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THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

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LEADERS IN THE BATTLE FOR A LOWER COST WET SUIT



CANOEING IN BRITAIN

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EDITORIAL

MacLeod tells all.

Readers may remember that we were taken to task in our last issue for publishing in June a picture of John MacLeod looping apparently without lifejacket or crash hat, beside a list of do's and don'ts for surfers. Anyway, John MacLeod had written to point out that (a) he was in fact wearing his lifejacket beneath his anorak and (b) had he been surfing in shallow water where a cobbly beach, undertow or loose kayaks were at all likely, he would have been the first to put a crash lid on.

Twin events

The present trend toward clubs running both Long Distance and Sprint events on a single weekend is to be encouraged. In place of strict devotion to one sport, there should be more interchange, boosting interest and beneficial to the sport in general.

Please can we have our sponsor back?

Llangollen on television was a wow! A long ITV session with lively commentary provided a great shop-window for slalom — and certain canoe and accessory manufacturers received a fair amount of advert exposure by means of cunningly placed banners. One hopes the TV people were sufficiently impressed to want to repeat the coverage on some future occasion — with perhaps a generous sponsor from outside the sport?

Jack Levison.

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 5 and 6

The General Secretary,
The British Canoe Union,
Major G. E. Tomlinson,
Room 315,
26/29 Park Crescent,
London, W1N 4DT.
Tel: 01 580 4710.

EDITOR

Jack Levison,
11 Martindale Grove,
Egglescliffe, Egglescliffe,
Stockton-on-Tees,
Teeside TS16 8DL.

ADVERTISEMENT DEPT.

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

Editorial Staff: Eileen Levison, Freda Hare.

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

Advertisement copy should arrive by 1st of

February, May, August and November for the March, June, September and December issues respectively.

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

Anglers' and Landowners' leaders approve BCU water access scheme

Registration could commence before 1972

As reported in last issue, a draft registration scheme produced by the Committee was sent to the anglers and riparians for study, and we can now announce that both the National Anglers Council and the Country Landowners Association have agreed to recommend the scheme to their constituent bodies.

Under the Scheme, canoeists will be permitted to use certain rivers according to an agreed programme. The stage is now set for the actual programming and the whole success of the operation will hang, in the first place, on the willingness of riparians and fishery owners at

by J. W. Dudderidge

local level to agree a reasonable allocation of time to canoeing on the water under their control.

If this goes through satisfactorily, success will then depend on canoeists abiding by the terms of the agreements and restricting their use of particular rivers to the time allotted in the programme. By the time this report is published, some of the Regional Sports Councils may well have set up the local area programming committees. Such committees will be made up of representatives of all interested parties, and the appropriate B.C.U. River Adviser, where such exists, will also attend.

As local agreements are reached, we hope it will be possible to bring them into immediate operation under the local committee until the full national scheme is launched, which we hope will be in 1972. Full details of the Registration Scheme will be published later.

Please keep the Access Committee advised of any cases of restriction or exclusion or other difficulties experienced by you on your travels; we may or may not be able to help, but we certainly can't unless we know about them.

Harbour Dues

Following the report in our last issue, and request for information on the subject, one or two members have written in with reports of charges being levied for the use of hards in harbours by visiting canoeists, but a larger number have written to say they have never experienced any such charges.

It would seem that the practice is not widespread even though the powers may exist, but before we decide on action we should appreciate it if our sea-going members, who undoubtedly make use of harbours on occasion, would put pen to paper and quite briefly give us the benefit of their experience. A post card will do, even if only to report no charge and name the place. Action can then be taken in time for next summer.

SPOILSPORTS

Manchester C.C. arranged a tour on the Welsh Dee in November. The organiser, Nigel Timmins, busied himself earlier getting written permissions which in several cases were given subject to our passing through without lingering on specific rapids. This fixture was included in the B.C.U. Calendar.

We assembled at the Valle Crucis campsite on the Saturday morning. There were paddlers from other clubs — which was about the limit of integration. They had not all advised Nigel beforehand, and they were so little interested in his arrangements that one group... well, last year we had trouble at our starting point when a cow, disturbed by people present, cut an artery and died. It took us nine months to placate that farmer and we thought it wiser to start from another bridge. However this one party this year were so little in touch with our arrangements that they started at the same point as last year.

On the Saturday, run from Corwen to Horseshoe Falls, there were about 40 paddlers, most of whom had no dealings with Manchester C.C. on this, nominally an M.C.C. tour.

On the Saturday run from Corwen to other clubs was not doing the full tour but only the Dee Race section from Horseshoe Falls to Llangollen. When we went down I was horrified. A vast number of people had turned up only for slalom practice. I reckon that, separate from the touring party that passed straight through, there were at least 40 paddlers on the Dee Race rapids, or carrying back up, or weeping over damaged boats on the banks. Below the Town Weir, an angler was going berserk with dozens of paddlers

Annual Report of the Council for 1970

President:		Retires
J. W. Dudderidge O.B.E.		This year
Hon. Treasurer:		
E. J. Owen		Next year
Elected Members of Council		
Retire this year	Retire next year	
R. W. Baker	P. C. A. Rogers	
R. M. O'Keefe	J. Spuhler	
A. L. Williams	J. Woolley	
J. Bright	C. McAllister	
A. Tullett	M. Rothwell	
Nominated Members of the Council		
National Coaching Committee	G. Sanders, A. W. Bye	
Sprint Racing Committee	R. A. Sowman, R. Emes	
L.D.R. Committee	C. Baker, A. Stoneley	
Slalom Committee	I. Macleod, Robin Witter	
Sailing Committee	P. Wells, A. Hassell	
Touring Committee	R. Tyas, M. Tapscott	
Scottish Division	Nominated for each meeting	
Northern Ireland Division	D. J. Freeburn	
Co-opted Members of Council		
Editor "Canoeing in Britain"	J. Levison	
National Youth Officer	R. Steed	
Chairman Standing Committees		
General Purposes	R. Tyas	
Competitive	J. M. Woolley	
Access	J. W. Dudderidge O.B.E.	
National Coaching	G. Sanders	
Finance	J. W. Dudderidge O.B.E.	
Publications	P.C.A. Rogers	
National Exhibition	P.C.A. Rogers	
Divisional Presidents		
Scottish Canoe Association	D. Winning	
Canoe Assoc. of Northern Ireland	Captain the Earl of Rodden R.N.	
General Secretary	G. E. Tomlinson	
National Coach	O. J. Cock	

Membership

Total Individual Membership showed an increase of 22.06% during the year in accordance with the following figures:—

	1968	1969	1970	% Increase
Full	2796	3181	4002	25.81
Youth	1024	1172	1341	14.43
Family	384	430	495	15.12
	4204	4783	5838	22.06

381 Clubs affiliated to the Union compared with 342 the previous year, that is an increase of 11.40%.

Supplies Dept.

A reprint of the "Guide to the Waterways" was produced at the latter end of the financial year and the opportunity was taken to include two pages of amendments. In spite of continually rising costs we were able to maintain the price of 16/- to members and 21/- plus 1/6d. postage and packing to non-members.

Through the good officers of the author, G. Sanders we have added to the B.C.U. publications a completely revised edition of "Canoeing for Schools and Youth Groups" and at the same time reduced the price to members from 6/- to 4/-. Non-members' price is 4/6d. plus 6d. postage.

Overall sales of publications, ties, badges, pennants etc. increased by 20% on the year.

Headquarters Staff

Regrettably at the beginning of August Mrs. Jacqueline Lennark was unable to continue working due to ill health and we experienced some difficulty in finding a satisfactory replacement.

Eventually we were fortunate in obtaining the services of Mrs. Barbara Boyer who joined us on the 23rd November 1970.

In the meantime Mrs. Janet Gray shouldered the ever increasing work load with cheerfulness and fortitude but nevertheless as incoming mail

increased in volume some delays were inevitable. To those members who suffered we offer our most sincere apologies.

International Affairs

The Union has been closely involved in the work of the International Canoe Federation through those of its members who serve on the I.C.F. Board and Standing Committees.

At the biennial Congress held in Copenhagen we were represented by two delegates and an observer, and in the Congress elections our President was re-elected as a representative for Europe, whilst two members of our Council, Messrs Spuhler and Wells, were re-elected to the Slalom and Sailing Committees respectively. Mr. Thelen was re-elected to the Chairmanship of the Propaganda Committee with special responsibility for editing the I.C.F. Bulletin.

