

# CANOEING IN BRITAIN

15p

10th  
June  
1973

The magazine of the British Canoe Union



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# CANOEING IN BRITAIN

The magazine of the British Canoe Union

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.

**Editor:** Bill Balmain

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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.

**The General Secretary,**  
The British Canoe Union,  
Room 315,  
26/29 Park Crescent,  
London W1N 4DT  
Tel: 01-580 4710

Names and addresses of the principal officers of the British Canoe Union can be found on the B.C.U. Calendar.

## POSTER COMPETITION

The B.C.U. Exhibition Committee are seeking a striking design to advertise the 1974 National Canoe Exhibition. It should have high visual impact and the winning design is likely to be an abstract or symbolic design in one or two colours on a white or tinted paper. The following copy should be included:

National Canoe Exhibition  
23/24 February 1974

National Sports Centre, Crystal Palace  
BCU/Sports Council

A prize of £30 will be awarded to the successful entry.

All designs submitted become the copyright of the B.C.U.

**CLOSING DATE JULY 3**

**D. P. H. Tudor-Williams**  
General Secretary

## EDITORIAL

We've had our share of variety this year with rivers running dry and then full fast and overflowing. It's a bit like this with the magazine, with this edition I began to search out copy from the files when a fair old deluge of stories and information came in a downpour. Once more the mag. was running in full spate.

Pictures too — lots of them — but mostly Slalom transparencies. By the way its difficult to return 'trannies' kindly loaned when many are of the same subject — even taken in the same place. I have however at last got them all together and will make a bold attempt to get them sorted for return.

You will see that the prize for our Annual Poster Competition is up, we have an excellent transcript in the form of Peter Liddell's speech given at the A.G.M., Montreal Olympic Sprint Organisation, notes from our new Chairman of Council and an amusing story about how all this canoeing/paddling business came about. In all a fair round robin edition.

The International at the Holme Pierrepont is growing into something big but it starts smack on the day our magazine comes off the press. By the time our next issue comes along this particular event will be three month old news. That's the pity of a quarterly, on the results front things are usually long gone when the time for *news* comes along.

Bear in mind when sending results keep your list down to the main event winners — we just cannot publish page after page of results of the whole event.

Perhaps we have an economist amongst our members? Equipment for canoeing plus, tents, transport, overnight stays as major events become more widely dispersed make canoeing an expensive sport. A few notes on how to keep the costs down (especially for younger members) seems to be in order.

Hope you all enjoy the summer, there's a fair programme ahead with plenty of tours for holiday-makers and I look forward to hearing of some great adventures this year.

## GENERAL SECRETARY'S COLUMN

Headquarters is delighted to be able to report that as a result of, having, at last being able to take on new staff, the serious backlog in membership renewals and the issuance of renewed memberships plus the delays in dealing with routine correspondence is now to a very large extent cleared up.

If there are any outstanding queries which have not been dealt with by the time this magazine appears, would the persons concerned please write to me and we will try to sort them out. Please note that if you are corresponding about a membership (application or renewal) or a cash order it will greatly assist this office if you can give, as accurately as possible, the date of origination. We have a large number of ledger entries in a working day and the closer date you can give the quicker we can trace your remittance. If you have paid by cheque it would also help us considerably if you can check your own bank statement to see whether the cheque has been presented. If your cheque has not been presented you can rest assured that it has never reached us, as remittances received at this office are banked within a couple of days of arrival.

### LIFE JACKETS

The B.C.U. Concessionary rate for Life Jackets — as has been pretty clearly indicated on the information sheet — has always been intended to be applied to individual members of Union. Unfortunately this has grown rather out of hand and we have recently been compelled to interpret the rule more rigorously (after all, it is a concession which we gained from the suppliers and therefore it is only fair to them that we should implement it justly both ways). This means that we can only authorise one Life Jacket per B.C.U. number (Full, Youth or Family) and therefore all these numbers must be quoted when ordering. Please note also that V.A.T. (at 10%) applies to Life Jackets.

**D.P.H.T.W.,**  
General Secretary

### Cover Picture:

A composite photograph of 'Canoeing Stamps' collected and taken by J. A. Bright. Perhaps one of our most unusual cover pictures and worth Johi's efforts in its production.

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## THE ESPADA YOUTH K1

This canoe, now gaining rapidly in popularity as *The* racing canoe for young people, was first designed in May, 1961 by the world's foremost designer of racing canoes, Jorgen Samson of Farum in Denmark. It was given to Kirk and Storgaard of Stuer, Denmark, to manufacture by the hot moulded veneer method, and the first complete canoes appeared in July, 1961.

For many years previous to all this there had been argument that the only way to get young people competing fairly in sprint racing against each other was to give them a "one design" canoe that they could buy or make at a price within their reach.

There are sixteen licensed manufacturers in the field.

If you want to have an Espada which can be raced in nationally recognised events, then it must have been made in a mould which was made from one of the three official plugs and was registered as such by the Class Director. These moulds can only be bought from the recognised manufacturers who are themselves registered and licensed by the Class Director.

When the canoe is completed the information is sent to the Director, together with the registration number of the mould in which it was made, and a registration fee of 50p. The necessary application forms for this registration are obtained from the licensed manufacturers only. When he receives the form and the fee the Director sends back a registration number which has to be stuck into the Espada in the cockpit area, on the right hand side and just in front of the seat. No unregistered Espadas may be raced in class events.

There are three classes or age groups in which Espadas can be raced officially. These are:—

### ESPADA A

For competitors who have reached their twelfth birthday and have not reached their fourteenth birthday by the 1st January of the year in which the event is being held.

### ESPADA B

For competitors who have reached their fourteenth birthday but not their sixteenth by the 1st January of the year in which the event is being held.

### ESPADA C

For those who have reached their sixteenth birthday but not their eighteenth by the 1st January of the year in which the event is being held.

by  
Oliver J. Cock

The distances over which sprint races will be run are:—

**ESPADA A** Girls: 250m and 3,000m  
Boys: 250m and 3,000m

**ESPADA B** Girls: 250m and 3,000m  
Boys: 500m and 5,000m

**ESPADA C** Girls: 500m and 3,000m  
Boys: 500m and 10,000m

A number of long distance events have been arranged this year especially for beginners, six of which will already have been run by the time this issue of *Canoeing in Britain* is published. One event remains, to be run at Worthing, over a distance of not more than 5½ miles. The organising secretary is Mr. J. Dumper of the Worthing Canoe Club, Splash Point, Worthing, Sussex, to whom you should write if you want more information.

