



# CANOEING MAGAZINE

**EXHIBITION GUIDE**

JANUARY 1972 15p

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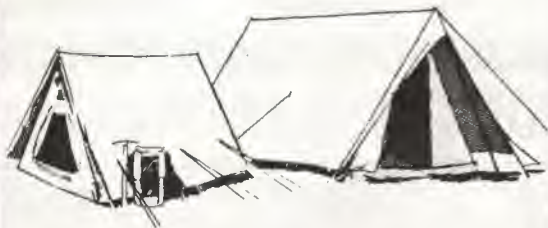
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## CANOEING MAGAZINE

Canoeing Press 25 Featherbed Lane, Croydon.

# CANOEING MAGAZINE

Vol. 12  
Number 1  
January 1972

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-United States

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## COVER PHOTO

Low water on the first Usk River Race.  
Photo: CANOEING MAGAZINE

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** United Kingdom and Eire, £2-20: Australia and New Zealand, 5.60 Dollar: Austria, 165.50 Schilling: Belgium, 320.00 Franc: Canada, 7.00 Dollar: Denmark, 47.75 Krone: Finland, 27.50 Markka: France, 35.50 Franc: Germany, 23.25 D.mark: Italy, 4000. Lira: Netherland, 23.00 Guilder: Norway, 45.50 Krone: Spain, 445.00 Peseta: Sweden, 33.00 Krone: Switzerland, 28.00 Franc: United States, 6.50 Dollar.

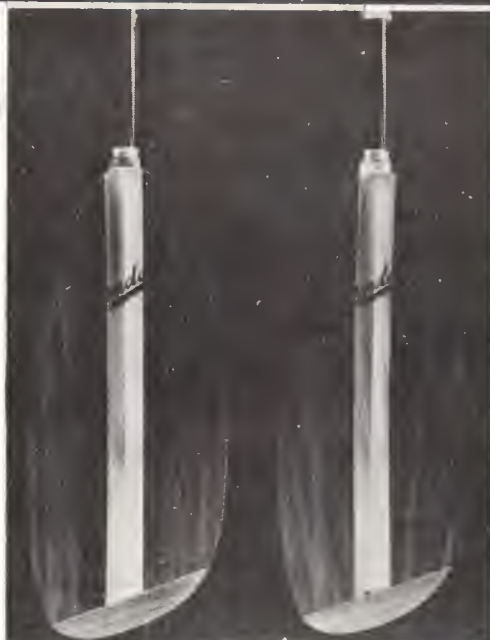
CANOEING MAGAZINE is published monthly by Canoeing Press, 25 Featherbed Lane, Croydon, CRO 9AE. and printed by Kingprint Ltd, Richmond, Middlesex.

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# 1972

# NATIONAL CANOE EXHIBITION



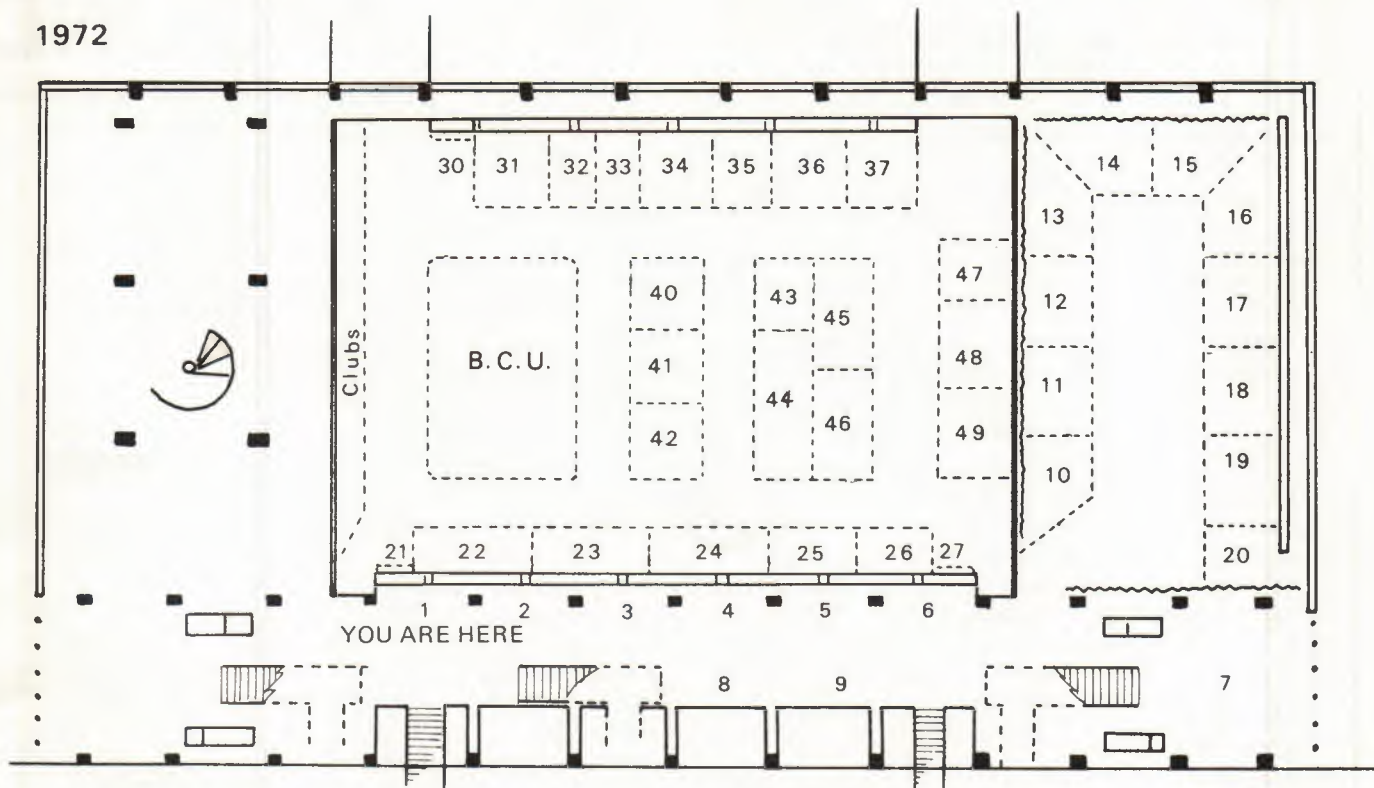
Sat 19th Feb 10am-7.30pm

Sun 20th Feb 10am-5.30pm

Crystal Palace National  
Sports Centre, London

# CANOE EXHIBITION

1972



## CONCOURSE

Stand No.

- 1 Canoeing Magazine
- 2 Circle Products
- 3 Derek Farley
- 4 Mark Gees
- 5 Jon Hyland
- 6 Prima Glassfibre Materials

## UPPER HALL

Stand No.

- 10 Avoncraft
- 11 Canoe Centre
- 12 Frank McNulty
- 13 Aquaquipment
- 14 Canoe Centresport
- 15 Lendal Paddles
- 16 P & H Fibreglass Products
- 17 Ottersports
- 18 Streamlyte
- 19 Valley Canoe Products
- 20 Pyranha Mouldings

## MAIN HALL

Stand No.

- 21 Amateur Swimming Assoc.
- 22 British Schools Canoeing Assoc.
- 23 British Waterways Board
- 24 Canadian Canoe Assoc.
- 25 Inland Waterways Assoc.
- 26 Kennet & Avon Canal Trust
- 27 Royal Life Saving Society
- 30 Drakes Island
- 31 Army Canoe Union
- 32 Bowles Outdoor Centre
- 33 Leaside Young Mariners
- 34 Longridge Centre
- 35 Royal Mariners
- 36 Weald Slalom Assoc.
- 37 Welsh Harp Centre
- 40 Boys Brigade
- 41 Girl Guide Assoc.
- 42 National Assoc. of Boys Clubs
- 43 Granta Boats
- 44 Northern Wild Water Centre

- 45 Tylon
- 46 Canoe Centre
- 47 Watling Trailers
- 48 Jaycee Glassfibre Products
- 49 Gaybo

## ADDITIONAL STANDS

- 7 Strand Glass
- 8 Biota Canoes
- 9 Howill Marine
- G55 Holm Pierrepont  
Slalom Course Model

# CANOEING MAGAZINE

The magazine will once again have a Stand in the usual place on the concourse, and maned of course by the 'dolly-girls' from Richmond and Royal Canoe Clubs! On sale will be the current magazine as well as many of the back issues of 1971 for those who renewed late or missed out on a copy. Also available will be the range of books from 'Canoeing Magazine Sales', including a limited supply of 'Living Canoeing', *Modern Canoeing*, *Canoeing Complete*, *Weight Training for Sport and Fitness*; maps of *Stamfords*, *Guide to the River Wye*, and maps and guides to the more popular of French Rivers. Also in limited numbers will be the present series of *Official Olympic Posters* for sale. Two big orders of the Canoeing Poster have already sold out (as of December) and another order will be placed with Germany early in the year to arrive by Exhibition time. Our advert for Grand Canyon Photo Sets drew an overwhelming response and thus two new series will be on sale as well as many other spectacular prints from the magazines slalom and wild water file. (If any of the above sell out it will of course be possible to order.) For your interest a special display of Grand Canyon photographs will be on a separate stand area.