National Affairs

Members of the Union have rendered service on the Outdoor Activities, Sports and Games, and Coaching Committees of the Central Council of Physical Recreation; the Council and General Purposes Committee of the British Olympic Association, the Committee of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, the Corps of Canoe Lifeguards; Regional Sports Councils and their Water Recreation Committees; Committees of River Authorities, and innumerable regional and local organisations concerned with the promotion of water sports and safety.

Early in the year we encouraged and took an active part in the launching of the British Schools Canoeing Association, formed to cater for the rapid growth and development of canoeing in the schools, and this body is now an affiliated member of the Union.

The Coaching Scheme operated by the Union

convinced is in the interests of anglers, riparians and canoeists.

Canoeing in Britain

The Union's quarterly magazine doubled in size this year, and for the first time included full colour as a regular feature. By using the web offset printing process, a much more attractive publication with more pictures has been achieved, at a price which compares favourably with letterpress, in spite of inexorably rising costs in the industry.

Sales of advertising space and circulation continued to increase at a very satisfactory rate during the year.

Films

There has been a decline of 3% in the hiring of library films and 43% in the sale of loops, although the latter are now available in the new super-8 size as well as standard 8 mm and 16 mm.

Two new films are in course of production but are not yet ready for release. There is no doubt that the library is in urgent need of modernisation.

Insurance

Last year's prediction that increased premiums under the canoe insurance scheme would mean a drop in the number of insurances, and thus a drop in the B.C.U. profit, has happily not proved correct. Despite the increase in premium in January, business has been as brisk as ever during the year, and the scheme should show a nice profit to the B.C.U. even though postage and stationery costs have gone up.

However, we must not be too complacent about this! The number of claims still being submitted is not diminishing at all, and we cannot rely on premiums remaining the same for many years to come. It is still felt that if the



Photo: Bill Richmond

has, through its large corps of coaches and instructors, continued to provide expert guidance at all levels, and in the field we are one of the leaders amongst the governing bodies. Early in the year a first class Exhibition and Conference was staged at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre in collaboration with the C.C.P.R. and was well supported, attendance breaking all records.

Access

Constant pressure on the available water continues, and the attempts of certain angling clubs to exclude all other water recreations from the waters on which they have acquired fishing rights, have caused considerable distress to our members and a great deal of work for numerous officials both in the field and in committee.

At the request of the National Sports Council, a scheme was put forward by the Union involving a voluntary registration of canoeists, tied to an agreed programming of use of certain private waters, and has been discussed with the Country Landowners Association, the National Anglers Council and the Association of River Authorities. The Sports Council is pursuing this at regional level and the hope is that this development may lead to the multiple use of the waterways which we have sought for so long, and which we are

premiums rise too steeply, the volume of business will drop and cause a consequent drop in the B.C.U.'s total commission. Deduct from a reduced commission an increase on postage etc. next year, and a substantial drop in the B.C.U.'s profit from the scheme would ensue.

A few insurances of other types have been arranged, but this business is not large, particularly as canoeists are felt to be very "hazardous" risks by the insurance companies as a whole.

Corps of Canoe Life Guards

The year 1970 can be said to have shown a marked improvement in the activities of the Corps. The number of units is now 12, and there are a number of new individual members, making a personnel of approximately 150 persons.

The Corps has been mounting patrols at various sections of the Coast, and undertaking training for many young people.

The annual Conference was held at the National Coastal Rescue Centre at Aberavon, and was attended by some 40 persons.

The National Championships at Bude included, for the first time, an Inter-Unit competition of a new kind especially designed to test the capacity of units to deal with set situations. The overall champions were from Sennen Beach Rescue Unit.

The number of incidents this year, in which canoes were used for rescue work with the public, was 8.

In the future we intend to try and open up the Corps to Inland waters, where the larger number of casualties occur.

Sailing

The Committee's policy of regional development has continued. The series of open regattas which score points for the Tritonelle Trophy has been extended to six centres and attracted good support. We have gained support now in the North West which is new ground for this branch of the sport.

The committee has sought new ways of attracting publicity and in addition to the usual static exhibitions at the Crystal Palace representatives took part in a Two-of-a-Kind single handed regatta on Pennington Flash, near Manchester and the Steel Company of Wales Two-of-a-Kind regatta for Sailing dinghies at Port Talbot.

Teams were sent to international regattas in West Germany and Sweden.

Our National Championship was held at Hayling Island and was also attended by two Canoe Sailors from Sweden.

Slalom and Wild Water Racing

1970 represents another year of steady growth in the total number of slalomists, the total number of ranking slaloms and the average number of entries to each slalom. Already there are signs that the most popular events are becoming overcrowded, and in order to cope with the increase of interest in the sport, even more events will need to be held in 1971, with the continuing search for new and better slalom sites being intensified. In addition, the practicability of regionalising competition in the lower divisions is being considered. In Wild Water Racing, the season now extends from January to December, and this arrangement will, in time, allow this branch of the sport to become strong and healthy in its own right, without necessarily requiring the continuing support of those whose primary interest is in slalom.

In a number of areas, youth training squads are being set up and the slalom committee approves in principle of the allocation of some of our international competition funds to sending youth teams abroad to international events. The growth and development of these squads is supervised and encouraged by the Slalom Committee, who recommend that the trainers of these squads be asked to take the new Slalom Coach Award.

At the end of last season a 30-strong Olympic Training Squad was formed under a new manager and with two new trainers. It is largely due to these three that our national teams fared so well abroad in international competition this season, in both slalom and wild water racing. At home, we once more staged an international slalom at Llangollen, and here our teams showed that they were the equal of any in Europe.

Long Distance Racing

Long distance racing has continued its healthy growth this year, with over 200 paddlers attending some of the ranking events. The number of events being organised is also on the increase — 20 ranking races in 1969, 22 in 1970 and the organisers of four non-ranking events have applied to the Committee for inclusion of their races in 1971. The new races, however, are all in the southern half of England, which is already well catered for, and there is a need for more long distance racing in the north.

The loss of Players' sponsorship was a blow to us, but Exeter and Crediton Canoe Clubs put on a very well run event for the National Championships this year. The new idea of having two long distance events — one for singles and one for doubles — appears to have been popular with the paddlers, and with a sprint regatta as well there was a full three day programme. Paddlers from Ireland and Denmark attended the races.

On the International front, we have sent some strong teams abroad, to two events in Denmark, to the Spanish series of races and to Ireland's Liffey Descent, and have brought home the team

prizes from Sella and Liffey.

A boost for younger paddlers is on the way now with the introduction of the Espada Youth K1, which it is proposed will be included in ranking events as from 1971, on an age group basis. This will cater for young people from the ages of 12 to 18 years, and is intended as an introductory boat which is competitive without being too costly.

Touring

A step was taken to extend the Union's touring information service by issuing to clubs a news sheet that they could display for the benefit of members who did not receive their own copies of *Canoeing in Britain*. The first news sheet listed canoe tours in European countries in which, under arrangements sponsored by I.C.F., canoeists from other countries were welcome to take part. During the year a large number of enquiries for touring advice was answered. An increasing proportion of these ask for information about canoeing on the Continent.

Coaching Scheme

The year saw ever increasing activity and the number of Coaching Award holders on the current Register is 1410, an increase of nearly 20% since our last Annual Report.

Proficiency and Advanced Certificates issued during the year totalled 1356 as follows:—

Proficiency Inland	1028
Proficiency Sea	260
Proficiency Canadian	16
Advanced Inland	36
Advanced Sea	12
Advanced Canadian	4
Coaching Awards gained during the year were:—	
Instructors Inland	275
Instructors Sea	78
Senior Instructor Inland	65
Senior Instructor Sea	10
Coach Inland	12
Coach Sea	5

We congratulate Messrs. D. Hardy, J. E. Choat and R. Miller on being appointed Senior Coaches.

Unfortunately we have to record the resignation of a number of Area Coaching Organisers, who have felt obliged to relinquish their appointments due to pressure of other commitments. We very much regret the loss of their services as A.C.O.'s although we are sure that they will not be lost to canoeing as a whole.

Our sincere thanks are due to them all for the enthusiastic work that they have done in the past in the organisation of their areas, work which will continue to form a sound foundation for future progress.