Now a look into the future. There is a scheme afoot which we will call The Espada Award Scheme. There will be four awards, The Preliminary Award, and a Bronze, a Silver and a Gold Award.

The Preliminary Award will be given on completion of 1,000m in an Espada and it can be awarded by any full member of the B.C.U. Coaching Scheme.

The Bronze Award will be given when the candidate has obtained results in any three class events.

The Silver Award will be given when the candidate has obtained a place and two other results in any three class events.

The Gold Award will call for two first places and a result or three second places.

These awards must be gained in three events in any one season, of which one must be a sprint event and one must be a long distance race.

Certificates, pin badges and boat stickers will be given for all but The Preliminary Award. For this award a certificate and a button badge will be issued. We hope to produce a large wall chart showing paddling and portaging techniques. Altogether this is a most exciting project, and I hope sincerely that we shall be able to get it off the ground in 1974.

Finally the man who is doing all the work in this scheme, the Class Director. This is Mr. David R. Cook, of Bryntysilio Outdoor Education Centre, Llangollen, Denbighshire. Write to him if you want any help whatever with your project. I am sure he will do everything he can to help you on your Espada Youth K1.

# ACCESS

## ACCESS NOTES

*River Adviser:*  
River Exe — Colin Leach  
41 Old Tiverton Road, Exeter  
(s.a.e. for enquiries please)

### TEES

High Force to Winston 24 mls. Contact the River Adviser, E. Williamson, 34 Elmsworth Drive, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside TS16 0NS, before approaching owners for permission. Because of numerous requests from clubs, Forces, etc. the owners, most of whom are fairly well disposed, are wanting programmed canoeing use, and discussions are being opened.

### UPPER WYE

Builth to Glasbury. Ten riparians on this popular stretch have jointly prepared and notified to the B.C.U. their conditions for canoeing this summer; briefly these permit canoeing October to January, and on ten days in August, but not at other times except when the river is in spate or "coloured, so that fishing is likely to be poor". Spate is over 9" on the Glanwey gauge or 21" on the Nyth gauge. There are numerous conditions, including a limitation to B.C.U. members and Forces parties. Please contact River Adviser, Colin Green, Woodlands Outdoor Centre, Glasbury-on-Wye, Hereford for details (s.a.e.) Tel. Glasbury 272.

### TWEED

A canoe party was challenged below Peebles on Good Friday, and informed that it had been agreed with Scottish canoeists (unnamed) that the river would not be canoed except on Sundays, with permission from the River Tweed Commissioners, Kelso. Enquiries are being made about this, as the Tweed has been canoed by the group in question for years without challenge.

### SPEY

The action for an interdict against the owner of a canoe instruction organisation, which is to be defended on the ground that there is an ancient right of passage, is to be heard in June.

### TEIFI

Discussions have been initiated with one of the most important fishing associations on this river. Please contact the River Adviser before starting on this river (S. Pugh Jones, Cregina, Meinciau, Kidwelly, Llanelli, Glamorgan).

### CUCKMERE HAVEN

Following the establishment of a Country Park, the camp site by the beach has been closed and no vehicular access is allowed. Vehicles must be left in the car park near Exceat Bridge, and canoes paddled, trolled or carried the rest of the way. R.F.T.

## Canoeing for the Disabled

THERE IS A GROWING KEENNESS BY VERY MANY DISABLED PEOPLE TO LEARN HOW TO CANOE. CERTAIN SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS ALREADY DO QUITE AN AMOUNT OF CANOEING WITH THESE PEOPLE AND THEY ARE MOST ANXIOUS THAT THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO CARRY ON WITH THEIR SPORT WHEN THEY LEAVE. IF ANY CLUB OR ORGANISATION WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE SOME DISABLED PEOPLE INTO THEIR CLUB AS MEMBERS, WOULD THEY PLEASE WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR OF COACHING, "RIVERTREES", WARGRAVE ROAD, HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXON. RG9 3JD, SO THAT HE MAY SEND THE INFORMATION ON TO THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS AND ORGANISATIONS WHO ARE MAKING ANXIOUS ENQUIRIES FOR HELP IN THIS WAY.



Our thanks to David Holmes, Assistant Warden Riverside Centre Oxford, for sending this photograph showing Richard Shellard, (well, his hand anyway), in the water, and Steve Milner shooting the weir. Both are Riverside Canoe Club members. The photo was taken on Saturday, 17 March 1973 at Iffley Weir on the River Thames, Oxford, which is near the Riverside Centre. By the way David you don't mention if anyone gave Richard a hand - W.B.

## DUTCH INTERNATIONAL

# K1 RACE

The British Team sent to Amsterdam for the Dutch International K1 Race paddled to victory in both the Junior and Senior events.

The Senior course over 14½ miles of canal and irrigation channels was won by John Fowler of the Wey Kayak Club in 2.7.39. The win followed a sprint over the last 300 yards to leave two local lads in 2nd and 3rd place. Fowler, with Geoff Tilford (Royal C.C.) and Steve Brown (Nottingham K.C.) had been in the leading group from the start, with the two Dutchmen and a German. Forced to lead over the last 4½ miles, with the Dutch content to ride on his wash, Fowler timed his finishing push very well to take a great win.

In the Junior event, Dave Brown (Wey K.C.), John Walters (Royal C.C.) and John Burr (Lichfield C.C.) dominated the race from the start. It was again left to the final sprint to decide the placings with Walters winning from Brown, after the 10½ mile course.

### FINISHING ORDER

#### Seniors

1. J. Fowler	Wey KC	2. 7.39
2. A. Bloem	Holland	2. 7.59
3. L. Jacobs	Holland	2. 8.16
4. G. Tilford	Royal CC	2. 9.22
5. F. Hegys	W. Germany	2. 9.30
6. S. Brown	Notts KC	2.11.00
7. L. Hambrey	Worc CC	2.15.23
8. T. Fieldus	Wey KC	2.15.51

#### Juniors

1. J. Walters	Royal CC	1.24.13
2. D. Brown	Wey KC	1.24.14
3. J. Burr	Lichfield CC	1.24.16
4. N. Clarke	Royal CC	1.25.28
5. G. Kuppens	Holland	1.30.36
6. R. v.d. Looy	Holland	1.30.37

## CANOEING IN THE SOLENT AREA

Southampton Docks Board have become increasingly concerned in recent years over the number of small boats crossing the narrow and busy shipping lanes to Southampton.