Two new items are added to 'Canoeing Magazine Sales'; a specially designed 'Canoeing Magazine' T-shirt with designs for both slalom and racing in med. or large fittings; and a series of high class art prints brought in from America showing scenes of the *Voyageur Canoes*.

## AQUAQUIPMENT

A wide range of wet suits will be on display, both ready-made and in kit form. Aquaequipment offer a comprehensive selection of sizes, styles, materials and prices, from an economical unlined *Do-It-Yourself* suit to a luxurious Super Range ready-made. All Aquaequipment suits and kits are available by Mail Order or direct from the shop in St. Albans.

## VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS

Two new models will be on show at the Exhibition this year - *The Venon* and *The Anas Acuta*. The Venon, our new, top-class slalom competition kayak of a technically advanced boat designed for Augsburg with Holme Pierrepont in mind. Developed specifically for heavy water conditions and incorporating many novel features. The Anas Acuta is a sea-going Eskimo Kayak manufactured and marketed by us, designed and developed by Geoff

# AROUND

Blackford, Karl Quaife, and Alan Byde. The Soar Valley Specials, Marks 1 and 3, will also be on display at prices ranging from £27.50 in kit form. Since its' first showing at last year's Exhibition, the VCP Surf-Shoe is now the proud holder of a World Record for the longest distance surfed on a single wave. On the 8th September 1971, a distance of four miles was surfed on the Severn Bore, thus doubling the previous record.

The VCP Cadet, shown in prototype form at the 1971 Exhibition, has since been adopted as the standard kayak for the British Schools Canoeing Association and is now known as the BSCA Cadet.

In the accessory field, our now famous Tailored Air Bag buoyancy will be on display in a new laminated material which is both lighter and stronger than that of the original vinyl. In addition to our normal range of accessories, we shall be showing: white floating plastic toggles (to BCU spec.); Sarrai Zienne plastic sandals; Estafoam (expanded light-weight foam, compatible with polyester resins); and a new concept in personal buoyancy, the Chevron, a two-part aid which is now undergoing trials for BSI approval. Also on our stand will be a full range of tools and materials that are available for the amateur builder, including the new Formula Five Mould Release products.

## MARK GEES

Mark Gees, who design and manufacture top quality paddles, have a stand at the Canoe Exhibition for the first time this year. On display will be the total range of paddles.

The ACE slalom paddle is designed on traditional lines but with modern technology in the construction, the main feature being a cross grain lamination to the tip, which trebles the strength of previous models.

For Sprint Racing their REGAL paddle is a completely new design, without a centre rib, allowing a cleaner paddling stroke. Both of these paddles have a degree of style and finish that is refreshing.

ARDOUR, a racing paddle designed economically for the Espada and Youth paddler, gives the handling characteristics of a more expensive blade. It is a sufficiently robust paddle to interest Schools and Education Authorities for general purposes.

TOUR DE-LUXE is a paddle for the Touring enthusiast, having a five-ply blade, a laminated shaft, in either one or two piece construction.

# THE STANDS

---

*TOUR*, a two piece blade, is ideal for the week-end participant who requires a low priced paddle.

Outside of normal production Mark Gees' Paddles can be made individually to special order or your own particular requirements. Callers will be welcome to our stand, where they can see the products and discuss any special problems.

## **LENDAL PADDLES**

Lendal will again be exhibiting their full range of paddles, kit blades, and fibreglass shafted paddles, which are now receiving world wide recognition. There will also be a completely new range of products on show, which will be different to the usual run of canoeing products.

Price increases have been kept to an absolute minimum, and there have been no increases at all in the kit blade range.

Come along to the *Lendal Stand*, and meet the *Lendal People* to discuss any problems, or for advice you may need. Do not forget to find out what our new product is!

## **STREAMLYTE**

For the 1972 Crystal Palace Exhibition STREAMLYTE will be showing a comprehensive selection of top quality kayaks ranging from the *K. W. IMP* junior kayak to the outstandingly successful Streamlyte "*SPRINTER 3*". The "*Sprinter 3*" on show this year will be constructed of DIOLEN and CARBON FIBRE making it weight for weight the toughest downriver racing kayak ever made. Streamlyte now manufacture DIOLEN KAYAKS to order.

Other attractions on the STREAMLYTE stand are the Gold Medal winning "*SCORPION 3*" slalom kayak as used with such success on the Grand Canyon Expedition. The ever popular *K. W. 7*, the *K. W. 4*, and two newcomers, the *TARKA* slalom kayak, and the "*WASP*". It is stressed by Streamlyte that the "*WASP*" is not a production model and is in very limited supply only. The price is incredibly low for this model.

STREAMLYTE MOULDS for D.I.Y. kayak builders will be on show together with all the equipment and materials needed for fibre glass canoe construction. These moulds are available for the *K.W.7*, and *K.W.4* models and are a first class buy for Education Authorities. Also of interest to EDUCATION

AUTHORITIES and clubs will be the STREAMLYTE ADAPTABLE canoe trailer, specially designed by Streamlyte who know all of the problems of transporting canoes safely, the trailer can be quickly loaded, is well padded and silent running. It is of a very tough construction and hot dip galvanized. For storage, the superstructure is easily removed and the trailer can quickly be converted for Dinghys etc. Paddles, Life Jackets in fact everything for the canoeist will be on show on the STREAMLYTE STAND.

## **P & H FIBREGLASS**

This year P & H Fibreglass Products will have no less than eight different designs of kayaks and canoes on their stand. The range includes Canadian Single and Double Canoes, as used by the World Champions and current British Champions.

A new sea kayak will be on show for the first time, together with the very successful Hahn Augsburg 72 Slalom Kayak. The ever popular and certainly among the best value for money at the show will be the P & H Soar Valley Kayak and the Swift Kayak. Both these kayaks have been in the range for three years now and are in constant use by Education Authorities, Armed Forces and Outdoor Pursuits Centres throughout Great Britain.

If you are looking for tips on how to make a drysuit, visit the P & H Stand, where a continuous demonstration on drysuit manufacture will be taking place.

All accessories will be on sale on the stand, including drysuits, paddles, lifejackets, crash helmets, and materials.

## **PYRANHA MOULDINGS**

Pyrana Mouldings are offering a range of quality sporting Kayaks in highest quality glassfibre to some of the most advanced designs available.

Two very specialised competition kayaks are offered - *SABRE* is a Long Distance and Sprint Racing *K.1.*; a thoroughbred racing kayak for the paddler wanting no compromise requiring the absolute ultimate in performance. Designed and proven in late 1971 ready for the new year, this kayak is now being used by many of Britains leading paddlers: *TRIDENT* a new slalom kayak proven and respected by many leading paddlers in late 1971. This kayak has been designed for British courses giving a most manoeverable and controllable kayak, a real winner for 1972.

*HARTUNG*, a superb East German designed kayak, fast with exhilarating performance and directional stability. Ideal for the complete novice and ex-

pert alike, available for every pocket in complete, kit and mould hire forms. Also in two seat sizes.

VOYAGER, a new touring double, fast, stable and buoyant. A beautiful, streamlined, safe canoe, suitable for people of all ages requiring that little bit extra in quality, performance and comfort in their boat. Suitable for the individual, youth group and adventure group for river, estuary and sea cruising. Available in kit and complete form.

Pyrana Mouldings will also be showing many accessories including paddles from Lendal, Collar and Mark Gees; clothing by Howarth Sports. Harishok Buoyancy aids and many other accessories.

## OTTERSPO RTS

Ottersports bring to the National Canoe Exhibition a comprehensive selection of their products - Glassfibre Kayaks; Plywood Kayaks built from all their Kayel-Otter Kits; Paddles and Paddle Kits; Lifejackets and a wide range of Accessories.

In addition to proven favourites they present three entirely new features:-

Firstly a range of *ABS Paddles - Kayak and Canadian*. This new Thermoplastic (ABS) is the latest material used in Paddle Manufacture and is far stronger and more durable than wood. Impervious to water, it needs no varnishing and will not rot, warp or delaminate. Ottersports Kayak ABS Paddles are ready made and feathered with Drip Rings Fitted. They have already made a very favourable impression on an important section of the canoeing public.

Secondly, the *Kayel-Otter Slalom Mark 6* has taken the place of the Mark 5 which it superficially resembles. It is however a completely re-designed boat, doing all that the Mark 5 did, but doing it better. Its manoeuvrability and handling qualities are a big advance on the Mark 5 and it will roll well. It is not only far more stable, but has a comfortable feeling of stability.