The areas affected are as follows:—

Oxford, Berks and Bucks	Mr. A. W. Bye
North Wales	Mr. K. Rudram
North Midlands	Mr. R. E. Gays
Yorkshire	Mr. E. Hopper
North West	Mr. A. L. Thwaites

Messrs. D. Hardy and K. White have taken over the duties of A.C.O. for North Wales and the North West respectively and Mr. R. E. Gays has agreed to maintain the North Midlands Area until a replacement can be found.

At the National Coaching Committee meeting held at Hothorpe Hall on the 24th and 25th October 1970 all Proficiency and Advanced tests were revised and a number of alterations made in the Coaching Award system, the most significant being the abolition of the Award of "Instructor". Full details have been published in the November Coaching Newsletter.

The National Coach again visited all parts of the United Kingdom during the year and once again he has had to severely ration his time. The possibility of appointing a number of part-time National Coaches is being explored.

The Coaching Handbook and the Log-Book continue to find a ready market, some 500 of the former and 900 of the latter being sold during the year.

Acknowledgments

We express our appreciation of the work of the Central Council of Physical Recreation for its assistance with the administration of the Coaching Scheme and National Conference and Exhibition, and for its encouragement of the

promotion of water recreational facilities; to the Wardens of Activity Centres and other institutions who have so generously placed their facilities at our disposal for national and regional courses; to the Sports Council and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for their continued interest in our work and their grants for coaching, administration and international competition.

We would also take this opportunity of thanking our Headquarters Staff and National Coach and all those voluntary officers who direct the many operations and services of the Union.

J. W. Dudderidge, President

Access—River Dart

In 1967 negotiations were held with the Dart Fisheries Preservation Society with a view to providing canoeists, particularly those in the South West, with opportunities to practise their skills on the River Dart. A pilot scheme was launched covering the stretch from New Bridge to Dart Bridge, to operate in the close season and under the control of the Outward Bound School, Holne Park, Ashburton, Devon. This scheme proved satisfactory during the winter 1968/9 but had to be suspended during 1969/70 as part of an effort to keep this river free from salmon disease. In spite of all efforts, the disease was not kept out, and further negotiations have been held this year with the object of reviving the scheme.

The Society have now agreed to the scheme being operated again this winter, and the terms agreed are as follows:—

- 1 Area covered is from New Bridge to Totnes.
- 2 The season from Sept. 30th. to Feb. 13th. 1971.
- 3 Eligibility: At the discretion of the Warden of the Outward Bound School, Mr. Derek Pritchard, who is also B.C.U. River Adviser for the Dart. Normally will be restricted to B.C.U. members, who must carry their B.C.U. or Affiliated Club membership card.
- 4 Application must be made beforehand and having got clearance, the party will report to the O.B. School at an agreed time to collect particulars of entry and exit points, hazards, special features, names of riparian owners, strip map of river and an identity card.
- 5 Safety: All users must have buoyancy and spray decks for their craft, buoyancy aids and crash hats for themselves.
- 6 Some person must be nominated to be in overall charge of the party and he must deal direct with Mr. Pritchard.
- 7 Top level whitewater specialists may be permitted by special arrangements with Mr. Pritchard to enter the river at Dartmeet when the river is in spate. This will be subject to permission being obtained from the riparian owners on that stretch.

N.B. This constitutes something of a pilot scheme for other similar sporting rivers and its success depends on our members showing a responsible attitude to the conditions laid down and avoiding any actions which could lose us the support of the riparians.

It has not proved possible to make any arrangements for use of this river during the fishing season, which extends from mid February to the end of September.

Spoilsports (continued from page 71)

sitting in the pool he was trying to fish. And we needed his permission to finish the Dee Race there on the following weekend.

- 1 Other clubs should have asked us beforehand — for if numbers got unwieldy (given the time limit mentioned above) we might have had to refuse some.
 - 2 Permission — or even an open invitation — to join us did not mean that other clubs could tour the same waters but independently.
 - 3 Permission given us for touring did not encompass practice for hours on slalom sections of the river. The spoilsport paddlers are making it very difficult to arrange future access to the Dee.
- Ian D. Pendleton.

International Canoe

Canoe sailing is a highly specialised side of the sport of canoeing — but it has a long history and the first true sailing canoes were developed from the original Rob-Roy canoe (which was really a paddling craft which could sail after a fashion with a following wind) about 100 years ago.

Since that time development has been continuous but the basic concept of a light high performance craft to be sailed by one person on estuary or coastal waters has always been followed. The purist may object that a canoe should be capable of being carried by its crew — the I.C. requires its crew plus one, but can be handled with the aid of a simple trolley and may be easily carried on a car roof.



Ingemar Sandberg of Sweden sailing Gigant at Hayling Island in August. Photo David Priscott.

Sailing

Peter Wells

Before starting to sail an I.C. a basic knowledge of dinghy sailing is desirable but everything happens faster in canoe sailing so that the fitness and skill of the helmsman are more important than gadgetry on the boat.

In the U.K. the strongest I.C. fleet is to be found at Hayling Island, but there are growing fleets at Lee-on-the-Solent, also on the South coast, and Stone on the estuary of the Blackwater on the East Coast. In the past year Tony Marston has been campaigning "Bobby-Dazzler II" around the North West and with others joining him there is every prospect of a fleet building up in this (to us) new territory. If you would like to know more about the sport contact Peter Wells, 55 Arnison Road, E. Molesey, Surrey.

Internationally the I.C. was first developed by the British and the Americans with some help from the Canadians. Since the Class was adopted by the I.C.F. in 1948, it has spread to Sweden, Germany, Denmark and now Spain. It is also sailed in Australia and South Africa, but problems of distance have prevented direct contact with these last two countries.

Over the past ten years competition against our neighbours in Europe has increased enormously and sailing techniques have improved as a result. In August 1971 the German Canoe Federation are to be hosts for the European Championships at Steinhudermeer, a vast but fairly shallow freshwater lake near Hanover in Lower Saxony. On recent form Sweden and Britain start at fairly level odds for sharing the top places.

As always for high performance craft, costs are a problem. Ready to go on the water, from a professional builder, an I.C. will run to over £400. Most are bought part built and amateur finished, or for those with skill in woodwork, built from scratch. A reasonable secondhand craft can be obtained for £150 upwards.

Following the adoption of a one-design hull by the I.C.F. it is hoped that a g.r.p. hull will soon be available and will give a good competitive canoe at lower cost.

In the next issue of C in B there will be action photos of I.C.'s in typical manoeuvres, described by Peter Wells.

CALIFORNIA CALLING

Frank Goodman

The Arkansas River Race is 26 miles long and starts at the town of Salida in Colorado, at a height of 7,050ft. This means that would-be competitors need three or four days to get used to the thinner air.

I'd planned to meet some canoeing friends from California at Salida the Wednesday before the race on Sunday, so on Thursday morning we took our first leisurely paddle down the course. The river was high as they had had a late spring, and a sudden burst of warm weather was melting the snow that still mantled the higher peaks. We found that the river was a low grade two with very little to worry about as far as heavy water was concerned, although throughout its length the river moved along at a smartish pace.

There are only three rapids of any note: Bear Creek Rapid — about five miles down, which we passed through without noticing at all; Tin-cup Rapid — just over half-way, was a Grade III with about a four foot drop down a shoot that ended in a few bigish haystacks, and Cottonwood Rapid twenty miles down, a Grade IV, very clean, but with diagonal standing waves reflecting off the narrow sides of the gorge. I found these rather heavy, and the first one knocked in my spray-deck and I finished the last hundred yards backwards and half-full of water. However, a piece of wood bracing the underside of the spray-deck would take care of that, and I drove back to Salida feeling that the river offered a long, but not difficult paddle. How wrong can you be?

By Friday we vacated our very pleasant camp site bordering the river as half of it was under water, and by Saturday the rather tame slalom course in the centre of town was partially demolished by the dark brown flood water roaring through with its cargo of logs. On Sunday morning, paddlers found their blades fouling the underside of the bridges.

The race entry list suddenly shortened as a lot of people felt things were getting hairy, and my

cont. on page 75 col. 3.

Rough weather for Surf Championships 11-13 Sept.

If at Bude last year we struck it too smooth, this year we struck it rough! Not only was there a gale-force wind, but the heavens opened at intervals, until it became difficult to distinguish surf from rain.