Canoeists wishing to expedition in the area are invited to send for full information on the most suitable routes, tidal anomalies, useful camp sites, local hazards, and procedure for informing Coastguard and Docks Board of the intended passage.

*A stamped, addressed, envelope please to G. C. Good, c/o Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Hants.*

It is in the interest of canoeing generally that members co-operate with this scheme. Any incident embarrassing a large vessel could well precipitate the introduction of legislation — a move we all want to avoid as far as use of the sea is concerned. It would also be extremely hazardous for the canoeist, and could well involve him in a monumental lawsuit, besides endangering the lives of many people.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF B.C.U. COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting is not, or should not be, the only occasion in the year when the members of the B.C.U. make contact with their Council.

It is true that the Council's year starts at the A.G.M; the Specialist Committees chose their representatives and the members elect those they wish to serve on Council. But this must not be the end of 'communication' between the membership and council until the next A.G.M; a year later. Those on Council are chosen to be representatives — of the members or the specialist committees which placed them there. They have, I believe, a responsibility to make every effort to understand the feelings and needs of canoeists in this country today — so that they can deliberate and decide in a sensible, mature fashion when at council meetings.

To help keep the lines of communication open, I hope that it may prove possible in the future to give to members, through the pages of this magazine, some indication of the work being undertaken by Council. At times, indeed, there will have to be consultation with specialist committees and the membership in general.

This will be especially true in the months ahead, for the Council has just decided to initiate a thorough review of the aims and operations of the B.C.U. It is hoped that this important piece of work will enable the Council to plan and legislate for the future, and the views of B.C.U. members will need to be heard if a valuable over-all picture is to be obtained. Clubs could perhaps help in this process by inviting their 'local' members of the Council to their meetings or events — thus providing the opportunity for the members of Council to meet and hear canoe club members.

For the B.C.U. member has also a valuable role to play if our sport is to progress. If he (or she) feels that an important aspect of the work or development of the B.C.U. is being neglected or that a particular point of view is not being represented, it is surely important that he should see that his ideas are expressed by himself or others. The member can express his views in this magazine; he can write or contact a member of Council; he can, if appropriate, inform the Chairman or Secretary of a specialist Committee of his opinions. Some sections of our sport have their own newsletters or magazines, and these can be an excellent medium for the exchange of views.

I would make one plea, however, it is easy, and so often worthless, to criticise in a negative or destructive fashion — to debunk something which at first sight seems unattractive. Positive comment is always valuable . . . and requires an effort of mind to try and understand why something is being done and to ascertain what practical alternatives there are.

have a part to play, directly or indirectly, if our sport is to develop along sound lines. Some may well find that they can offer their services to the administrative and organisational side of the sport at local, national or sectional level — we badly need such help. Others may only be able to take a 'watching brief' on how the activity progresses but they can indeed exercise their vote sensibly when election time comes along. All are full members of the B.C.U. and, as in affairs of state, so perhaps in the world of canoeing is there truth in the adage that "we get the government we deserve".

**Geoff Sanders**

### President of the Union

J. W. Dudderidge, Esq., Sunny Haven, East End, North Leigh, Witney, Oxon.

### Chairman of Council

G. Sanders, Esq., 4 Barston Lane, Solihull, Warks.

### Members in alphabetical order

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J. M. Woolley, Esq., 35 Arlington Avenue, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

J. S. Young, Esq., 21 Craigleith Drive, Edinburgh, EH4 3JT, Scotland.

Elected Member  
President of the Union  
Member of Access Committee  
Deputy Chairman B.O.A.  
I.C.F. Council Member

Elected Member  
Chairman of Council  
Chairman of National Coaching Committee

Co-opted Member  
Editor *Canoeing in Britain*

Nominated Member  
Slalom Committee

Elected Member

Co-opted Member  
Senior Executive Officer Sports Council

Nominated Member  
National Coaching Committee  
(Hon. Treasurer National Coaching Cttee)

Nominated Member  
Sprint Committee

Elected Member

Nominated Member  
Sailing Committee

Nominated Member  
Sprint Committee

Nominated Member  
L.D. Racing Committee

Elected Member

Nominated Member  
Slalom Committee

Nominated Member  
Representative C.A.N.I.

Elected Member

Elected Member  
Hon. Treasurer

Nominated Member  
L.D. Racing Committee

Nominated Member  
National Coaching Committee  
Part-Time National Coach

Elected Member

Elected Member  
I.C.F. Delegate Slalom

Elected Member  
Vice Chairman of Council

Nominated Member  
National Coaching Committee

Elected Member  
Touring Adviser  
Chairman Access Committee

Nominated Member  
Sailing Committee  
I.C.F. Sailing Delegate

Elected Member  
Chairman, Competition Committee

Nominated Member  
Representative Scottish Division B.C.U.

## B.C.U. SPRINT RACING

### BRITISH CANOE UNION SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE

*For the information of all Members  
of the British Canoe Union*

147 Gravelly Hill  
Erdington  
Birmingham, B23 7NR

Telephone  
Home: 021-373 5192  
Office: 021-643 8497

1st April, 1973.

### OLYMPIC GAMES 1976 – MONTREAL

#### POLICY OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE RELATING TO THE PREPARATION OF COMPETITORS FOR THE 1976 MONTREAL OLYMPIC GAMES

Since the return of the British Olympic Canoe Racing Team from the Munich Olympic Games last year, much careful thought has been given by the British Canoe Union Sprint Racing Committee both to the results that were achieved, and to the organisation, methods of selection for International Competition and for the Olympic Training Squad, administration and training, during the four year period from 1969 to 1972, that preceded the Olympic competition.

The Committee, after detailed examination of all the relevant factors, considered that whilst there had been an overall general improvement in basic standards of performance during the period under review, and several encouraging results, genuine sustained success, recognisable by regular final placings, so eagerly awaited by British Sprint Racing enthusiasts, were still disappointingly remote.