Finally comes the "*NEW*" *Kayel-Otter Touring Single*. The old one was indisputably the most popular Canoe Kit in world, so why alter it? Ottersports are always looking out for improvement, and without affecting its performance have re-designed this Canoe to give it that up-to-the-minute 1972 look! The aft-deck has been lowered, reducing wind resistance and giving the cockpit a pleasing downward rake from fore to aft, imparting a more "sporting" appearance to the Canoe; and an entirely new Platform Type, easily adjustable Footrest has been introduced.

To mark the introduction of this Canoe Kit, normally priced at £18-00 plus £1-00 for carriage etc. it will be on Special Offer at the B.C.U. Conference at

a price, including delivery, of only £15-00 - a saving of £4.00.

## JAYCEE GLASSFIBRE

Amongst the craft exhibited this year will be three new models are added to our range - *MANTA* slalom kayak: *PIRANHA 72* slalom C1: *CORVETTE* touring kayak.

*MANTA - SLALOM*: One of the top paddlers in this country has designed a new slalom kayak for the Olympics and has asked us to produce this kayak with our range. Although not tried out in all types of water, this kayak promises to be a most successful slalom craft.

*PIRANHA 72 - SLALOM C1*: A modification of the highly successful Piranha, used to win the 1971 National Championship, also used by more members of the British Olympic Slalom Squad than any other C1. The new design incorporates the stability and speed of the original boat, with increased buoyancy and manoeuvrability that is required for the top ranks of competition.

*CORVETTE - TOURING KAYAK* : It was felt that from experience of selling the Cub and Eau-Vive, there was a need in the range for an inbetween size of touring single, thus we introduce the Corvette. This kayak has very pleasing lines, and although a very fast touring boat, is suited as a general purpose kayak.

*MERANO* : In 1971 the success of the Merano proved itself as a very desirable slalom kayak with its easy manoeuvrability and its direction being at first rate. Not only has it been placed top of all divisions in 1971, but also used by the World Record Holder in the Guinness Book of Records for 341 consecutive rolls; this record has now been surpassed in December 1971, the Merano again being used.

*WILDCAT* : One of the features of the Wildcat slalom kayak is that it is an excellent surfing kayak, and in fact won the Surfing Championships at Bude in 1971. The number of Wildcats sold last year speaks highly of this kayak as a sea surfing craft.

*MENDESTA 400 SUPER* : The price of the '400' is still being kept to one of the most reasonably priced quality slalom kayaks on the market, and is used extensively by Education Authorities because of its ease of handling for teaching basic canoeing.

These are just a few of the fine range of kayaks and canoes we will be showing on our stand at the Exhibition, craft of the very top quality that you will be proud to own. Come along and have a look....

## AVONCRAFT

Avoncraft will be introducing 6 new kayaks at the Crystal Palace Exhibition, all will have an integral structure of the new chemically treated Polyester Fibre. This new generation of kayaks will have a tremendous structural and weight advantage and the working life of a kayak will be considerably increased particularly when in physical contact with a bolder strewn river bed.

The advantages of the new fibre will be most effective in the new and exclusive range from Germany. Firstly, the K1 and K2 kayaks offer much greater speed, lower weight factor and the highest resilience yet measured against structural damage. The hydrodynamic shape is not effected by distortion due to stress, unlike glassfibre. These are proven advantages like those obtained with the results at the West German National Championships when both K1 and K2 gained gold medals. Production of these craft has already commenced.

Avoncrafts new range are the "Mistral" Touring Single and the "Supa Bat" Bath Trainer, both craft are of the most advanced design and have a number of very interesting new features. The "Supa Bat" has been completely re-designed and offers much greater versatility.

Finally, there will be a new competition Slalom and White Water kayak in polyester fibre at the Exhibition. These craft will be available at the end of February.

The existing range of Avoncraft kayaks will have a number of new improved features and the whole Avoncraft range will be integrated into using where necessary, the polyester fibre.

## CANOE CENTRE

The CANOE CENTRE announce SIX new models for their 1972 range, all of which will be on show at the Crystal Palace Exhibition.

The KLEPPER LOISACH is the long awaited new slalom kayak from Klepper Werke. Thirty of these new kayaks have been supplied to the Organising Committee for the Augsburg Slalom, as a pool of kayaks for use of competing teams. Manufactured either in Diolen or Glass-reinforced plastics. This kayak is sure to make a large impact upon Division One this year. Price £48. GRP; £51.50 in Diolen.

The new racing kayaks announced are the Glass Ranger K1 and glass Winner K4, which now means that for the first time, the Canoe Centre are manufacturing Struers complete range of current sprint designs in GRP, (the Lancer K1 and Glider K2 have been in production for some time). The RANGER K1 is an exact copy of Jorgen Sampsen's original with the exception of a raised cockpit, making the kayak "drier". The glass WINNER K4 is another exact copy of the original; this time the Canoe Centre has used a sandwich technique giving the same rigidity as a veneer K4.

KLEPPER MUNCHEN 71 — this is a new slalom/white water training kayak, and is envisaged as the ideal kayak

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### KAYAKS FOR ALL SIDES OF CANOESPORT

for Outdoor Activity Centres and Education Authorities, for basic and advanced slalom/white water training. Klepper also, via the Canoe Centre, have modified their TRAMP TOURING kayak which now has a larger cockpit, re-designed deck, and optional rudder fittings. This has made the kayak more versatile, it now being ideal for touring in white water, or on the flat using the rudder fitting.

Introduced for the first time in the range, is an 18' TOURING CANADIAN canoe, manufactured to the Canoe Centre's usual high quality.

Retained for 1972 is the ever popular Struer Hunter K1; with the Scimitar K1 also retained as the economy racing kayak. The SL7 (Slalom Kayak) is also continuing due to its popularity with schools.

Altogether the Canoe Centre have catalogued 24 different designs, which even without their Klepper folding boats, and Struer originals gives them Britain's largest and most comprehensive range of canoes and kayaks.

## NORTHERN WILD WATER

1972 is to be a year of consolidation for the NWWC, we will have a new Wild Water Racing/Class 3. Kayak, "the ROCKET" on show and we will have a new glassfibre version of the "International Sailing Canoe". Also on show will be the Club K4 Mk 2, a slightly modified version of our two piece sprint K4 and the Liffey Descent Winning Elektron 2 K2. The Slalom Kayaks remain unchanged with the 'Inn', 'Inn-Spezial', and 'Olympia' all at £45.00 each.

We are keeping prices at the 1971 level for at least the first half of 1972, this is because a greater volume of production has meant a reduction of manufacturing costs equivalent to the inflation of 'on costs'. We will be moving into new premises in late spring. The Catalogue and prices will be revised at this time.

# OLYMPIC DOPE TESTS

There will again be extensive checks on doping at the 1972 Olympic Games in Sapporo and Munich. The Medical Commission of the International Olympic Committee has now approved a list of preparations covered by the definition of doping. The President of this Commission is Prince Alexandre de Merode (Belgium); its Vice-President is Dr. Arpad Csanadi (Hungary). The members are Prof. Arnold Beckett (United Kingdom), Prof. Giuseppe La Cava (Italy), Dr. Pieter van Dijk (Netherlands), Dr. Albert Dirix (Belgium), Dr. Nina Grashinskaia (USSR), Dr. Daniel F. Hanley (USA), Dr. Eduardo Hay (Mexico), Prof. Ludwig Prokop (Austria) and Dr. Jacques Thiebault (France).

In the course of the next few weeks a booklet on doping is to be drawn up and made available to all IOC MEMBERS, National Olympic Committees and

inter-national sports federations. The following is the list of doping preparations, which is subject to extension at any time:

Psychomotor stimulant drugs (designed to improve performance by reducing the sensation of fatigue), such as: *amphetamine, methylamphetamine, ethylamphetamine, benzphetamine, phenmetrazine, phendimetrazine, prolintane, fen-camfamin, diethylpropion, dimethylamphetamine, cocaine, norpseudoephedrine, methyl phenidate* and related substances.

Sympathomimetic amines (designed to stimulate through the vegetative nervous system), such as : *ephedrine, methylephedrine, methoxyphenamine* and related substances.

Miscellaneous central nervous system stimulants (designed to stimulate the muscles through the central nervous system) such as : *leptazol, amiphenazole, bemegrade, nikethamide, strychnine* and related substances.

Narcotic Analgesics, such as : *morphine, methadone, heroin, pethidine, dextromoramide, dipipanone* and related substances.





# SLALOM SCENE

**Susan Witter**

## LLANGOLLEN TOWN

October is the culminating month of the slalom season and this year was no exception with the finals of the National Championships and the International Slalom both providing exciting competition on the town course at Llangollen.

The Chester Club was the organiser of the Llangollen 1st Division slalom on the weekend of 9-10 October. Since Midland C.C.'s Lune event has now been transferred back to March, the Llangollen slalom is the final and deciding event in the CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES. This year the result of the premier title, the senior men's kayaks was in doubt right up to the event with Ray Calverley and Dave Mitchell both hot favourites for the championship.