But canoeists, being wet anyway, were not deterred, even if an appreciative audience was. All the finals of eleven events were run off on the Sunday, except for the Double Ski Race, which failed for lack of entries. This was a pity, as it left the very nice trophy presented by the Bude S.L.S.C. unclaimed.

The only event run from Crooklets Beach in

● The World Universities Expeditionary Association annually makes a number of Awards for Expeditions, international studies and surveys, etc. There are two categories for Summer, 1971 — individuals up to £100 and groups up to £250.

All members of the W.U.E.A. are eligible to apply for an Award, and membership is open to those interested in adventurous travel. Inquiries to: W.U.E.A., 21, Hasker Street, London, S.W.3.

the morning was the Canoe Race. It proved rather too hairy, so the whole championships was moved into Summerlease.

Results:—

Open Canoe Race: 1st M. J. Evans, Soar Valley C.C. 2nd R. N. Rowe, C.A.N.I.

Ladies Canoe Race: 1st Mrs. Clare Allan, Penzance C.C. 2nd. Miss Viccie Brown, Northumberland L.G. Service.

Single Ski Race: 1st. K. Arens, Atlantic College Life Guards.

Open Canoe Handling: 1st. Capt. M. Wright, A.C.U. 2nd. S/M. R. Reilly, A.C.U.

Ski v. Canoe Race: 1st. B. Coles, Penzance C.C. (Canoe). 2nd. K. Arens, Atlantic College (Ski).

Ladies' Canoe Handling: 1st. Miss Viccie Brown, Northumberland L.G. service. 2nd. Mrs. Clare Allan, Penzance C.C.

Relay: 1st. "The Untouchables" 2nd. Penzance C.C. 3rd. Atlantic College "A" Team.

Maddocks Cup: M. J. Evans, Soar Valley C.C.

National Canoe Surfing Team Trophy: "The Untouchables".

At Last It's Happened!

During the National Surf Championships one of the competitors went past his bar foot rest in a loop, spraining his ankle and getting trapped in his canoe. A nearby fellow-competitor gave him an Eskimo rescue and offered to help him ashore. However, he declined the offer and set off alone. On the way in his canoe foundered; he was unable to give the signal for help as he had to use his paddle constantly to keep himself the right way up. By the time people realised his plight and came out to him from the beach the heavy surf was breaking over his head. He was wearing only a buoyancy aid; a proper life-saving jacket would have helped him considerably at this time. Having got him ashore, it then took considerable effort and about five minutes of time to get him out of his canoe.

When will people learn that these bar foot rests are as potentially dangerous as the old "letter box" type? It took a fatality to make people realise how dangerous they were. Have we got to wait for another fatality before they act on this type?

● Avoncraft sponsored youth series highly successful

One hundred and three crews qualified for the final L.D. race, and some very fine performances were put up.

Outstanding in Class 3b was T. Epps from W.V.C.C. who dominated the class right through the series.

It is intended to increase the number of races to eight in the coming year, bringing in the area south of the Thames, and the North-West. Classes are K.1, K.2, Class 3 and Class 4 boats. There are three age groups, 12-13, 14-15 and 16-17.

● Russians dominate 8th World Sprint Racing Championships

The U.S.S.R. team took 8 gold medals, two silver and one bronze, retaining its position at the top of the ranking list (124 points) with Hungary second (102 points) and Rumania third (70 points). Great Britain came joint 17th out of 21, with Canada and Finland, having only 6 points. Many nations concentrated their efforts on the Olympic events only.

1970 - A GOOD YEAR FOR SPRINT



The USSR takes first place in 10,000m. K2 World Championships, followed by Hungary and Rumania. Photo: ICF Bulletin.

Nottingham Festival Regatta and Long Distance Race.

The long distance race was held over a new course of only 10 miles starting and finishing at Trent Bridge, Nottingham.

Although the weather was poor with a strong easterly wind, the Senior K.1 was won in a good time by Chris Tatum of Richmond with Geoff Bowers of Nottingham taking second place. Class 1b was won by Mason of Nottingham in a time only 55 seconds slower than the winner of Class 1a, while Class 2b was won by the very promising young crew of Bennett and Daniels of Pangbourne. The Ladies K.1 was won by slalomist Pauline Squires who beat another slalomist, Jane Rowse of Windsor, into second place.

On Sunday the wind had dropped for the Sprint Regatta although steady rain for the first two hours of the regatta kept the number of spectators down to modest proportions. Even so an estimated crowd of some 5,000 people watched the regatta. For most of the finals a live commentary went out over Radio Nottingham including interviews with some of the competitors. Prizes were presented by Miss "Player".

Di Lawler

During the year the number of sprint paddlers has grown considerably, especially in the junior, novice and youth classes. Nottingham and Royal Canoe Club, in particular should be congratulated on their efforts to encourage youth paddlers. Due largely to the efforts of Colin Grey and Mark

Giddings, these two clubs have been mainly responsible for swelling the ranks and raising the standard of youth paddlers.

The launching of the new Espada K1. in schools canoeing should help to spread the enthusiasm for racing. This, however, can only come about if those taught in school are recommended to canoe clubs on leaving school. This must be done before enthusiasm has waned or interest diverted.

It is a shame that several of the old established clubs, such as Leamington, Boston, Worcester and Lincoln are producing fewer racing paddlers every year, in fact the names of these particular clubs have almost disappeared from start sheets. On the other hand, Ayrshire K.R.C. should be congratulated on maintaining their interest in spite of their isolated geographical position.

Regattas this year have been generally better organised than usual, and consequently more enjoyable from the point of view of paddler and spectator. The Royal Canoe Club proved this year that a good regatta can be held on the Thames on a sunny Saturday afternoon. A 250m. course ingeniously buoyed by Mark Giddings, was a great success. The same buoying system was later used again at the National Championships, and for the first time for years there was no bickering about wash-hanging! Lawrence Oliver once again became K1. national champion over 500m and 1000m.

The international highlight of the year was the World Championships in Copenhagen, to which we sent a ten-man team. Our greatest achievement here was in the K2. 10,000m race when Parnham and Avery were placed 6th., only 36 secs. behind the winners. Throughout the year 10,000m races at home had been very exciting battles from start to finish, but little did we think that it would be in this event that we were to achieve a better result in first class competition than at any time since 1960.

California Calling cont. from page 74

Californian friend decided that photography was a pleasant hobby after two long cold swims the previous day.

I decided to go ahead, with the proviso that Cottonwood, twenty miles downstream, would find me fresh enough to make several attempts at a roll before abandoning ship!

As it turned out I hit the big rapids in the right place and came through with no problems, and covered the 26 miles in 2hrs. 16mins. — which shows how fast the water was going! Bernt Kast, the West German paddler won in 1hr. 58mins. — the first time 2hrs. had been broken. In fact, the first two home broke the previous record, which perhaps wasn't surprising, as the water was the highest they had had in the twenty-two years that this race has been held.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Annual General Meeting.

The A.G.M. will take place at Leamington Spa on the 23rd January 1971 and it is hoped that as many people as possible will attend. Full details will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The various Technical Committees will be holding their own A.G.M.s during the day, prior to the main B.C.U. A.G.M. which is scheduled to commence at 6 pm in the Town Hall.

A dinner has been arranged at the Regent Hotel, Leamington to take place after the A.G.M. The cost of the dinner will be 30/- but sale of tickets is limited to 80 persons. The menu is excellent.

If you wish to attend the dinner please let me know by Monday 11th January 1971 at the latest enclosing your remittance of 30/-.

Allocation of places will be on first come first served basis.

The Royal Leamington Spa Canoe Club are arranging a Social evening at their new Club House to which all are welcome although it is understood a small admission charge will be made to defray expenses. The licensed bar will be open

and light refreshments will be available. A most enjoyable evening of music, songs and dancing is expected.

National Canoe Exhibition.

A separate leaflet is enclosed which gives full details of the "Larger than ever" Exhibition which will take place at the Crystal Palace on the 6th and 7th February 1971.

The quarter finals of the Canoe Polo National Championships will take place on the Saturday and the Semi Finals and the Final on the Sunday.

Membership.

Figures are given in the Annual Report which appears elsewhere in this issue and it will be seen that membership increased by 22% over the year.

From the way 1971 has already started we again would anticipate an increase although we have a long way to go yet.

To those who have not already arranged their renewals please do so as soon as possible to avoid us having to send you a reminder. Monies spent in postage, paper and time can be used to better advantage to your benefit.