These conclusions, together with the urgent need for a positive response from the Committee to the exciting developments which are currently beginning to radically effect paddle racing in Britain, e.g. the completion of the £1,000,000 National Watersports Centre at Holme Pierrepont; the availability of relatively generous financial subsidies for pre Olympic Training and International Competition; and the effects of the K1 Espada Class upon the young paddlers now entering the sport; have encouraged the Committee to consider substantial revisions to their existing policies relating to the preparation, organisation, and selection of racing paddlers aspiring to participate in the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

The Committee regarded as their first priority, the arrangements that should be initiated for the establishment of an Olympic Training Squad; after careful consideration it was agreed, that an Olympic Training Squad shall be formed that would provide the necessary impetus for training and competition, during the four years pre Montreal Olympic Games period, for selected paddlers of proven ability. Subject to annual review, the administration and organisation of this Squad will be governed by certain agreed principles.

The four year preparation programme is to be administered on an annual basis, and membership of the Olympic Training Squad will be revised at the beginning and end of each Sprint Racing season. Thus in May and September 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1976, paddlers who are prepared to undertake the sustained training programme that will be a necessary qualification for membership of the Olympic Training Squad, and who have clearly indicated by their ability during the previous racing season, that their performances have been of a sufficiently high standard to justify consideration, will be invited to join, remain as members, or perhaps in some cases, cease membership, of the Olympic Training Squad.

The Squad will be composed of –

- 14 men paddling Kayaks, either K1, K2 or K4
- 4 men paddling Canoes, either C1 or C2
- 4 women paddling Kayaks, either K1, K2, or K4
- 6 Junior paddlers: Junior paddlers to be defined as men or women paddling K1, K2, K4 and men paddling C1 or C2, who have not reached 18 years of age by the 1st January, 1973, for the 1973 Junior European Championships, and by the 1st January, 1975, for the 1975 Junior European Championships.
- 1 Team Manager
- 1 Assistant Team Manager
- 4 Coaches

All members will be expected to attend formal Training Squad activities, from October to September each year including –

October	– 2 days (Saturday/Sunday)
November	– 1 day (Saturday)
December	– 1 day (Saturday)
January	– 1 day (Saturday)
February	– 1 day (Saturday)
March	– 2 days (Saturday/Sunday)
April	– 2 days (Saturday/Sunday)
May	– 2 days (Saturday/Sunday)
June/July/August	– 5 days training camp (Monday/Friday) continuous

TOTAL 17 days

The Headquarters of the Olympic Training Squad will be located at the National Watersports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham. A major change in the policy of the Sprint Racing Committee regarding the organisation of the Olympic Training Squad, has been their recognition of the difficulties confronting paddlers required to travel long distances in the winter months, and the need to make use of the training facilities available to paddlers, at a time during the year when they are most advantageous.

Accordingly, during November, December, January, and February, the Squad will be divided into two groups, a Southern Training Group based at the National Recreation Centre, at Bisham Abbey, Marlow, and a Northern Training Group, based at the National Watersports Centre, Nottingham. These groups, whilst maintaining their national identity, will be administered regionally during the winter, and their numbers supplemented by the inclusion in the respective groups, of non-Olympic Training Squad paddlers, selected by the Committee and who will be designated as reserves to the Olympic Training Squad. The size of the groups, will be dictated only by the administrative ability of their coaches and management to cope, and it is anticipated that each will be composed of approximately 30 paddlers, of whom about half will be nominated members of the Olympic Training Squad, and the remainder nominated reserves.

#### Council Appointments for the year –

*Chairman of Council:* G. Sanders  
*Vice-Chairman of Council:* E. B. Totty  
*Chairman of Competition Committee:* R. W. Emes  
*Chairman of Access Committee:* R. F. Tyas  
*Films Officer:* C. M. Rothwell  
*B.O.A. representative:* A. D. Harber  
*Chairman of National Exhibition Committee:* P. Wells

The Council is pleased to welcome to its meetings F. L. Briscoe, Sports Council Senior Executive Officer and Liaison Officer to the B.C.U.

**Future Development** – A full enquiry is to be mounted to examine the workings of the B.C.U. and plans for the future. The importance of consultation with specialist committees, clubs and individual members has been stressed. Council has asked R. J. Jones, C. Manton, E. J. Owen and G. Sanders to plan the programme of the investigation.

**Sponsorship** – An effort is to be made to co-ordinate all demands for sponsorship within the B.C.U. R. W. Emes, as Chairman of the Competition Committee, will be responsible for this in the first instance.

**A 'Standing Liaison Committee'** – has been used in the past few years to initiate the Espada K1 – the one design racing boat for young people – and to help implement a Competition Coaching Award Scheme. This committee has now been formally established by Council to act as a working party which can consider and make recommendations on matters referred to it by the Council which may be of interest to more than one specialist committee.

**New Films** – are to be purchased for the British Film Institute canoeing library from the BBC TV series 'Canoe' which was screened a number of times in 1972. The two films on white water techniques and slalom, taken on the Dee above Llangollen, and the films on paddle racing and surfing will be obtained and should be shortly available for hire. G.S.



Ultimately the Sprint Racing Committee are anxious to extend their Olympic Training Squad arrangements to an even greater extent than those presently proposed, which in themselves represent a tripling of the Committee's involvement. However limited finances and administrative and coaching resources, regrettably necessitate gradual improvement in the service available if proper standards are to be maintained.

Perhaps the most important change of policy instituted by the Sprint Racing Committee, has been their agreement following their experience of the past four years, to insist that other than under the most unusual circumstances, membership of the Olympic Training Squad will be a pre requisite of selection for international competition. This policy, long practised by the Amateur Rowing Association, ensures a constant monitoring of the training background and competitive abilities of all potential internationals, and provides a more disciplined environment for the whole international selection procedure. Thus membership of the Olympic Training Squad will provide greater stability and higher incentives than previously existed, and should stimulate members to accept more readily the stricter supervision, discipline, and direction, that will be imposed.