Although Dave Mitchell had not previously won a slalom this year he was highly placed in the points table and just required a change in the run of luck to gain the title. The change was helped by the fact that since Dave's own club was the event organiser he was able to design the course himself. This is naturally a privilege which goes with running any slalom and it is debateable whether the advantage gained is more than marginal. However, in this case Dave was lucky that nobody made a protest to the jury since he had exceeded the limit of 30 gates and erected an illegal 33 gate course.

On the day of the slalom the emphasis was really on stamina to get down this long and very technical course. Although the water level was extremely low, good use had been made of the currents that were available to produce a very testing run. In the team event Manchester again showed their superiority by a clear cut win to clinch the 1971 championship title for their superb combination of Ken Langford, John MacLeod and Ray Calverley.

Dave Mitchell got his own back in the individual events on Sunday however, with a beautiful run to which none of his Manchester rivals had any reply. This gave him the national championship yet again and surely must have influenced the selectors to invite him back into the Olympic training squad after what, I hope, will have been his temporary exclusion.

The women's event was won by Heather Goodman to clinch for her the 1971 title from Paluine Squires/Goodwin. In the C1 class the paddlers were pleased to welcome Wick Walker from the USA who

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was over here early for the International Slalom. Their pleasure was a little abated however, when Wick proceeded to show the way home by winning the competition by a comfortable margin. As he didn't qualify for championship points, however, the title for this year goes to his erstwhile countryman and present resident of Edinburgh, Rowan Osborne.

In the C2 event Lindsay Williams and Dave Allen returned a very fast run which nobody could match and underlined their already certain winning of the championship title.

## INTERNATIONAL

The poor river conditions at the Llangollen Town event fortunately did not continue up to the following weekend's 'Consulate International Canoe Slalom' at the same venue. A number of good rainstorms during the week brought the river up to a very interesting level and ensured that excuses would not have to be made yet again for our feeble 'rapids' at Llangollen. It seems that some competitors from previous years may have had enough, however, and unhappily did not return this year to sample the best ever international at Llangollen. Notably the East Germans, Swiss and Yugoslavs were conspicuous by their absence. However, we were very pleased to welcome Czech and Spanish parties for the first time, together with reinforced teams from Poland, the USA, Ireland and the German Federal Republic.

The success of the event was guaranteed not only by the good water conditions but also by the generous sponsorship provided by Rothman's of Pall Mall who used the slalom to promote their Consulate brand of cigarettes. The formula of the Llangollen international is of course quite simple: since the slalom season is finished for most people, inducements and attractions must be offered to entice entries from abroad to a slalom in a foreign country, hundreds of miles from home, involving a sea crossing and taking place at a cold, wet and misty time of year. The first inducement is the travel expenses which the commercial sponsorship allows the BCU to offer; secondly there is the attraction of a holiday in England and thirdly there are the non-canoeing activities in Llangollen. This year as well as free accommodation, the organisers attempted to arrange hosts from different BCU clubs to look after the different nations and entertain them with expenses paid. It was surprising that there was so little response from the clubs to this attractive job, and the task fell as usual on the half dozen stalwarts who gave up their time to course erection, etc. before the event and so were available in Llangollen.

As it was, a good programme of entertainments was laid on, especially for the Czechs and Poles who, of course are not able to bring any Western currencies with them. It was pleasant to hear many times from different competitors that they regard Llangollen as the

best fixture in the international calendar; mainly because of the competitive atmosphere and the attractions of the 'apres canoe' life.

On Saturday the team event was again scheduled for televising on the 'World of Sport' programme. Fortunately this year it was recorded for transmission a week later so that the panic of last year to keep everything running precisely to time was not repeated.

In the main event for teams, the men's kayak, the surprise result was that the Great Britain B team of Mitchell, Swallow, Thomas took the gold medals just three seconds ahead of the 1969 world champion team from France of Colombe, Maccari, Peschier with the Great Britain A team in third place. In the women's event an international combination team of many times world champion Ludmilla Polesna (Czechoslovakia), Margaret Nutt (USA) and Barbel Sattler (Austria) won very convincingly from Great Britain A again in 3rd place !In the Canadian team events the GB A team won decisively in both the singles and doubles.

For the individual events on the Sunday, it was good to see an extra class for juniors this year. Although there was little true opposition on this first occasion it gave our junior team some much needed experience. In the Canadian singles event the World Champion, Reinhold Kauder from the West German club Grevenbroich was competing. Here he could only gain the silver medal, leaving the top slot to the Frenchman, Francois Bonnet. Highest placed British paddler was John Albert at 5th. In the doubles the Austrians, Steindl/Mulneritsch won yet again (despite being up until 3 a.m. the night before) with the West German national team pair of Wenzel/Hess second. Our own pair Allen/Williams took the bronze.

For the women's competition there was little doubt that the brilliant Czech girl, Polesna, would take the gold. This she did with Audrey Wickham and Pauline Goodwin taking creditable second and third places.

In the premier competition Ray Calverley put in two very consistent runs to take the gold more than ten seconds clear of Schlecht of Austria, whilst John Macleod was third with Ken Langford 4th, Dave Mitchell 6th, Mike Thomas 8th and Melvin Swallow 18th.

All in all the third Llangollen International was probably the best yet and gained valuable publicity for the sport at this vital time just before the Olympics.

## WINTER MEETS

November is always a month to look forward to at the end of the slalom year. All the important events are over, the pressure on competitors is off, the rivers are running at a decent level and the really cold weather has not yet set in. So it is a pleasure to attend some of the water races just for the experience of paddling on some good rapids uncluttered by other competitors or by slalom poles.

Slaloms themselves are now so restricted as far as white water practice for the individual is concerned, that it is clear that many paddlers are keen to have a go at the winter races, rather than pack their boats away for the cold weather. As usual the Usk race opened the winter season, but the water level for this race was not as good as in previous years: owing to the lack of rain in Wales.

On the same weekend a new race on the river Allen was faced with a similar lack of water and had to be switched at the last moment to the nearby River Tyne. This plan of having a second string to the bow, so that a less ambitious river can be turned to if the first choice is impossible, seems an excellent idea but of course is not always practicable. This Northumberland race turned out to be a most pleasant affair in spite of very poor weather. Even in low water the North Tyne is quite interesting and is no doubt superb after a drop of rain. The race was run in competent style and the prize giving was held in civilised fashion before a blazing fire in the local hostelry.

A couple of weeks later saw the Army White Water Racing Championships. Although this event on the Swale fell into some disrepute last year when it was cancelled at short notice, the Army this year made an excellent job of the event which they threw open to civilians as well. Although the Midlands had had a cloud burst the previous evening, the Swale catchment area was not so fortunate and the paddlers had to be content with a rather low water level. A fairly good turnout of about 50 kayaks, 3 CIs and a couple of C2s disputed the race which was won by Mike Thomas of Manchester in an excellent time. Although the RAF team present were not able to beat the Army on speed in the race, they outdid them by daring afterwards; one of their team actually shot the 8 foot vertical drop of the Richmond falls and really made it look terribly easy. Others immediately followed to thrill the onlookers and confirm that it was really not all that difficult whatever the BCU 'joke book' might say about its impossibility.

The first weekend in December saw the usual general meeting of the BCU Slalom Committee - held this time in Bradford at St. Bede's School. This is the meeting which used to be spread over two days at Maurice Rothwell's house in Manchester. The present compression of the meeting means that it is impossible to get through all the business on the agenda. This year only seven hours were available for debate and in consequence the meeting progressed no further than item 16 on a 31 item agenda. Indeed the impression seemed to be that delegates would prefer to allow the Executive to get on with most of the involved decisions which are too complicated to be handled by a meeting of some 40 members. This was borne out when the meeting came to consider a number of proposals concerning white water racing. Obviously the complications and ramifications of the matter were too much to make snap decisions there and then so, quite rightly, a sub-committee was set up to consider the matter and report back. All of which makes one wonder exactly what purpose these marathon, large scale meetings can achieve. Incidentally the last item on the agenda was a proposal from Chris McAllister that the General Committee should meet only once a year instead of twice as at present. This was never reached but no doubt if it had been, it would have been passed from the sheer ennui of the delegates, having sat through so many hours of fruitless discussion.

However, not to give the wrong impression, some

useful innovations were voted on. The first of these was a combined entry and control card system, first proposed last year by Carlisle, and submitted in draft form to the meeting by Colin Manton and Roger Hardy. This will eliminate a lot of the transcription work in control and with it, a common source of error. The draft fixture list for 1972 was tabled; it was noted that the August Bank Holiday Grandtully event would clash with the Olympics and a motion was therefore passed to move it forward to the Spring Bank Holiday - in spite of strong opposition from the scholastic element in the meeting which felt that work and play could not be mixed.