Howarth Sports whose spraydecks have scored success after success both at home and abroad are now manufacturing a canoeing jacket in 4oz neoprene-backed bri-nylon. Velcro is used both at the neck and wrist cuff.

TRADE REVIEW

Avoncraft are now retailing a new 'V' Bar Rack for carrying canoes on top of the car. The all galvanised rack protected on the 'V' arms with heavy duty sponge rubber, and each 'V' rack can be bolted to the next for additional safety. It is possible to fit 3 racks to the ladder rack and a further 2 racks bolted to the first tier of three racks, allowing 5 canoes to be carried.

A new kit from **Ottersports** is the Kayel Otter-cub, 'Right size for a child, but capable



of carrying an adult, it has all wooden parts pre-formed, is 12ft long and is very stable. Weight 25lbs, price ex-works £15.

Streamlyte Ltd. have nearly completed the new factory at Lancing, and have now the space to enter into the Glassfibre materials and mould supply business. Models available in mould form or as complete kayaks are K.W.4., K.W.7., and, for the first time, a touring double as a do-it-yourself project. Carbon fibre kits will also be on sale shortly, plus some new formula resins. The Streamlyte range of 1970 competition kayaks are available only as complete craft.

Strand Glass Company Ltd., Britain's largest stockist of glass fibre materials and resins, have now established a mould-hire division for use by industry, commerce and individuals fabricating boats, canoes etc. This new division will operate under the direction of the newly appointed Technical Sales Manager, Mr. Alan Tullett, who brings to his new post years of experience in glass fibre constructions and moulding techniques. A former member of the Scouts Association, Mr. Tullett has considerable knowledge of club and institutional recreation work.

An entirely new kayak from **Tyne** — the 'Typhoon', especially designed for Long Distance Racing — brings Tyne Canoes once again into the competition field. Built in glass-fibre on modern K2 lines, the 'Typhoon' runs smoothly in the water with little bow lift or stern drag, yet has ample buoyancy in the bow to



ICF CONGRESS

Copenhagen
3-4 August



John
Dudderidge

Summary of principal decisions

The Congress was attended by 30 national federations, and the B.C.U. was represented by the President and by Council Member Alan Hassell. Rowland Jones of the Paddling Racing Committee was also in attendance and carried the proxy for the Irish Canoe Union.

The very comprehensive Report of the Board was accepted as were the Accounts. Modifica-



prevent 'ploughing' in choppy conditions. Fully adjustable, comfortable seats and footrests are provided, with overstern rudder. Large cockpits ensure fast portaging, while the coamings have been designed to give a dry boat under rough conditions.

Suited to the Long Distance expert or novice crew, the 'Typhoon' offers a superb racing kayak with a degree more stability than many others of its class, yet retaining the speed. Dimensions to ICF K2, weight 40-48lbs as required.

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. Boshier.

As from September the new organisation will become the sales outlet for all Klepper, Struer and Kirton designs and Mrs. Shirley Reardon will continue to look after the Beauchamp Road premises.

Mr. Reardon is retiring from the business due to pressure of work at Portable Boats Ltd., where he is making boating accessories.

Readers contemplating work in glass fibre may be interested in the free canoe-building demonstrations being run by **Trylon Ltd.** at their Wollaston, Northants workshop. Bookings are accepted for these demonstrations — the next two are on January 16th and March 13th.

The first British Grand Canyon Expedition has chartered a special plane from B.O.A.C. to take members and their equipment to New York. The plane, a 126 Seat Super V.C.10 has a further 96 seats available to B.C.U. members and will depart London Heathrow July 28th 1971 and return 18th August from New York. Cost is £68 return.

In addition, onward flights to relatives in the States and Canada have been arranged through 'United Airlines' at a 50% discount rate off normal prices.

Why not support pioneer British Canoeists, and have the holiday of a lifetime? Booking forms and further information, from **Chris. Hawkesworth (Films), 4, Victoria Steet, Wetherby, Yorks. LS22 4RE.**

tions to the Statutes make it a condition of staging any meeting of competition of I.C.F. that all officials and competitors may attend under the correct denomination of their country; also at all international competitions the prize-giving ceremony must be carried out according to the protocol of the I.O.C.

Competition Rules

A proposal to establish a separate technical committee for white water racing was defeated. It will therefore remain under the Slalom Committee.

Regulations were adopted laying it down that on all boats, equipment and clothing the name of the maker shall not exceed 20 x 5cms on boats, 10 x 3cms on paddles, and the name may appear once only. The beam restriction on boats remains, but is reduced to 70cms for the Slalom C.1 with effect from Jan. 1st 1971.

The proposals to remove the 4 x 500m Relay Race and all the 10,000m races were rejected. New races in the championship programme will be C1 and CII over 500m to give better balance to the programme.

The 1968 decision of Congress to hold World Championships every year except in Olympic Games year was confirmed. These and Continental Championships will be held as one event.

The World Championship programme will in future make use of the repechage between Heats and Semi Finals. The new championship timetable will spread over 4 days with all the 10,000m finals on the last afternoon. This was adopted against strong opposition from the Propaganda Committee which favoured holding the most popular Olympic events at that time to obtain maximum coverage by press, radio and television.

The practice of entering for an event and then dropping out after the draw in order to concentrate on another event, a practice which made a farce of some heats and semi-finals in Copenhagen, should be stopped by a new rule that any competitor or crew who, after their entry has been confirmed, withdraw without a valid reason (e.g. medical reason) from the race, or who fail to turn up at the start, shall be barred from participating in all other events of the competition.

Competitors are eligible for Junior Championships from their 15th birthday to the end of the year in which they reach their 18th birthday.

Slalom Rules. Youth or Junior Classes will be included in international competitions for the age group 14-18 years.

The course shall have between 25 and 30 gates of which at least 4 shall be reverse gates and one team gate. The so-called "Free Gate" is abolished.

Penalty points system modified as follows:

- 1 No points — correct passing as before.
- 2 10 points — one pole touched from inside.
- 3 20 points — a. both poles touched from inside.
b. one pole touched from outside with subsequent correct passage of the gate.
- 4 50 points — a. one pole touched from outside with subsequent correct passage of the gate. b. If maximum of 15 secs. is exceeded at team gate. c. for eskimo roll in gate. d. for missed gate.

No differentiation will be made between touch by body, boat or paddle. Present maximum penalty of 100 abolished. "Imaginary" touching ignored.

The new Rules governing the measurement of



Away from it all, on Blea Tarn, Little Langdale

Photo: D. Wilson

the One Design 10 Sq. metre Sailing Canoe were adopted without discussion.

The proposal from the USSR to expel the Federation of South Africa was defeated by 15 votes to 13, but after the President had produced a report in the official magazine of the I.O.C. stating that the President of the I.O.C. at a press conference had declared that any federation which retained a South African association in active membership would be refused participation in the Olympic Games, the meeting accepted a proposal from the President to suspend for the time being the membership of the South African Federation, by 17 votes to 9 with 3 abstentions.

A proposal from Mr Dudderidge that the South African team in Europe be permitted to complete its tour of regattas was supported by the I.C.F. President and carried with only one dissentient vote.

The subscription of national federations remains at 60 US Dollars.

Election results in so far as B.C.U. members are involved:—

Board of Management: John W. Dudderidge re-elected.

Slalom Committee: Jack Spuhler re-elected.

Sailing Committee: P. E. Wells re-elected.

Propaganda Committee: Henry Thelen re-elected.

Future Championships Programme

Padding Racing: (Senior)

1971 Jaice, Yugoslavia

1972 Olympic Games, Munich

1973 Tampere, Finland

1974 Xochimilco, Mexico

1975 Madrid, Spain

HEED THIS WARNING ...

This short, urgent message is addressed to all canoeists, concerning our future growth as a sport. To participate in a sport we need a venue of sorts, be it in the U.K. or abroad.

Local residents in the countryside have every right to expect that visitors such as ourselves behave properly and respect the amenities. This last year there have been a number of complaints, certainly more than usual, a trend that we must all help to reverse, otherwise our sport and recreation could be endangered.

To ensure we continue to find venues and continue to receive a welcome on arrival, we need to have a reasonable standard of behaviour both from individuals and from groups of canoeists. The rules of good behaviour apply both on the water and on the land.

I trust that this message will be well received and that we can look for your co-operation.

