1 10 00	1. J. West		Wild Water KC	2. 53. 46
2. T. Haynes/D. Rafferty	1. 18.06	Royal CC	1. 07.20	3. Carmel Vekins Wild Water KC	3. 01.10
Fangbourne CC	1. 19.22	2. T. Jenson		Wild Water NO	3. 01.10
Tungbourne 00	1. 13.22	Denmark	1. 07. 40	SLALOM & WILD WATER	
GRANDTULLY SLALOM 1	st Div.	3. H. Watkins		1. R. Davis	
Reading KC. 29th August.		Ireland	1. 08.05	Great Britain	2. 27.21
		Mens K2			
MENS KI		1. T. Jenson/T. Hanson		TOURING SINGLES	
1. D. Mitchell	327. 2/316. 4	Denmark	1. 01.59	1. A. Bell	2, 43, 20
Chester CC 2. K. Langford	327.2/310.4	2. H. Watkins/I. Maclean		H.M.S.Heron	2. 43. 20
Manchester CC	398. 7/319. 9	Ireland	1. 02.59	TOURING DOUBLES	
3. T. Young		3. J. West/J. Phelps		1. R. Story/M. Bull	
Chester CC	361.8/326.5	Royal CC	Disqual.	Royal Signals CC	2. 29.20
4. J. MacLeod		WOMENS EVENTS		WOMENS K2	
Manchester CC	416.9/351.7	K1		1. B. Orford/M. Barker	
5. R. Calverley	391.7/358.6	1. J. Rowse		Kilcullen CC	2. 56. 59
Manchester CC	391.7/356.6				

CLOCH LONG DISTANCE		CANADIAN DOUBLES	
6th September		1. Court/Goodwin	225 0/00
		North Staffs. CC  2. Jenkinson/S_later	337. 2/29
CLASS K1		Snibbo	341.0/30
1. J. Gilmour Ayrshire KRC	1. 14. 47		,
2. A. Batchelor		Chester/Leeds CC	336. 2/32
Ayrshire KRC	1. 15.16		
3. W. reichenstein	4 45 50	ROYAL CANOE CLUB	MARATHON
Ayrshire KRC	1. 15.50	27th September.	
S.C.A. CLASS 'A'		SENIOR K1	
1. A. Green		1. P. Lawler	
Irvine CC	1. 17.17	Richmond CC	5. 0
2. J. Stark	1 01 05	2. R.Avery	5, 0
Glasgow Univ. CC  3. N. MacDonald	1. 21.25	Richmond CC 3. M. Perrin	5. 0
Aberdeen Univ. CC	1. 30.04	Royal CC	5, 13
Abertaeen anv. oo		4. M. Bosher	
S.E.ENGLAND SCHOOLS	SLALOM	Richmond CC	5. 1
CHAMPIONSHIPS. 13th S	eptember.	5. B. Greenaway	5. 1
		Richmond CC	5, 1
Under 13		JUNIOR K1	
1. M. Halaby Langley Park School	285	1. J. West	
2. M. Maynard	200	Royal CC	5. 1
Langley Park School	304	2. J. Phelps	
3. J. McFall		Royal CC 3. G. Tilford	5. 2
Langley Park School	320	Royal CC	5, 3
Under 15		1.0,0.	
1. A. Foulds		WOMENS K1	
Woking GS	231	1. J. Rowse	
2. R. Ritchie		Longridge SGCC  2. E. Staden	6. 0
Langley Park School	246	Exeter CC	6, 3
3. M. Meggy	0.774	Excite 00	0, 0
Langley Park School	271	AUSTRALIAN SLALC	M
Over 15		CHAMPIONSHIPS. 29	th August.
1. M. Philip		Mens K1	
Battersea Co. Sec.	146	_	
2. P. Broom	106		
Langley Park School 3. J. Ritchie	176		
Langley Park School	181		WATER 9
TEAM EVENT			
1. Langley Park School	332		
SERPENT'S TAIL SLALO			checking
Manchester CC. 26th Sept	ember.		are getti
MENS K1			verybes
1. M. Swallow			perous b
Chester CC	227.3/225.7		A 01/ 110
2. D. Mitchell	020 0/000 =		I ASK US
Chester CC 3. E. Evans	232.9/230.5		
U. S.A.	242.9/235.0		CANOES
4. K. Langford	•		
Manchester CC	237. 4/236. 6		SURF-SH
5. J. MacLeod	000 0/		RAATEDIA
Manchester CC	238. 3/237. 2		MATERIA
WOMENS KI			MOULDS
1. Heather Goodman			
Lakeland CC	269.1/266.4	HITTER TO THE PARTY OF THE PART	PADDLE
2. Pauline Squires			SKEGS
Leamington Spa CC	297.6/274.2		GOOD A
3. Audrey Keerie	200 1/201 2		MALLE
Sunderland CC	379.4/2H4 N		
Sunderland CC	379. 4/284. 0		I WALLE
CANADIAN SINGLES	379.4/284.0		VALLE
	379. 4/284. 0 331. 4/287. 5		VALLE 72 WHIT

321.4/298.4

366.7/308.0

337. 2/296. 6	<ol> <li>John Egger (NSW)</li> <li>Peter Egger (NSW)</li> <li>Bevin Dashwood (WA)</li> </ol>	289 324 337
341.0/301.8 336.2/328.7	OPEN C1 1. John Egger (NSW)	593
ATHON	OPEN C2 1. J.Egger/P.Egger (NSW)	541
	MIXED C2 1. Jane/Roy Farrance (VIC)	526
5. 04.00 5. 04.30	WOMENS K1 1. Jane Farrance (VIC)	504
5. 13.00	K1. Under 19 1. Mike Denny (VIC)	314
5. 14.00 5. 19.00	K1. Under 17 1. Rod. Bridgeborn (VIC)	387
0. 10.00	INTERNATIONAL GUDENA MA Denmark. 19th September	RATHON
5. 16.00 5. 28.00	MENS K1 1. J.Chr. Sorensen	
5. 38.00	Silkeborg  2. H. J. Pape Silkeborg  3. E. Christiansen Vejle	<ul><li>0. 05. 07</li><li>9. 05. 10</li><li>9. 11. 20</li></ul>
6. 08.00	MENS K2	9. 11.20
6, 30,00	1. C.Evans/A. Alan-Williams Great Britain 2. J.S.Jensen/S.Jorgensen	8. 31.05
gust.	Gudena/Silkeborg  3. M. Morland/E. Mathieson Oslo	8. 32.25 8. 41.54

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FOR SALE - MIRAGE Mk 11. Hardly used, very good condition £40 o.n.o. Apply 17 East Street, Salisbury.

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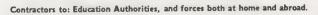
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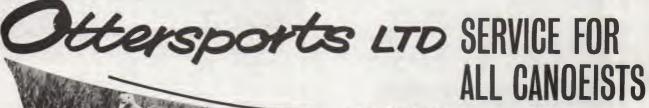
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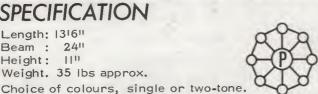
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