At the time of writing however, no organiser is available this event, nor for the Llangollen Town event in October, nor for the Llangollen International in mid-October; the Witter brothers having resigned from the sub-committee running the international after three very successful years. The Executive is therefore looking for offers of organisation for these three important slaloms. An offer was put to the general meeting

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from the new Slalom Promotions Organisation to run these three events. This would have been a bold departure for the slalom world but the offer was turned down by the committee which felt that it would not have the same control as before, over its events.

Progress was also made on the regionalisation front as a proposal was voted in that regions may now elect a regional slalom officer who may administer open and novice events for local paddlers. Thus those areas that wish to adopt regionalisation may do so (as some have already done, to the benefit of their events) and those that wish to remain as before may also do so.



The above rather interesting photograph was sent in to the magazine by one of our Dutch readers and shows a Volendam girl holding a Bat Polo Kayak. The Dutch, like the Germans, have been playing 'canoe polo' for some time, but in kayaks of their own design. Maybe if the British Bat catches on we will see 'international Bat Polo' in the Future.

## CLUB CORNER

*THE BROOK CLUB, Sackville Street, Southsea is a Local Authority Youth Club with a very modern Club building within sight of Portsmouth Guildhall and seven minutes from Southsea Front.*

A Canoe Club has been part of the Club activities for three years. Membership is open to young people between 14 and 21 years. Facilities include well equipped Workshop, Club Canoes for members use, Training Courses for beginners, Club Canoe Trailer. Programme of films during winter months, Camping during the summer.

A Friendship Link with the Meidericher Kanu Club (1921) Duisburg has been in existence for two years. A Group of 25 German Canoeists were guests of the Brook Club this year and a return visit is arranged for July 24th - August 1972 when 25 Brook Club members visit Duisburg.

Future plans : - to get our own mould and take part in competitive Canoeing.

Good social facilities are available for Club members on six nights a week including Archery, Judo, Football, Sailing (the Club has two Mirror dinghies), Trampoline, Netball, Basketball, Tennis, Table Tennis, T.V., Lounge Coffee Bar.

How much does this cost? 50p for four months if you are under 18. Special Activities fees for over 18's.

Any further information from :  
Alex W. (Canoe Club), Brook Club, Sackville Street, Southsea. PO5 4BU.

# ALLOA ACADEMY CANOE PROJECT

Alloa Academy is a 6 year comprehensive school of 1,000 pupils, situated in Central Scotland on the banks of the River Forth. Two years ago a school canoe club was founded and during its first year in existence, its members gained experience on many of Scotland's rivers. During the winter of that year, we saw a film made by a group who had canoed on the Rhone with P.G. Lawrence holidays and were attracted by the excellent climatic canoeing conditions which France had to offer. Although we were fortunate to have at our disposal a mini-bus and a canoe trailer, our stock of canoes at that time was three P.B.K. canvas singles; two P.B.K. canvas doubles, and three unrecognisable glass-fibre singles plus one Encliffe which was shared with another local school.

We embarked on a year's project ending with four weeks canoeing in France. Our project which began in September 1970 was:-

1. Build 12 glass-fibre single canoes (September to December)
2. Canoe Handling at a local swimming pool (January to March)
3. Canoe Handling on various rivers in Scotland (April to June)
4. Spend the month of July canoeing in France.

The final party for France was to consist of ten pupils (determined) by the size of the mini-bus). Therefore, some standards had to be set to eliminate less able pupils. Two tests had to be passed, qualifying for a place:

- 1 (a) The Scottish Schools Swimming Association Survival Swim Test.
- (b) The B.C.U. Proficiency Test (Kayak Inland)

The work done during January to May resulted in the required number of pupils passing both tests.

While the practical side of the project was progressing, the planning of our route was also being undertaken by the pupils who were to make the trip. After obtaining some information about French rivers from the B.C.U., studying the French River Guide Map and the French River Guide Book - Canoe Kayak en France; plus enlisting the school's modern language department's knowledge of the country, a route was planned. We decided that rather than spend all of our time on one or two rivers, we would like to experience several rivers from a cross section of the country. A period of 3-7 days was spent at each plac. Each pupil was allocated a town and asked to obtain as much information about it - e.g. camp sites and local canoeing rivers. The postal strike delayed some of the replies from France, but by Easter our route - the towns, camp sites and rivers had been completed.

Before our departure, certain other formalities had to be taken care of - green card insurance for mini-bus, insuring of the party, booking of car-ferry, vaccinations (smallpox, typhoid, tetanus, Polio) - advised by the school M.O.H., passports, foreign currency and travellers cheques.

The party of ten pupils (eight boys and two girls, aged 15 to 18) and three members of staff, left Scotland on Friday 2nd July, crossed by ferry from Dover to Calais and spent two days at Malo-les-Bains, on the outskirts of Dunkirk. On Saturday evening the floodtide provided some enjoyable surfing while the following scorching day was spent on rolling practice on the placid sea.

Monday was spent travelling to St. Dizier which is in the Haute Marneregion of France. On Tuesday morning following a survey of the River Mame, we played about in the white water at the bottom of a weir before making a short trip of four kilometres down the river. This river was very placid and extremely warm -not a significant canoeing river, but it suited our requirements which were to acclimatise ourselves slowly while travelling south and also to increase the intensity of difficulty of the rivers.

Wednesday 7th July - Still travelling in a south-easterly direction through Besancon to Ornans which stands on the River Loue very close to Switzerland. According to our information, the Loue was Grade II, but when we surveyed what was to be our route, we found impassable weirs every kilometre, which made a descent from Lods to Crnans impossible. We did, however, find out that it was possible to begin at Ornans and travel downstream for nine kilometres having to portage only once. On a very warm Thursday morning a large crowd of locals saw us set off. We did come across two other weirs on our route, but both were easily 'shootable'. The water in the Loue was crystal clear and quite refreshingly cold - probably because Ornans is only 10 kilometres from the source of the river.

Friday 9th July - we had been living on our own cooking for a week and no one was any the worse! The longest stages of travelling in the bus were over; we were able to endure the heat and after some excitement on the River Loue we were looking forward to the next town on our route - Annecy. We planned to spend five days there and sample some of the faster Alpine rivers. We travelled from Ornans through Geneva to Annecy and pitched our tents on a hillside camp site overlooking the town and Lake Annecy.

Saturday was spent enjoying the warm waters of the lake - with and without canoes. A private bay, complete with diving board and water chute, was easily accessible and 'free' by canoe. The chute was enjoyed by all until four of the boys wore through the seat of their trunks on it! The River Arve which rises near mont Blanc and is a tributary of the Rhone was our target. The Guide Book suggested Le Fayat as a good starting place, but we found no suitable access point. Other deterrents were - the river was flowing very swiftly; it was greyish colour (limestone deposits), making it impossible to see rocks just below the surface; it was bitterly cold (glacier fed); and throughout its course, notices on the banks said the water level could rise very quickly if the Hydro Dam further up its course let out some water (which it was liable to do at any moment). We decided against a trip down the river but,

after having made a four hour journey from Annecy, we looked for a short stretch to practise on. We found such a stretch at Sevroz below a skyline of snowcapped Alps, a few kilometres upstream from Le Fayat. We spent only about half an hour on this very fast flowing and icy-cold river before calling a halt - it was too dangerous, and I would not recommend this river to anyone intending to canoe in France. To complet that day, one of the girls nearly stood on a snake on the path back to the bus!



Canoeing through the spectacular gorge of the River Ardeche.

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### GLASSFIBRE, DIOLEN, WOOD VENEER, FOLDING

Monday 12th was spent sightseeing and shopping in Geneva, then the evening was devoted to preparations for the following day's trip down the River Cheran situated eight kilometres west of Annecy. We planned to start at Alby and travel 9 kilometres downstream to Rumilly. According to Canoe Kayak en France this stretch was graded II-III. The following morning we travelled to Rumilly and had no difficulty in finding a suitable stopping place where a track ran down the river's edge. We retraced the river bank to Alby, where we could only look at it flowing 200 feet below us through a gorge. We couldn't find access at Alby, but a local shopkeeper suggested starting at a mill 4 kilometres upstream from Alby. This we did - but we made a bad mistake. The guide book said grade II-III from Alby downstream. It was only after taking 6 hours to travel 4 kilometres from the mill to Alby that we checked the guide book to find that the stretch above Alby was grade IV-V, and ran through a gorge with no access points. This, however, turned out to be the highlight of the whole expeditions. The 6-hour 4 kilometre trip involved walking 100 yards then repeating the process. Twice the walking survey provided us with waterfalls which meant rock climbing, with canoes.

Our third and non-canoeing member of staff who was waiting with the mini-bus at Alby to see us pass, spent five long worrying hours before seeing us emerge from the gorge, undaunted by our experience. We also managed to find an iron staircase from the river up to a bridge at Alby. We decided that after 6 hours we should finish there for the day.