J.M. Woolley.

Chairman, Competitive Council.

Padding Racing: (Junior)

1971 Snagov, Rumania

1973 Walcz, Poland

1975 Madrid, Spain

Slalom and Wild Water

1971 Merano, Italy

1972 Olympic Games, Munich

1975 Tacen, Yugoslavia

Sailing

1971 European Championships, Mardorf, Fed. Rep. Germany.

1972 World Championships Oxelosund, Sweden.

TOP SLALOMISTS WED



Congratulations to Keith Wickham and Audrey Keerie on their recent marriage

● Slalom team manager, Nig Morley has published an Honours list showing how the slalom group has done in International competition this year.

It makes good reading, with many firsts, seconds and thirds across a selection of events. In ladies team events, three firsts and a second gives great hope for the coming year.

● Chris Hawkesworth's Grand Canyon Canoeing film is to be shown again soon on B.B.C. 1, either on New Year's Eve or at least early on in January.

● **BCU National Coach's Tours, 1971**

WALES, January 12/19; NORTH WEST, January 21/26; NORTH EAST, February 4/9; EAST, February 18/23; NORTH MIDLANDS, February 25/2 March; YORKSHIRE, March 4/9.

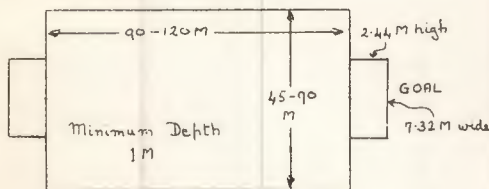
CANOE POLO RULES

(provisional)

(continued from last issue)

B. CANOE POLO ON OPEN WATER

1. Area of play. The water may not flow at more than half a knot.



2. The ball will be of 27" to 28" in circumference, and weigh between 14 and 16ozs.
3. The number of players on each side shall be five (5)

4. There will be two referees, who will be one on each touch-line or one on each goal line, whichever is the more convenient.

5. The Kayak shall conform to the rules of the Slalom i.e. It shall not be less than 3.25 M long nor 60 cms. wide.

6. Double-bladed paddles shall be used, and shall be used only to propel the canoe.

7. Play will be for seven minutes each way, and there will be an interval of one minute only at half time.

8. At the commencement of play the players will be lined up with the sterns of their canoes on their own goal lines, and the ball will be placed in the middle of the playing area. Play will begin with the blowing of a whistle.

9. At the commencement of play after half time and after the scoring of a goal, the same positions will be taken up as at Rule 8.

10. When the ball is put out of play over a touch line by a player, a member of the opposing team will throw it in from his canoe, from the same point.

11. When the ball is put out of play over a goal line by a defending player, an attacking player will throw it in from the same point. If an attacking player has put it out of play, a defending player will throw it in. In both cases they will remain in their canoes to make the throw.

12. If a player allows the bow or stern of his canoe to strike directly onto the canoe of any other player, he shall be removed from playing. For his first offence he will be held off either until a goal is scored, or, in the first half, until half time. For his second offence he will be held off for the remainder of the match.

13. If a player uses his paddle to strike or stop the ball or uses his paddle other than to propel his canoe, he shall be removed from playing. His offence or offences will be treated as in Rule 12 above.

14. If a player leaves his canoe, he will remain out of play until such time as he is properly back in his canoe again.

15. If a player goes out of the playing area, he will be out of play until he returns into the area again.

16. A player may tackle the man with the ball in any way he likes — or his paddle or his canoe. When the player has lost the ball the tackle must cease. The penalty for failure to comply with this rule is a free throw for the opposing side.

17. A player must dispose of the ball within three seconds of his receiving it. The penalty for not so doing is a free throw for the opposing side.

The new Tests and Awards

The National Coaching Committee, at its meeting in late October, finalised the details of the new tests and awards, which will be operative from 1st. January 1971. The range of tests remains much the same. The Elementary Canoeing Test is slightly more demanding than the Novice Test which it replaces. The basic test is still the Proficiency Test and, as before, it is offered for Inland (Kayak and Canadian) and Sea (Kayak) canoeing. The same aspects are covered by the Advanced Tests. The changes in these tests are mainly those of detail.

The changes in the award structure are more far-reaching. The basic award remains the Senior Instructor Award, though now fixed more closely to the Proficiency Test standard. The present Instructor Award has disappeared, though there are to be Assistant Instructors — who will be approved candidates preparing for the Senior Instructor Award. It is planned to introduce a series of supplementary certificates on aspects such as the teaching of rolling, surfing, white-water touring, which will act as endorsements to the Senior Instructor Award.

The Coach Award has been pitched higher, and candidates entering for this award will need to have passed the Advanced Sea Test and either an Inland Advanced Test (Kayak or Canadian) or a Specialist Coach Award. It was felt that a general Coach in this country needs to be qualified to lead groups on the sea as well as inland waters. Candidates for both awards will be required to attend approved training courses and then (between six and twelve months later) assessment weekends.

Details of Revised Tests and Coaching Awards are available in duplicated form (send foolscap s.a.e.) or printed for insertion in Log Books & Coaching Handbooks (send 1/- plus s.a.e. 7½" x 5") from H.Q.

Coaching Courses. Will all who are planning to arrange courses or weekend examination sessions in 1971 please let the chairman (G. Sanders, 4 Barston Lane, Solihull, Warks.) have details by Dec. 31st. 1970 so that a Coaching Calendar for 1971 can be compiled.

Appointments.

a. **Area Coaching Organiser:** N. WALES: D. G. Hardy, 9 Bryn Teg, Beaumaris, Anglesey.

by Geoff Sanders

b. **Local Coaching Organisers:** NORFOLK: Mrs P. M. Landamore, The Grange, Salhouse, Norfolk, NOR 53Z.

WILTSHIRE: R. C. Kane, 25 Towcester Rd., Stratton-St-Margaret, Swindon, Wilts.

It has been found necessary to increase all examination fees with effect from the 1st January 1971. The new charges will be as follows:

Novice 2/- (10p) Proficiency and Advanced Members 5/- (25p), Non Members 10/- (50p), and Coaching Awards £1.

Mr Malcolm Macdougall, 44 Cowley Drive, Woodingdean, Brighton, Sussex is organising the Coaching Stand at the National Canoe Exhibition on the 6th & 7th February 1971. He would welcome any offers of assistance in particular for manning the stand.

● Bookshelf

Build your own canoe — G. D. Newby & C. Jones (Project Club 3/6d)

One of 200 project books being introduced by the Milk Marketing Board as part of a campaign to sell more pintas. Your friendly milkman should have details. This 66 page booklet gives a brief run-through of the various building methods, with diagrams and should help young people to get started in canoeing by giving them an idea as to what is involved in home building.

● The Abraham Darby Comprehensive School, Telford, Shropshire, has plans to form a limited company producing GRP canoes in the school workshops. With over 50 enquiries from neighbouring schools, and a production capacity of three canoes a week, they seem set for success.

.. and Brickbats

Dear Sir,

I am appalled by the article on Self Rescue (page 48 — Canoeing in Britain — September, 1970) and feel that some comment should be made on the implications involved.

Any experiment in rescue and safety by experienced canoeists is to be recommended, at least we know then that the subject is not forgotten and Peter Dyer should be commended for his efforts. However, removing a lifejacket goes against all the basic principles of safety and it is my hope that the BCU will condemn the practice... To consider juggling with three different items of equipment (canoe, paddle and lifejacket) in anything but the calmest of conditions seems to me outrageous.

On the water or in the water the only place for the lifejacket is securely on the body. Let's keep it there. Keep trying Mr. Dyer, but I do hope you'll forget this particular method.

M. Macdougall
Newhaven, Sussex.
(L.C.O., Sussex)

... If you, like me felt a qualm when you read the words "the lifejacket is taken off" could an "N.B." be given in the next issue?

Vera Bryant (Mrs)
Water Safety Organiser, RoSPA.

(Letters expressing similar views were also received from J. P. Bertram and Sandy Davidson.)

OPEN FORUM

Bouquets ...

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for, and congratulations upon your very tastefully produced magazine C in B.

The few of us canoe enthusiasts here in Rhodesia to whom I have shown the June issue share my sentiments of interest in news and views expressed therein. How we have longed to diversify our skills in canoeing, from our narrow field of flat water sprays (with little range in craft design) and the odd dash in a flash-flooded river, to slalom and surf work! But with no sea-shore and very little rain for eight months of the year, plus the ever present danger of schistosomiasis, we have little chance of extending our activities.