The Committee are extremely anxious to generate interest in 'C' boat racing during the 1973/1976 pre Olympic period, with the object of including C1 or C2 paddlers in the 1976 Montreal Olympic British Canoe Racing Team. They have therefore reserved four places in the Olympic Training Squad for 'C' paddlers, and will be providing races in their own Regatta programme. Additionally, opportunities will be provided for international competition, should performances justify, and paddlers interested in 'C' boat racing are assured that they will have similar opportunities to those available to Kayak paddlers, of improving their standards of performances. Obviously the initial selection of 'C' paddlers will create difficulties for the Committee, as they have no criteria upon which to base their judgment. However, they have agreed, that they will have regard, for the 1973 season only, to the performance of applicants who have previously competed in Kayaks, and not in Canoes.

The emphasis of all Olympic Training Squad activities, will be placed upon Team and Crew training. Individual training, though obviously of immense importance, does not require the sophisticated financial and organisational arrangements essential to the Team or Crew, and will therefore be made use of only as a means of improving Team or Crew performances. It is essential to fully understand this fundamental principle of the Squad's functions, and the whole of the training programme will be arranged with these factors in mind. The Committee have also agreed that they will, through the Olympic Training Squad Manager and Coaches provide firmer direction regarding the formation of crews, and whilst they will continue their past policies of consulting, advising, and discussing Crew arrangements, they will in the final extremity, expect members of the Squad to conform to their requirements. All training will be directed to ensure that there is a general progression towards the ultimate target, i.e. the Olympic events to be held in 1976, which are -

Men: -	K1 - 1000 meters	Women: -	K1 500 meters
	K2 - 1000 meters		K2 500 meters
	K4 - 1000 meters		
	C1 - 1000 meters		
	C2 - 1000 meters		

The obvious deficiency of the Squad training system, is its inability to provide a satisfactory relationship in the local training environment between paddler and coach. Some progress has been made during recent years, in meeting the personal coaching needs of the members of the Olympic Training Squad, but these have never been formalised. The Committee have therefore proposed that subject to discussion between the paddlers and coaches, all members of the Olympic Training Squad, will be placed under the personal supervision and direction of local coaches, who will be responsible for their training arrangements. Coaches who are not actively involved with the operation of the Olympic Training Squad, but who are responsible for paddlers who are members of the Squad, will be invited to participate in Squad activities.

Many of the policies that have been established by the Sprint Racing Committee and are referred to herein, cannot be implemented unless the Sports Council continue to make available to the Sprint Racing Committee, the pre Olympic Training grant payable to all Olympic sports administrations since 1969. It is not anticipated that any major difficulties will be experienced in the payment of this grant, but confirmation of financial arrangements cannot be confirmed until Sports Council approval has been obtained. However, it is anticipated that a minimum of 14 of the 17 training days referred to, will be agreed, and this will enable part accommodation and travelling expenses to be paid.

Additionally, some of the expense incurred in administration and by the use of facilities, such as the National Watersports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, will be met. The continued generosity of the Sports Council in providing equipment, and particularly boats, is not so certain, though application will be made for the provision of Kayaks of all three classes, and more important perhaps C1's and C2's.

Considerable effort has been made in the past to involve qualified specialist and research institutions, in general and particular aspects of racing canoeing, and the Olympic Training Squad has been fortunate in attracting a limited interest from various formal and informal bodies. The Committee have now agreed that this aspect of the Squad's activities should receive greater emphasis. Accordingly and within the limitations imposed by financial considerations, a controlled research and development plan will be produced and implemented at the earliest opportunity.

The Committee are most anxious to ensure that any canoeist, no matter what his present standard of ability, may have the opportunity of actively participating in their plans for producing a British Racing Team for entry in the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games, that is better trained, better prepared, and better equipped for Olympic competition, than ever before. Their invitation has therefore received wider distribution than has previously been the practice. You will have noted that there are a minimum of approximately 60 places in the two Regional Training Groups to be filled, 28 of these in the Olympic Training Squad. Accordingly, please indicate by obtaining and completing application form, whether you are prepared to become a member. However, before accepting or rejecting this invitation, please remember that you are committing yourself to a three year training programme that will require the extreme limits of dedication, with little or no relaxation, at the end of this period, you may be faced with the disappointment of not having achieved a sufficiently high standard to obtain selection for the Olympic Games. In addition there will be various minor rules with which members of the Squad will be required to conform if its activities are to be ultimately successful, and everyone is to receive the full benefit of the time and money invested. Unless you are prepared to accept these conditions, totally and unequivocally, you are advised to ignore the Committee's invitation.

INTERNATIONAL SELECTION POLICY OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION SPRINT RACING  
COMMITTEE - 1973

The procedure to be adopted for the selection of Teams by the Sprint Racing Committee, to compete in this year's International Regattas, the Senior World Championships, and the Junior European Championships, referred to in the 1973 Olympic Training Squad Programme, will be in conformity with the policy statement published by the Committee, relating to the preparation of competitors for the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games.

The arrangements to be made for the practical implementation of this policy during 1973 will accordingly be as follows -

1. Other than in the most unusual circumstances, membership of the Olympic Training Squad will be a pre-requisite of selection for Teams participating in International events included in the 1973 programme.
2. The Team participating in the Home International Regatta, at the National Watersports Centre, Nottingham on the 9th/10th June, and the Senior International Regatta in Prague, Czechoslovakia, on the 16th/17th June, will be selected on the basis of performances at the Olympic Training Weekend to be held on the 11th/12th May, and the Welsh Harp Regatta, on Whit Monday, 28th May.
3. The Team participating in the Junior International Regatta at Bochum Dalhausen, West Germany, on the 23rd/24th June, and the Senior International Regatta at Duisburg, West Germany, on the 14th/15th July, will be selected on the basis of performance at the Olympic Training Squad Training Weekend, Welsh Harp Regatta, the Home International Regatta, and in the case of Senior paddlers the Prague International Regatta.
4. The Teams participating in the Senior World Championships at Tampere, Finland on the 26th/29th July, and the Junior European Championships on the 3rd/5th August, at Walcz, Poland, will be selected on the basis of their performances at all the events previously referred to, and the Final selection Regatta to be held at the National Watersports Centre, Nottingham, on the 7th/8th July.
5. Subject to the achievement of satisfactory standards, consideration will be given by the Selectors to the entry of individuals, crews, and teams at International Regattas in the following events during 1973:

SENIOR MEN:

K1 500m, 1000m, 10,000m, 4 x 500m Relay  
K2 500m, 1000m, 10,000m  
K4 1000m, 10,000m  
C1 500m, 1000m, 10,000m  
C2 500m, 1000m, 10,000m

SENIOR WOMEN:

K1, K2, K4, 500m

JUNIOR MEN:

K1, K2, K4, C1, C2, CVII, 500m

JUNIOR WOMEN:

K1, K2, K4, 500m

6. The selection of Teams to participate in the International Regattas referred to in the 1973 programme will take place on the following dates:

The Senior International Regatta, Duisburg, West Germany  
14/15th July

The Senior World Championships, Tampere, Finland  
26/29th July

The Junior European Championships, Walcz, Poland  
3/4th August

TO BE SELECTED

10th June, 1973

8th July, 1973

8th July, 1973

Crews will be considered as crews, and the Selectors will not interfere with the composition thereof, unless they consider that their performance is not of a sufficiently high standard to merit selection. Individual paddlers and crews considered for entry in the International events referred to will be expected to be capable of achieving standards of performance which indicate a reasonable possibility of a final placing, or in the case of 10,000 meter events, a place in the first ten.