The course we took from Hery-sur-Alby to Alby-sur-Cheran was 4 kilometres long and almost one continuous rapid. The water was much warmer than that of the Arve and muddy brown colour (there had been a storm 2 days beforehand). The day on the Cheran was an exhausting but very worthwhile experience.

Wednesday 14th July was spent sunbathing and relaxing on the shore of Lake Annecy after the previous day's exertion.

Our next stop was Grenoble which gave us difficult decision to make. We had only one day to canoe there and had to choose between the Isere and the Drac. After some discussion it was agreed that it would be easier and quicker to reach more interesting and exciting course of the Drac until we reached Champs-sur-Drac. We decided to end our trip there. We started a few kilometres above Champs and were very quickly at our destination. The Drac flowed very swiftly carrying a tremendous volume of water in it. Like the Arve it was a greyish colour making the sighting of underlying rocks impossible.

The River Ardeche - it must be a canoeists' paradise - was the last river we were to canoe in France. We set up camp at St. Martin and spent three days making 3 trips down the Ardeche from Vallon to St. Martin. So much has been written about this river before - and its

all true. There are hundreds of canoes and canoeists; the water is like that of a warm bath; rapids every kilometer to maintain interest, plus the wonderful views of the gorge. Its true, there are nudist camps along its course - but that's not reason for us going down 3 times!

Following our stay at St. Martin, we spent a week at St. Croix, a small village on the Mediterranean Coast some 30 kilometres west of Marseilles. There we canoed very little, except for one day's fun in the exceptional surf, following an electrical storm.

From the sunny Mediterranean we travelled home via the Rhone corridor, Paris and Calais in these days to conclude our project. After a year's preparation our expedition lasted for 30 days, during which time we travelled 3,500 miles and canoed on nine different French waters.

The cost of the trip -£50 per head.



## TRADE PAGE

REVIEW OF NEW KAYAKS,  
CANOES, AND EQUIPMENT.

### CANOING MAGAZINE PRODUCTION

*Over the past seven to eight months we have had a very erratic publication date on 'Canoeing Magazine'. This has been due to a number of production difficulties, one of which became so acute that the September issue had to be scrapped. This is of course regrettable, but subscribers will have their renewal date extend by one issue to cover the loss.*

*Better news for the future is that our printer has now installed a new photoset type machine and the majority of this issue is run on the new machine. This now overcomes one of our basic production problems and I hope we will be back on to a tight four weeks schedule within the next months. Not only is the new machine cutting production time, but as can be seen the justification is as good as any type-setting and we are able now to use a number of styles. As I become proficient at judging the impact of different styles this will lead to a better visual effect of the general layout.*

In this issue of 'Canoeing Magazine' you will find news or articles from America, Netherland, Denmark, Australia, and South Africa. The magazine is certainly becoming *international*.

Quite often I receive letters from British subscribers as to why there is so much coverage of national or club events from outside Britain. The answer is simply that overseas readership demands coverage of such events. The trend over the past year has shown a considerable increase in overseas subscribers, particularly from America. Infact the increase has been so steep that if it continues - as I hope - overseas circulation will likely outnumber the British subscribers within eighteen months!

In answer to overseas readers who have asked for an *Air Mail* Subscription, I have looked into the different

possible routes - direct air mail or air freight to centre point. Of the two the former is only possible but even so the price is very restrictive with the postage being double the subscription price!

However we already have a number of America subscribers willing to pay the extra and now offer a second class air subscription at twelve dollars for the year. For subscribers in Australia and New Zealand the price is £5.50 sterling. For those interested I would ask that the transfer to air mail should only be made upon renewal and not on existing subscription - working out of the proportional costs becomes too involved!

### OLYMPIC POSTERS

Two new Olympic Posters are added to the growing list this month: a very attractive and highly coloured *Basketball Poster*, and a *Swimming Poster*. Both of these are now available through 'Canoeing Magazine Sales'.

Readers who ordered Olympic Canoe Slalom Posters may still not have received these. This is due to the fact that the first order of 50 posters sold out within four days of the magazine coming out and a further order to Germany taking some four to five weeks to receive, has again sold out the Canoe Slalom Posters' a third order has been placed. Other posters in the set are still available and will be replaced with new orders as required. Also a standing order has been sent to Germany for numbers of the new sports posters as they are printed so the magazine should be among the first sources of the Olympic Posters in Britain. of course a special order is being brought in for the Canoe Conference and all available posters should be on sale at our stand.

## NEW BCU FILM

The B.C.U. has recently added a new film to their library, which is handled for them by the British Film Institute.

The film is 'CANOEING II —COMPETITION' directed by the National Coach. A brief survey of the various branches of competitive canoeing - Slalom and Wild Water Racing, Sailing, Sprint Racing, and Long Distance, - with commentaries by experts in each field. It is in 16mm colour, with optical sound, and runs for just on 25-minutes.

## NEW RANGE FROM AVONCRAFT



AVONCRAFT have gained sole rights to manufacture a new range of kayaks from the Continent which include K1, K2, Slalom, and Wildwater craft.

Although these kayaks are produced from normal polyester resins, a new fabric incorporated within the structure makes the craft stiffer and stronger, yet lighter than the usual all fibreglass kayak. These structural advantages are considerable and much less damage can be expected, offering a greatly increased life expectancy to the kayak.

Excellent results have already been achieved with the K1 and K2 at the German National Championships this last summer, where for the first time the veneer boats were beaten into second place.

Full details of this new range will be available before the end of the year, and will be in production with Avoncraft ready for the new season.

Also from Avoncraft comes a new addition to their mould and kit service. A completely new development of the **Byde BAT Kayak** is now available, incorporating a considerable number of improvements and total restyling. Full details will be out next month.

## THE CANOE CENTRE (Twickenham) LTD

FOR KLEPPER, WORLD RENOWNED KAYAKS

## NEW CANADIAN FROM TYNE

TYNE CANOES earlier this year brought out a new 14-foot canoe with The Beaver, a canoe suitable for single or double paddling. Now with the next season in mind Tyne have brought out yet another touring canoe. This time the craft is 16-foot 6-ins long and intended for double, three or four paddling. The price is £60;00.

A few weeks back I collected the first model out of the mould and took it down to the Richmond Canoe Club for members to try out. I was fortunate to find there had been a tour for Canadian Canoe paddlers that very morning and thus there was no difficulty in finding a couple to take the boat on the water.

With the Thames running quite hard and a number of big cruisers ploughing up-stream the first thing that became apparent was that this new canoe - *The Beaver 16* - was not a dry boat in rough water. With only two well built paddlers in the craft there was very little freeboard midships and when taking washes head on waves tended to come inboard. However after some half hour of playing around, the pair were pleased with the general performance. The canoe is very stable - ideal for the family canoeist who wants to potter or tour - yet the boat proved very manoeuvrable but at the same time easy to steer with quick response to the paddle, although the model we had was a little heavier than the standard production model. From the reaction of the Richmond members, Tyne has a real winner in this new canoe and I hear a number have already been brought by enthusiastic Canadian paddlers.



# CADET TAKES TO THE SEA

The BSCA CADET KAYAK has already shown itself to be a moderately good white water racer and very suitable for introducing young people to canoeing. However it has also been claimed that it is a satisfactory sea boat., and in an attempt to test this claim, three Nottingham Kayak Club members decided to use BSCA Cadets to paddle across The Wash from Skegness to Hunstanton.

The trip was scheduled for Sunday 31st October, but on the Saturday it looked very much as if the trip would not take place with a Force 6 wind in the North Sea causing a considerable swell on the coast, and with a dense fog covering East Anglia. However, by Sunday morning things had improved somewhat and as the party left Skegness Pier at 10:50, the sea was fairly calm with a steady Force 4 wind causing little chop. Despite the breeze visibility was only just over 1-mile.

After informing the Coastguard, the party set course due east and made directly out to sea until they reached the Skegness Middle Buoy which is moored 1¼-miles off the beach. This stretch of the journey was accurately timed so that the group would have some idea of the speed they were making - a factor needed to be known in order to navigate completely out of sight of land for almost three hours.

From Skegness Middle Buoy they then paddled on a compass bearing of 170° magnetic. During this first stretch of the trip the sea was fairly choppy and uneven, successive waves often coming from different directions, becoming gradually bigger towards the middle of The Wash. In these conditions the Cadet handled well, and after 50-minutes of paddling on this new course, the South Lynn Knock Buoy was sighted almost exactly 1-mile to port, confirming both the direction of travel and the estimated speed. About 20-minutes later the Lynn Well Lightship was sighted through the mist and about 1½-miles away. A slight deviation from the planned course soon brought the party into the lee of the ship. One bar of chocolate later and after a quick check on the direction and strength of the tide, they set off again.