Like the South Africans (whose events we try to support) we are keen on LD, and we have a marathon race planned for this time next year on Lake Kariba, which is on the Zambesi River. The event will be a 124-miler, doing it in four days, with three nights rough camping. Obstacles to be encountered are hippopotami, crocodiles, and temperatures pushing 110 degrees F! Anyone for tennis?

Keep up the good work there.

Dick Wynn,
Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

ESPADA

The B.C.U. has adopted the Espada K1 as a one design kayak in order to encourage youth kayak racing.

All kayaks will be in Glass Fibre; it is intended that moulds should be available for loan or sale, so that youth organisations, schools and clubs may produce kayaks at a reasonable cost. Professionally manufactured kayaks will also be available.

The copyright of the kayaks has been purchased by the B.C.U. from Jorgen Samson, the designer. Three Espada kayaks have been traced in this country and have been purchased by the B.C.U. They have now been prepared for use as plugs and may be borrowed only by approved manufacturers. When not on loan they will be carefully stored by the B.C.U.

Four firms have been awarded sole manufacturing rights for two years: Ottersports Ltd., The Canoe Centre Ltd., Trylon Ltd., and the Northern White Water Centre.

The minimum weight is 12 kilograms, including buoyancy, and the rudder must be of an overstem design.

A 50p licence fee will be payable on each mould produced by a manufacturer and on each kayak used in competition.

Kayak registration forms can only be obtained from the manufacturers, who will provide the necessary registered mould number and they should be returned completed, with the fee, to

the Class Director. The manufacturers will also distribute forms with moulds and kayaks. Unregistered kayaks **cannot** be raced in class events.

Competitive events for the B.C.U. Espada Youth K1 will be arranged in 1971. Organisers of regattas and L.D. events will be asked to arrange races for the Espada Youth K1. It is planned to organise Area and National Youth Championships which will use the Espada.

Age groups for events will be:

Espada. A Competitors should have reached their 12th birthday and not have reached their 14th birthday by January 1st of the year in which the event is being held.

Espada. B Competitors should have reached their 14th birthday and not have reached their 16th birthday by January 1st of the year in which the event is being held.

Espada. C Competitors should have reached their 16th birthday and not have reached their 18th birthday by January 1st of the year in which the event is being held.

First School-built ESPADAS

Under the supervision of Mr K. D. Clarke of Denstone College, the college White Water C.C. has built the first ESPADAS to be made in a school or club. The mould was hired from Trylon Ltd. of Wollaston, Northants., and the Denstone club built three canoes in six days.

Mr Clarke estimated that the cost of materials for each ESPADA was about £12 for a lightweight boat, and perhaps £15 for a heavier and stronger training boat.

Espada is a one design now and is guaranteed for ten years.

Espada is a kayak from the drawing board of the world's top designer.

Espada is a kayak to International specification — the youth of Britain are not being offered a kiddie's boat.

Being a one design, Espada will be a class in which success will not be bought or seen to be bought.

The factors of stability and speed are both high, to progress from an Espada to a Ranger in one's advance in canoeing means loss of a great deal of stability and gain of only a little speed. Therefore Espada will be a boat in which Senior paddlers may play out their advancing years without needing to spend too much time away from their growing families for the purpose of training.

Espada should prove a good training kayak for clubs wishing to match up the performance of their paddlers to form K4 crews.

The Class Director is:

David R. Cook,
Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre,
Llangollen,
Denbighshire. Tel. Llangollen 2454.

SLALOM ROUNDUP

Rodney Witter

First competition after the summer break was the August Bank Holiday Grandtully slalom. Altogether it was a most professionally run affair and it is to be hoped that Reading will tackle the job again next year.

An unpleasant aspect of the slalom was the hooliganism which occurred on the Sunday night after the pub closed. The Slalom Executive met the next morning and took immediate action by banning three of the ringleaders for 18 months from slalom competition (BCU Council later quashed one of the sentences and changed the other two to a 6 month ban from all BCU Competitions). That First Division paddlers and their camp followers should put Grandtully of all places, in jeopardy by such disgraceful behaviour is hard to comprehend.

Advert Error

Dear Sir,

In the last edition of Canoeing in Britain we saw the rather strange anomaly of the Soar Valley Special Mk. III offered for sale by VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS at £35, and by the SOAR VALLEY CANOE CLUB at £25. Why the £10 difference in price?

Owing to an error, the Soar Valley Club advertised their canoe as a S.V.S. Mk. III, when in fact they intended to call it a S.V.S. Mk. IV. This Mk. IV was developed by the club members from the original S.V.S. quite independently from the Mk. III which was the design of Frank Goodman, a member of the club, who now runs Valley Canoe Products. The point is that they are two separate boats, and shouldn't be mistaken as the same.

We thought we'd better write you a joint letter, apologising for the confusion to your readers.

Mick Martin, Secretary, Soar Valley C.C.
Frank Goodman, pp. Valley Canoe Products.

The next championship event was Chester's Llangollen Town slalom for which they had persuaded Border Breweries to provide sponsorship to the tune of £300. The experience of this local brewery, which was very pleased with the affair, must encourage other clubs to seek sponsorship. There must be plenty of companies who would be interested if only one can persuade them that this is a visually exciting sport which is bound to get more and more publicity as the Olympics approach.

The international event at Llangollen was held the following week.

The television broadcast seems to have been quite a success, and with luck it may help to attract the sponsor we are still looking for, for next year. This year, Council, and a generous private individual stepped in with £150 each. The competitors seemed to enjoy themselves in spite of the lack of water for the second year running, and I think that next year the entry will increase yet again.

The first weekend in November saw the final deciding event for the Championship held by Midland Canoe Club on the Lune. Midland had put up a really excellent course on the unusually high river and all went fairly smoothly on the Sunday, apart from the clocks breaking down. It must have been encouraging for the club to have a slalom go well after all their setbacks in the past.

After long and selfless service to the slalom world (and indeed canoeing in general), Maurice Rothwell is standing down from the position of chairman of the Slalom Committee this winter. It is impossible to assess the debt that canoeing owes to Maurice and it is unthinkable that he should cease to influence the growth and expansion of our sport.

There is no doubt that the new man will have to have exceptional qualities to follow in Maurice's shoes and to deal with the various pressing problems which trouble our sport.



It has been suggested by someone that the mysterious letters 'RNKA' that occasionally appear in slalom ranking lists and elsewhere stand



for 'Royal Navy Karate Association'. This, of course, is perfectly true, and three members of the association (who also canoe in their spare



time) demonstrate their prowess. (With apologies to Streamlyte Mouldings and BCU Insurance.)

CLUB CHAT

LEEDS C.C. are well on the way to having a much needed clubhouse. The Headingley Rugby Union F.C. have offered them use of part of their building, on the bank of the River Aire.

The Yorkshire Championships at Appletree- wick in October were covered by Yorkshire television, and appeared on "Yorksport" a fortnight later.

The British Schools Canoeing Assn., formed early this year now has 13 local associations, 22 individual groups and 7 associate members. A regional association has been formed in the north-west.

Sixty nine visitors took part in the first National Rally at Quorn in September. The next General Meeting will take place at the Crystal Palace on 6th February, 1971.

DON VALLEY K. & C.C. are at present holding the mould for the K.W. Warrior River Racing C.2 and administering its use. Any BCU member or

club wishing to use the mould should contact Lindsay Williams, 15a, Station Road, Rotherham. There is a mould fee of £7 per boat, but this includes royalties.

From 1 (BR) CORPS OUTWARD BOUND CENTRE (Kristiansand, Norway):— During the year a further 111 soldiers joined the BCU, 175 gained their inland proficiency and 74 their sea proficiency. L/cpl Pagnanelli spent a season instructing there, and Cpl Warren has opted out of the Liffey Descent for two years to join the staff. Next year the Centre plans to run a two week White Water course using grade II-V which is in abundance near here.

The August Grandtully slalom was READING C.C.'s first attempt at slalom organisation for about four years and seemed to go off quite well, with their advert in the BCU Calendar bringing well over 400 people to the campsite. Spectators over the weekend must have been in excess of 2,000, all the 600 programmes available for sale were gone by the Saturday night.

HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CANOEISTS. A new venture, Canoe Orienteering, got off the ground in Langstone Harbour in June, organised by Mr. Martin Sexton. Petersfield School eventually won the 'Clay Pot' trophy by a narrow margin from RAPC Apprentices, Worthy Down.

Another Orienteering event at Martham Ferry, Norfolk, attracted 20 competitors, and was jointly won by R. S. D. Smith (Haberdashers' Aske's School, Elstree) and A. R. Hignell of Denstone College.

With the great increase in canoeing in Colleges of Education, Colleges of Technology and Polytechnics, many people may not be aware that they are eligible for membership of the BRITISH UNIVERSITIES CANOE ASSOCIATION. Contact M. C. Perrott, Secretary, B.U.C.A., c/o Canoe Club, Athletic Union, Bristol University Student Union, Queen's Road, Bristol BS8 1HH.

The Army Canoe Union has had a most successful season culminating with winning the Inter Services Championships at Grandtully on 26 and 27 September.

The Spring and LD Championships were held in Nottingham under the expert guidance of the Nottingham Kayak Club. This meeting proved the prowess of the Royal Signals Canoe Club in the Senior events and the Army Apprentices College Arborfield in Junior events.

A month ago, BIRMINGHAM C.C. held its second Ludlow Slalom. At last year's slalom, the garden of the principal landowner was used as a thoroughfare to the river, which almost resulted in no slalom this year. Fortunately, no such trouble was experienced this year. Ludlow, for the moment, is safe.

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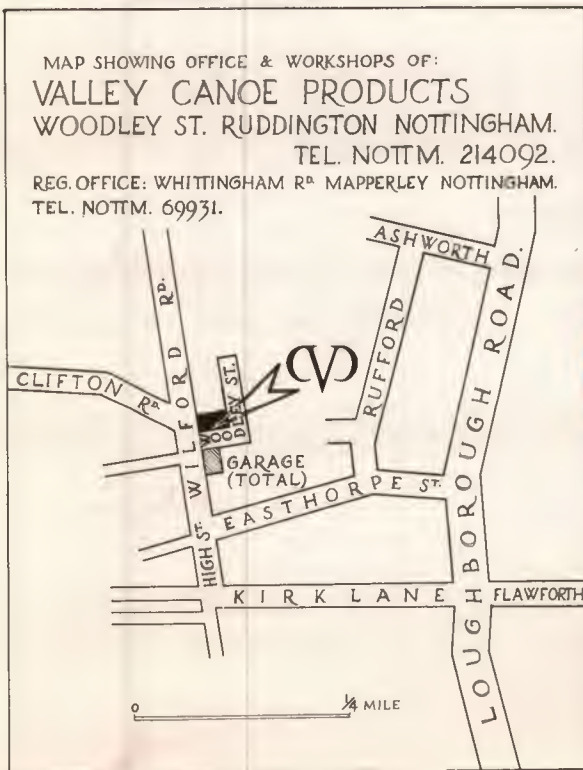
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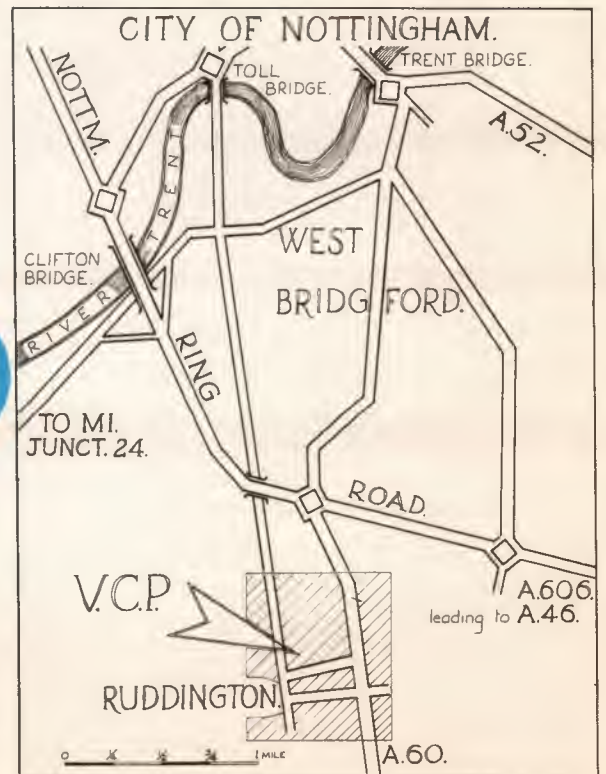
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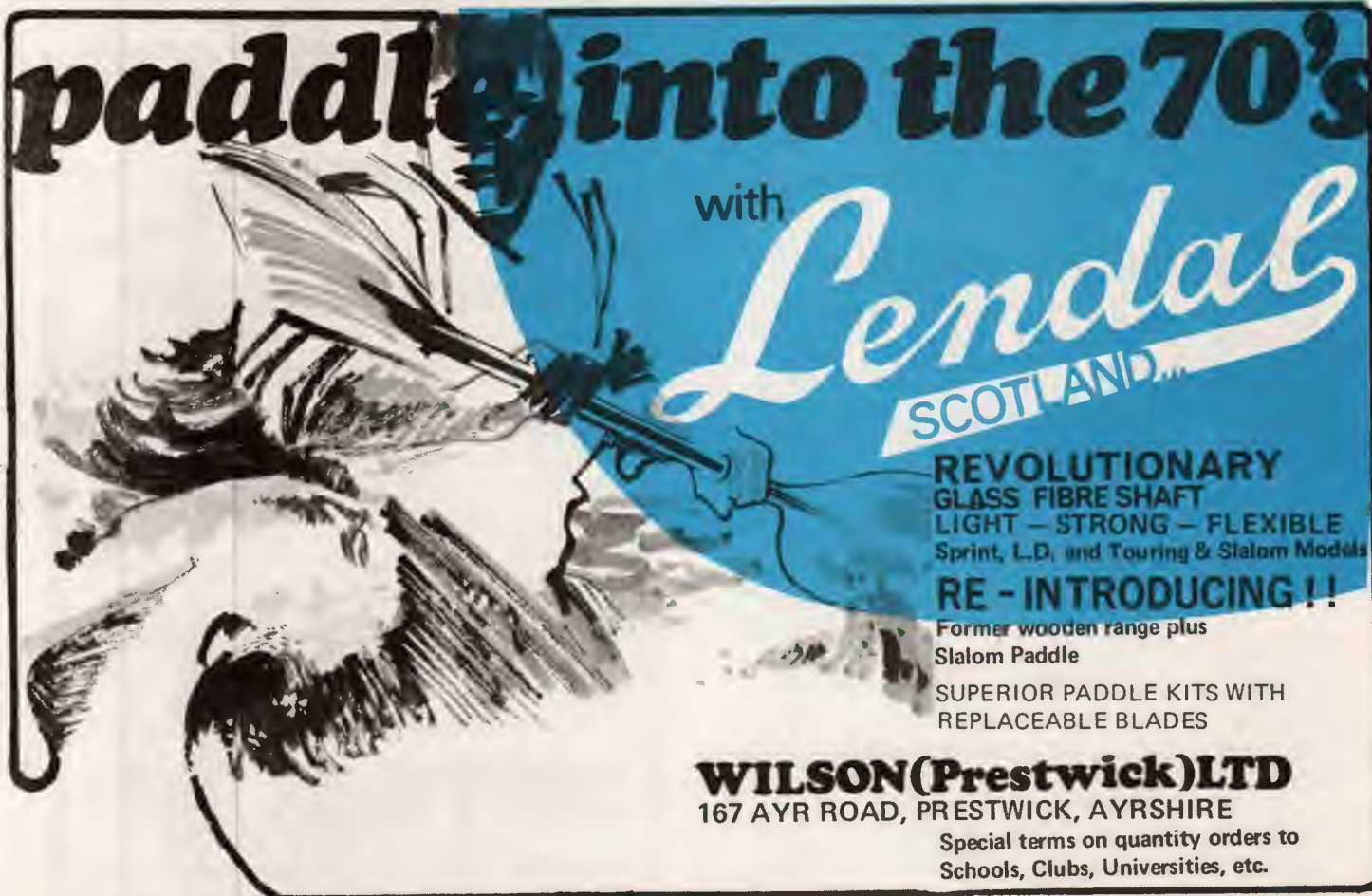
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