7. All arrangements for Trials, Training Weekends, and International Regattas will be made on behalf of the International Selectors and the Sprint Racing Committee, by those officers of the Olympic Training Squad referred to in the Directory of Olympic Training Squad Officials.
8. The Sprint Racing Committee will undertake to meet a portion of the reasonable travelling expenses and accommodation charges of all paddlers participating in the International Regattas and Olympic Training Squad training activities referred to in the 1973 programme from the funds to which they have access.
9. The British Canoe Union Sprint Racing Committee in consultation with Olympic Training Squad Management and Coaches, and those Coaches not involved in Olympic Training Squad activities responsible for paddlers who are members of the Squad, will act as the International Selection Committee for 1973, the Committee is composed of the following members:

CHAIRMAN: R. A. Sowman  
SECRETARY: R. J. Jones  
TREASURER: S. Ash

D. Cooke  
G. Cooper  
R. W. Emes  
C. Gray

R. Lawler  
D. Mean  
S. Phelps  
T. Shenton

OLYMPIC GAMES – MONTREAL 1976

OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD 1973 – PROGRAMME – 1st APRIL/31st DECEMBER, 1973

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	MANAGEMENT
<b>June</b>			
†Friday/ *Monday 15th/18th	Senior International Regatta	Prague Czechoslovakia	G. Cooper A. N. Other
†Thursday/ *Tuesday 21st/26th	Junior International Regatta	Bochum Dalhausen West Germany	T. Shenton C. Gray
Saturday 30th	Royal Canoe Club Regatta	Kingston-on-Thames	
<b>July</b>			
Sunday 1st	Padding Challenge Cup xKx K1, 10,000m	Kingston-on-Thames	
*Saturday/ †Sunday 7th/8th	Junior and Senior Final Selection Regatta K4, 10,000m Nat. Champ.	N.W.C. Nottingham	R. W. Emes
*Friday/ †Monday 14th/15th	Senior International Regatta	Duisburg West Germany	R. W. Emes T. Shenton
*Monday/ †Monday 23rd/30th	Senior World Championships	Tampere Finland	R. W. Emes G. Cooper
<b>August</b>			
*Wednesday/ †Monday 1st/6th	Junior European Championships	Walcz Poland	To be appointed (R. W. Emes making arrange- ments until appointed)
Saturday/ Sunday 18th/19th	National Sprint Championships	N.W.C. Nottingham	
Sunday 26th	'Open' Regatta Long Distance Nat. Champ.	Worcester	
<b>September</b>			
Saturday/ Sunday 8th/9th	North -v- South K1 and K2 10,000 Nat. Champ.	N.W.C. Nottingham	
Sunday 9th	Selection of Olympic Training Squad – October 1973/May 1974	N.W.C. Nottingham	
<b>October</b>			
*Saturday/ †Sunday 20th/21st	Olympic Training Squad – Training Weekend 3/73	N.W.C. Nottingham	R. W. Emes
<b>November</b>			
*Saturday/ †17th	Olympic Training Squad – Training Day 4/73	N.W.C. Nottingham N. R. C. Marlow	C. Gray T. Shenton
<b>December</b>			
*Saturday †15th	Olympic Training Squad – Training Day 5/73	N.W.C. Nottingham N. R. C. Marlow	C. Gray T. Shenton

All events marked thus (\*) signify compulsory attendance by all members of the Olympic Training Squad, and reserves when notified.

All events marked thus (†) signify that they are events at which performances will qualify paddlers for selection for the International Regattas contained in the 1973 programme, within the terms of the International Selection Policy of the British Canoe Union Sprint Racing Committee.

**OLYMPIC GAMES – MONTREAL 1976**  
**OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD 1973 – MANAGEMENT AND COACHING**

**NATIONAL TEAM AND OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD MANAGER**  
R. W. Emes, 147 Gravelly Hill, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 7NR.  
Telephone: Home 021-373 5192 : Office 021-643 8497

**NATIONAL TEAM AND OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD COACHES**  
G. Cooper, 6 Barron Road, Northfield, Birmingham  
Telephone: Home 021-476 6980

M. Giddings, 61 Thames Eyot, Cross Deep, Twickenham, TW1 4QL  
Telephone: Home 01-892 3635

C. Gray, 128 Greythorne Drive, West Bridgeford, Nottingham  
Telephone: Home 0602 866041

R. Lawler, 41 Simplemarsh Road, Addlestone, Surrey  
Telephone: Home 0932 48333

T. Shenton, 'Brillie', Ham Lane, Longham, Nr. Ferndown, Dorset  
Telephone: Home 02016 4754

The National Team and Olympic Training Squad Manager and Coaches will have direct responsibility for the implementation of the policy of the British Canoe Union Sprint Racing Committee relating to the preparation of competitors participating in the Canoe Racing events at the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. However, specific areas of responsibility have been allocated on the following basis –

OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD OVERALL MANAGEMENT	– R. W. EMES
OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD SENIOR MEMBERS	– G. COOPER, R. LAWLER
OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD JUNIOR MEMBERS	– T. SHENTON, C. GRAY, M. GIDDINGS
'C' CLASS PADDLERS	– G. COOPER
WINTER TRAINING GROUP – NORTH	– G. COOPER, C. GRAY
WINTER TRAINING GROUP – SOUTH	– T. SHENTON, R. LAWLER M. GIDDINGS
INTERNATIONAL REGATTA – NATIONAL WATERSPORTS CENTRE, NOTTINGHAM	– G. COOPER, A. N. OTHER
INTERNATIONAL REGATTA – PRAGUE (Senior)	– G. COOPER, A. N. OTHER
INTERNATIONAL REGATTA – BOCHUM DALHAUSEN (Junior)	– T. SHENTON, C. GRAY
INTERNATIONAL REGATTA – DUISBURG (Senior)	– R. W. EMES, T. SHENTON
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – TAMPERE (Senior)	– R. W. EMES
JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS – WALCZ	– To be appointed – (R. W. EMES making provisional arrangements)

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**APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD 1973/1976 FROM:-**

R. W. EMES, TEAM MANAGER, BRITISH CANOE UNION SPRINT RACING COMMITTEE,  
147 Gravelly Hill,  
Birmingham, B23 7NR.  
Telephone: Home 021-373 5192 : Office 021-643 8497

**To be returned not later than 1st September, 1973  
(October 1973/April 1974)**

**OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD 1973**

**SENIOR OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD**

J. Court .. .. ('C')  
H. Dyer  
J. Handyside  
D. Lawrence  
G. Mackereth  
N. Mason  
D. Moore  
L. Oliver  
W. Reichenstein .. .. ('C')  
D. Smith  
G. Tilford  
M. E. Twitcher .. .. ('C')  
P. Walter .. .. ('C')  
T. Wetherall  
Miss C. Batty  
Miss F. Brereton  
Miss J. Rowse  
Miss H. Woodhouse

**JUNIOR OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD**

D. Brown  
E. Farrell  
P. Gorman  
T. Hunter  
A. Sheriff  
J. Walters  
Miss C. Foulds

**RESERVES TO ATTEND OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD TRAINING WEEKENDS**

J. F. Fowler  
S. J. Brown  
L. Hambrey

**SENIOR — RESERVES**

1st. T. Fiellus  
2nd A. Hubbard  
3rd B. Haynes  
4th A. Crossman  
5th D. Squire  
6th D. Mobley  
7th K. Pereira

**WOMEN — RESERVES**

1st B. Jones

**JUNIOR — RESERVES**

1st N. Clarke  
2nd J. Freeman  
3rd M. Fletcher  
4th M. Brown

(Reserves not to attend Olympic Training Squad Training weekends, unless notified personally by the Team Manager)

**OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD COACHES**

G. Cooper  
M. Giddings  
C. Gray  
R. Lawler  
T. Shenton

# THE "SMALLS"

## HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CANOEISTS

### RESULT OF DRAW HELD BY HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF CANOEISTS ON 13 MARCH

INN SPEZIAL	Supplied by Northern Wildwater Centre, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate, Yorkshire. K. Davey, 1a The Hundred, Hambledon Road, Waterlooville.
1903	
APACHE	Presented by Hampshire Association of Canoeists. L. Allen, 7 Jacomb Place, Bridgemary, Gosport.
1150	
DRY SUIT KIT	Donated by P. & H. Fibreglass Products, Spondon, Derby. M. Stutchbury, 27 Omduran Road, Southampton.
24	
£4 VOUCHER	Donated by A. W. Reed, 61 Hill Head Road, Hill Head, Fareham. D. J. Miller, 2 Burnham Chase, Southampton.
4041	
LENDAL RACER	Presented by Hampshire Association of Canoeists. P. Cant, Oakcroft, Gashouse Lane, Netley.
PADDLE	
2587	
SLIPSTREAMER	Donated by JC Glassfibre Products, 69 Knights Hill, West Norwood, London. D. Dobson, 20 Mountfield Road, Witney, Oxon.
GLASSFIBRE PADDLE	
3254	
SENTINEL CRASH	Donated by JC Glassfibre Products, 69 Knights Hill, West Norwood, London. G. Lander, Woodcroft, Broad Road, Hambrook, Chichester, Sussex.
HELMET	
1200	
SEACOURT PADDLE	Donated by Tyne Canoes, 206 Amyand Park Road, St. Margarets, Twickenham, Middlesex. J. King, 1 Bead Road, Hayling Island.
765	
JOFFA CRASH HELMET	Donated by Ottersports Ltd., Ash Street, Northampton. D. Dobson, 20 Mountfield Road, Witney, Oxon.
3258	
ABC CRASH HELMET	Supplied by Gaybo Ltd., Brighton. D. J. Miller, 2 Burnham Chase, Southampton.
4043	
ABC CRASH HELMET	Supplied by Gaybo Ltd., Brighton. L. Allen, 7 Jacomb Place, Bridgemary, Gosport.
1149	
WEEK'S USE OF	Donated by Prima Glassfibre Materials, Hampton, Middlesex. V. Kempster, Flat 1, Priory Cottage, Chalton.
MOULD	
2006	
TRYLON PADDLE KIT	Donated by Trylon Ltd., Wollaston, Northampton. A. Finch, 1 Lonehays Road, Hythe, Southampton.
2573	
TRYLON.PADDLE KIT	Donated by Trylon Ltd., Wollaston, Northampton. D. Aldous, 23 Witts Hill, Southampton.
2617	
FIBREGLASS REPAIR	Donated by Strand Glass Ltd., 72 London Road, Southampton. D. Charlesworth, Midland Canoe Club.
KIT	
4213	
GLASSFIBRE REPAIR	Donated by Strand Glass Ltd., 72 London Road, Southampton. P. Behennah, Haslemere, Danswood Road, West Moors, Dorset.
KIT	
3626	
CUFF LINKS	Donated by Lendal Products Ltd., Prestwick, Scotland. K. Hall, 434 Blandford Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset.
229	
NECKLACE	Donated by Lendal Products Ltd., Prestwick, Scotland. R. P. Sherren, Milbre, Field Way, Compton, Winchester.
2541	
<b>Draw for Slalom Paddle for members selling full complement of tickets:</b>	
SLALOM VICTOR	Donated by Canoe Centre, 18 Beauchamp Road, Twickenham, Middlesex. N. R. Clarke, 2 Blunden Close, Basingstoke.
PADDLE	
152	

### "CHRISFILM"

'Colorado' No. 16/10  
'Monschau 70' 16/9  
'Liffey Descent' No. 16/8  
'Wild Water' 16/5  
'World Canoe Slalom' 16/3, 16/4 and 8/6

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16mm 8mm and Super 8mm  
Most in Colour, with Sound tracks

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TEL: PATELEY BRIDGE 310 and 624

### LOST

AT THE DEE W.W. RACE on 11th February 1973, a wooden Williams Paddle, one blade split and mended, left feather, it is known to have been picked up. Please 'phone High Wycombe 27463.