From the Lynn Well Lightship it was necessary to set a course considerably east of the direct bearing to Hunstanton to counteract the effect of the 2-knot tide sweeping directly into The Wash. During this last stage of the journey the sea was almost directly on the beam, making paddling on a compass bearing very difficult. Again the Cadet handled well giving a good feeling of comfortable stability. Once again the navigating was 'spot on' and, with the visibility improving somewhat, Hunstanton was sighted from about 2-miles out. The party finally landed at Hunstanton Pier at 2.20pm. having completed the 18-mile trip in just 3½-hours.

The only criticism that the group had of the Cadet was that two of the three paddlers found the seat uncomfortable. In general the kayak handled quite well in all conditions; it felt extremely stable and had good

directional stability, and also, greatly to its credit, it was an extremely dry boat which rides well even into quite steep waves. At the end of the trip none of the three boats shipped more than a cupful of water.

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## WATERSPORTS CONFERENCE

For the first time the National Water Sports Bodies including yachting, angling, canoeing, sub-aqua, water sk-ing, surfing, and rowing, met together at a recent WaterSports Conference at Bisham Abbey near Marlow, to discuss common problems concerning development and provision.

The Conference was chaired jointly by Sir Jack Longland, Deputy Chairman of the Sports Council, and Mr. Jason Borthwick, Chairman of the Cowes National Sailing Centre Committee. CCPR/Sports Council headquarters and regional and centre staff were also in attendance.

Conference recommendations advised:-

- (1) *The appointment of regional coaches in order to improve standards at the local level.*
- (2) *the formation of regional associations as part of the governing bodies' service at local level.*
- (3) *the greater use of National Water Sports Centres at Cowes, Holme Pierrepont, and Storrs Hall.*
- (4) *better integration between coaching schemes and top class competition.*

The terrific enthusiasm and good will engendered at the Conference led to a resolution being passed that the National Water Sports should form a Water Recreation Committee to develop collectively the recreation and amenity use of water and to consider matters of common interest concerning coaching and administration. Acknowledging the value of such a group Dr Roger Banister, Chairman of the Sports Council, met representatives of the newly formed Committee on Friday 19th November to assure them of his support and to tell them that the Sports Council would be pleased to provide facilities for meeting and secretarial service. He hoped that the Committee would express its collective view on the use of water to the Sports Council but at the same time he made it clear that this would not preclude any national body making direct approach to the Sports Council.

With this enthusiasm and encouraging launch off by Dr Banister, representatives then elected Mr. David Nations (Director of Coaching, British Water Ski-ing Federation) as Chairman and Mr. Nigel Hacking (Director General, Royal Yachting Association) as Deputy Chairman Mr Fred Briscoe, Principal Executive Officer of the CCPR was asked to act as Secretary. It was agreed that each sports association would have one vote but that the Committee would have powers to co-opt. The Sports Council was also invited to be represented.



# SOUTH AFRICA

## A YEAR IN THE COLD

If anybody thought that South African Canoeing would be dealt a death blow by the suspension of their Federation from the I.C.F., they were wrong.

By the nature of conditions in South Africa, our canoeists have proved themselves first-class Long Distance racers. Even in Sprint racing they had a few first-class competitors, but the general standard here was below average. After the I.C.F. meeting in August 1970, the Federation and its affiliated Provincial bodies, proceeded as usual to look after the interest of all clubs and canoeists in South Africa., and since then have been able to organise some of the best races ever held in this country. Interest has not dwindled and the number of entries have increased over previous years.

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Numerous training courses were held throughout the last year in the various Provinces. These were for beginners especially, but the interest of the advanced competitors was not neglected. Further courses were also held with the view to assisting new officials and administrators in the rudiments of this sections of the sport.

Conditions vary between the various Provinces with the result that the competitive seasons can vary. In the South at Cape Town the racing season extends from May to September, while in the North in Transvaal and Natal the season runs from September to April. This is a stumbling block for competitors who have to draw up a training schedule to suit the awkward National Championships schedule.

Events over the last year included the White Water Championships held on the Umkomaas in Natal over a distance of 9 miles and was won for the 5th consecutive time by Willem van Riet. The strenuous 110 mile Pietermaritzburg/Durban Marathon over 3 days was won for the 3rd consecutive time by the brothers



*Third day of the Berg River Canoe Marathon and paddlers race on almost liquid mud after a cloudburst...*



*Chris Baker and Jonathan West (standing left and right), talk with South African paddlers.*

Willem and Roelof van Riet. Both these canoeists are Springboks and have toured Spain and Britain a couple of times, winning the British Long Distance and the Liffey in 1969. The Pietermaritzburg/Durban race attracted some 170 competitors in singles and doubles and has many picturesque, but very strenuous portages over the hilly Natal country-side. It is indeed a test of extreme fitness over 3 days of rough water, portages and long distance paddling.

The Federation was also successful in obtaining the very valuable services of Max Raub, Austrain trainer; Gunter Pfaff and Gerhard Siebold, World 1000 m K2. Champions, for a 3 week whirl of coaching courses. They spent about a week in each Province and attended training sessions arranged by the various clubs. Never before have local canoeists had such an opportunity to improve their standard of Sprint racing and the juniors and seniors certainly kept over 3 visitors busy for the full period

of their stay. We only hope that everybody benefited from this experience and that the friendships made would be mutually beneficial to the sport in both countries. Valuable records of training methods and fitness programmes were collected as well as films of our visitors in action.

The racing programme continued normally throughout the country and canoeists well known to British paddlers, dominated the various races. After a brief retirement, Paul Chalupski again come to light, Mario Pedretti and Casper van der Walt proved the best of the local sprinters. The brothers Willem and Roelof van Riet dominated the Long Distance events with Andre Collins well in the front line.

One of the biggest Long Distance races in the country is a 4 day Marathon on the Berg river near Cape Town. This is held in the winter and canoeists could expect unpleasant wintry conditions. We were

fortunate to receive overseas canoeists and welcomed Chris Baker and Jonathan West from Great Britain as well as Kurt Heubusch and Harald Marktler from Austria. Unfortunately disaster struck our visitors with Baker and West retiring through a lost kayak and injury. Of the Austrians, Heubusch suffered an injury to his wrist and only Marktler could finish this strenuous race. Springboks Paul Chalupski, Willem van Riet, Andre Collins and Roelof van Riet dominated the various stages. After a slow start Marktler found conditions on the last two days more to his liking and a keen tussle developed between him and Willem van Riet. However the Springbok had too much of a start over the first 2 days and finished a good winner with Chalupski second and Brackley third.

Like any established marthon race, this race also required the knowledge of local conditions, but the Springboks once again proved that they were amongst the top in Long Distance racing. In this

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race all competitors are looked after at the various overnight stops and are housed and fed in farm sheds. The atmosphere amongst the tired canoeists most certainly helped to develop a very healthy competitive spirit.

Canoeists and administrators generally are naturally keen to maintain international contact on a competitive as well as administrative basis. We believe that this will be to the benefit of all concerned. It is hoped that during the year 1972 arrangements can be made for a short tour to Britain and part of the Continent, but this would depend on a suitable itinerary and possible invitations.



*Mass start of 85 kayaks competing the Berg River Canoe Marathon.*

# PHOTO-CALL

## AROUND WORLD CANOESPORT



*While European paddlers freeze through the winter American paddlers enjoy the sun of California for both training and competition.*



*Andy Weigand, first in the C1 500m Open Canoe Race at Santa Monica, California. Andy was 9th in Mexico and finalist in '70 and '71 World Champs.*



*Senior K1 paddlers — 1st, 2nd, and 3rd the Danish Gudena Race.*

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*Winning Womens K2 crew out on Gudena Race course.*



*Touring canoes competing in a 500 at Santa Monica, California.*



## CANOE SPORT REVIEW

The pace and volume of Australian canoeing activity is quickening and expanding. Since the return of John Egger from the World Championships at Merano and the hospitality shown him by Nigel and Ann Morely, John MacLeod and Ken Langford, and Robin and Anne Witter in England, slalom activity is especially lively. Rothmans have agreed to sponsor a visit to Australia by Ken Langford, the trip taking place over the first weeks of the new year. Ken will coach in West Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales, also attending the Australian Championships at Wyangala Dam.

John Sumegi's return from the European Junior Championships in Rumania, where he missed out on a final by inches in the semi, bodes well for the future and the potential of young Australian sprinters. John had to look after himself, train in a damaged boat, and, being alone some 10,000 miles from home meant he had several distractions acting against his continued training and mental preparation. However John still has a number of years at junior classification left.

Peter and Eda Egger are in Tasmania at the time of writing, enjoying the hospitality of Earl Clayton at Ulverstone. The Eggers say wonderful things about Tassy Rivers and it could be that a future Australian Championship will be held there.

The Victorian Championships are now over and the first three places in the open event went to Roy Farrance, M. Wilson, and R. Bridgborn respectively. Gary Nelson was invited down by the Victorians from the *Illawarra Canoe Club*. He came second in the under 17 years to Rod Bridgborn by 1-point.

John Southwood, who came second in the 1,000-metres K1 in the 1970 World Championships in Denmark, is returning to form after a 12-month retreat to build a home. John comes from the *Canobalas Canoe Club* at Orange. His Danish performance was the best Australian International result since 1956 when Wally Brown and Dennis Green won the

Bronze Medal in the Olympic Games 10,000-metres K2.

Examinations are now being conducted for Australian Slalom Judges. It is hoped to have two sessions of judges at Wyangala, one for the morning and one for the afternoon.

The *Karen Lyn Touring Canoe Club* did well at the River Canoe Club's 25-miler on the Nepean River. They won the Junior C2, Mixed C2, and the Open C2 events. Jim Fuller just seems to get better the longer he keeps at it.

A new club has been formed in West Australia - *The City of Stirling Canoe Club*. Members from the club won the Olympic Mens, Ladies and Boys Under 18 classes in the ACAWA's Bridge to Bridge Long Distance event on the Swan River, but it was members of *The Swan River Canoe Club* who took the majority of other events.

A group of Queenslanders from *Idooroopilly Canoe Club* intend doing the 'old faithful' classic - the Murrumbidgee/Murray Rivers Long Distance Tour - which seems always to be a lure. It's amazing just how many groups are announced as going to start the journey, but one seldom hears of a group finishing the job. It's a very dreary journey for the lower half and a great deal of sameness in the view of the banks. Good luck to the Queenslanders and best wishes for your exit through the barrages at Lake Alexandrina (barriers had to be erected at the mouth to reduce the influence of the salt penetrating to far inland).

## CHILDOWLAH RALLY

Planned by Col Foye and Bill Gowans, the Illawarra Canoe Club's Childowlah Rally for 1971-2 proved to be the biggest and best yet. Over 150 craft were there and well nigh on 300 campers. The weather was excellent, the water flow ideal for the mixed group of talent, and the companionship all that could be asked for.

Campers started turning up on the 23rd December and there were still canoeists there on the 4th January. The always welcome Farrances from Victoria were going to stay there as long as the water held out, as they were on their way to Wyangala at the end of the month, for the Australian Slalom Championships.

Kevin Davies the Superintendent of Burrinjuck Dam which sits astride the Murrumbidgee River 11 miles upstream from the outstanding camp site was a great help. He and his able assistant Len Colbert arranged for a constant flow of 800-1,000 cusecs. This proved to be spot on for training and for the slalom held during the New Year week-end.

Early on Boxing Day, several cars left for the

Murray River. They contained amongst others, Mick Gregor and Jim Fuller, who were to compete in the Red Cross 250 mile Marathon. They returned in the New Year with two seconds.

On the 30th December, 20 kayaks and C2s gathered for the Burrinjuck Down River. The 35 miles to the Dam wall by road, did not take long. Official permission had been obtained from the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission, to use the cableway to get the craft to the river behind the Dam wall. Len Colbert was on time with his crew. Bill Gowans supervised the lashing of the craft on to the skip and in three lifts all the boats were at the river level.

Then Len Colbert went to the switch or whatever it is that controls the water flow. The dissipator had been previously bone dry. First, a trickle, then a spray and finally appeared an enormous blossoming, gushing flow of water. The brook-like Murrumbidgee turned into a writhing and jumping ribbon of frothing aqua pura. It was twenty one hundred cusecs worth of excitement for the 28 paddlers who had met for the fray. Southern Tablelands and Rivers led, followed by two groups of the Illawarra Club, followed by Nepean cum YHA. The first half mile was like riding a water-spewing escalator with rocks thrown in to keep one dodging continuously. The lead paddler, resting in an eddy was quite surprised to see a C2 travel past him - empty. The crew came later! There were numerous inversions and immersions but all reached the bottom except one. Evidently some metal had been jammed in the river from the dam workings. The paddler had a long and deep gash in his leg and wisely he returned to the Dam where there were willing hands to help him and to lift his kayak up the hundreds of steps to the top of the wall.

The rest of the groups battled on and several hours later sped through the last rapid at Childowlah, cheered by the large group of waiting campers.

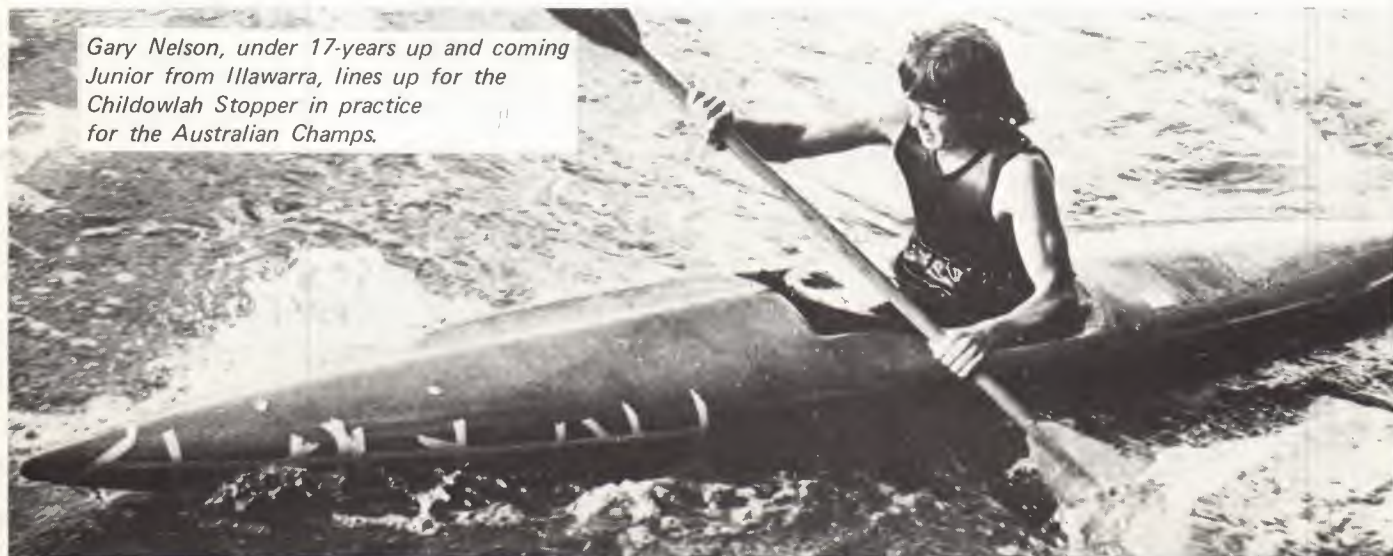
Meanwhile, Rod Walsh was organising the erection of the slalom gates. A task which was not easy at Childowlah because of the great width of the river. Gary Nelson, outstanding junior, earned his keep by towing the pulling rope through the water for each gate. The slalom committee at the site, led by Rod allowed practice right up to the contest. A feature which was appreciated by all of the participants, as all went there to learn, rather than merely compete.

There was a multitude of junior kayakers there, each one loaded with a youngster; some a mere six years of age. Coaching classes were held and the Eggers, Brownlees', Farrances', Walshs' were all willing and extremely able to help in this regard.

A collection was made to purchase a gift for the Armours' who have always been generous in allowing canoeists to use their property. A silver tray and glasses were presented to them later in the camp. One sad happening not directly connected with the camp, was the finding of a skeleton of a man who had been missing for over a month. He had died in his sleeping bag whilst in his lonely camp. It was about two miles from the site: the police were busy for several days. Then there was the lad from Glenrock, a property two miles downstream who fell into the river; was rescued by a paddler and mouth to mouth resuscitation applied. It was reported on the news, that he was recovering.

The slalom commenced in a wonderfully friendly atmosphere, with everyone doing their best to extend themselves and to encourage others. John Egger recently returned from Merano, was closely

*Gary Nelson, under 17-years up and coming Junior from Illawarra, lines up for the Childowlah Stopper in practice for the Australian Champs.*



pursued by Ian Royds and his brother Peter. John finished with the best score; the Farrances won the mixed C2, Rod Neil, the under 17 years, B. McDonald, the under 19 years, D. Harrison the under 15 years boys event and Susan Whitebrook, the under 15 years girls event. The men's C2 was taken by Neil and Nelson, and the teams event won by the Rivers Club. Jane Farrance won the open ladies.

Evenings were well looked after by Col Foye and Bill Gowans. Camp fires were interspersed by Housie evenings at 1 cent a card and the highlight of the social side was the New Years Eve gathering. The surrounding bush was decorated by streamers and balloons. The year 1972 was certainly well introduced to the several hundred canoeists at Childowlah.

Full marks go to the Illawarra Club for their preparation, and organisation of the proceedings. This especially so as the Childowlah site is 'way out' in the Australian bush (perhaps that's the secret of its success) and contact with the life of larger towns is at least 20 miles away.

The next big event is the Australian Slalom Championships at Wyangala. Ken Langford, U.K. will be there. The weekend after that the Australian Racing Championships are to be held at Ballarat, on the 1956 Olympic course.



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