### FOR SALE

K2 MOULD—Avoncraft Olympus, production weight, in good condition. Suit youth group just starting K2 paddling. £50. Shenfield Scouts Canoe Club, c/o Don McNab, 133 Ongar Road, Brentwood, Essex. Tel. Brentwood 29.

A.C. IMPORTS C1, Spraydeck, Crash Helmet, Prijon Paddle and Harishok — £35 o.n.o. T. Bailey, 39 York Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire.

CANOES IN GLASS FIBRE  
Prices from £28 + VAT ex works  
DETAILS FROM:—  
**FUTURFORM PLASTICS LTD.,**  
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Tel: Lancaster 69344

THE CHEAPEST CANOES AVAILABLE! —  
Soar Valley Specials Mk IV — Ready to use — £27 — Soar Valley Canoe Club, 247 Catherine Street, Leicester, LE4 6GE.

CANOE CLOTHING, LIFE JACKETS, CAMPING EQUIPMENT — Special reductions to B.C.U. Members. Send for free price list or call Field & Trek (Equipment) Ltd., 25 Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 4ER. Telephone Brentwood 1259.

### SITUATIONS VACANT

THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION requires an Assistant Warden for a Boating Activity Centre in Buckinghamshire. Ability to instruct in Canoeing is essential and he will also be required to introduce members of the Movement to sailing and other water activities. Further details obtainable from the Personnel Officer, The Scout Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1W 0PY.

RIVER WYE CANOE CENTRE Temporary Canoeing Instructors required U.K. and France short/long periods March—October. Please write for further details from P.G.L. Adventure Limited, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire. Tel: Ross-on-Wye 3311.

*Please Note! Small ads.  
must be pre-paid...*

## THE "SMALLS"

B.C.U. MEMBERS: Rates 1½p per word — minimum 20p. Trade and non-members 5p per word — minimum 30p. A P.O. or cheque made out to the British Canoe Union must accompany all items appearing in "The Smalls". Advertisements for this section will not be accepted unless pre-paid. B.C.U. Number must be quoted when claiming special rate.

## THE "SMALLS"

continued

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*Please Note!  
small ads must be pre-paid.*

### NATIONAL SURF CANOEING CHAMPIONSHIPS

22nd & 23rd September, 1973  
at  
Bude, Cornwall

#### EVENTS

Slalom Canoe Handling  
(Open, Junior, Ladies)  
Surf Canoe Handling  
(Open)  
Surf Race  
(Open, Junior, Ladies)  
Team Relay  
Team Championship

*Individual events open to B.C.U.  
members. Team events open to  
B.C.U. affiliated clubs and  
organisations*

For details and Entry Forms  
(state number required) send  
stamped addressed FOOLSCAP  
envelope to:—

Surf Competition Secretary,  
Thurston Outdoor Activity Centre,  
Coniston Lancs.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:  
MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

## BCU films

Send S.A.E. for lists  
FILM HIRE  
British Film Institute,  
42-43 Lower Marsh,  
London S.E.1.

LOOP PURCHASE  
C. M. Rothwell,  
21 Windsor Road,  
Clayton Bridge,  
Manchester, M10 6QQ.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DOWNTON SLALOM**  
2 September 1973

#### NOVICE

Entries to G. C. Good  
Calshot Activities Centre,  
Calshot, Hants.

### HULL & DISTRICT CANOE CLUB

Long Distance Circuit Race  
SUNDAY 17th JUNE 1973

Seniors – 10 miles  
8 Portages

Juniors and Ladies – 7½ miles  
4 Portages

*s.a.e. for details:*

Secretary, 36 Northgate,  
Hessle, Yorks.

### IMPORTANT PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Kennet & Avon Canal  
SPONSORED PADDLE**

Bristol to Devizes (approx. 40 miles)

May 26th and 27th, 1973

Social Evening & Overnight Camping  
at Bradford

Full details from: Mr. M. H. Walden,  
The Elms, Keevil, Trowbridge, Wilts.

*All proceeds in aid of West Wiltshire Canal  
Restoration Projects*

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TRANSPORT TO ANY DIV. 2 SLALOM –  
Willing to pay half petrol costs. Contact:  
Robert Yorke, 10 Dundee Street, St. James,  
Northampton, NN5 5BP.

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BACK NUMBERS of *Canoeing in Britain* –  
March '73 Edition available from H/Q –  
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## MARTIN DAVID CROSS MEMORIAL FUND

*On March 18, 1972. Martin Cross, N. Bucks RC, died whilst riding in the Coventry division criterium, when he was in collision with a car.*

The complete cyclist and clubman, Martin had won all his club's trophies in the previous three years. He came from Knutsford, Cheshire, and started his cycling there with the Weaver Valley CC before moving to Bletchley to take up a teaching post there.

Cycling was Martin's first love, but he also held the Mountain Leadership Badge, the Proficiency Certificate of the British Canoe Union and the Gold Award of the Amateur Swimming Association. He was a qualified youth leader, and was on the threshold of a fine career of service.

It had been hoped that by this time a Trust Fund would have been established to perpetuate the memory of Martin Cross, the proceeds of which would be allocated annually to assist and encourage young people in cycling and other outdoor pursuits, thus carrying on in a small way the work which Martin was not spared to do. Legal formalities, however, have not progressed sufficiently far, and it will be a little time before the trust is set up; Mr. and Mrs. Cross and Peter Knottley will be among the trustees.

As it is felt that many readers will sympathise with the objects of the trust, donations are now invited so that some capital is available when the legal formalities are completed. Until then, all subscriptions will be placed in an interest-bearing secure account. You are invited to support this fund by sending remittances to Peter Knottley, 2 Dallas Court, Cheam, Sutton, Surrey, made payable to "Martin David Cross Memorial Fund".

You will be kept advised of progress and your interest will be greatly appreciated.

Miss Kathleen Tootill, President of the Canoe Camping Club, and F. O. D. Hirschfeld have been granted a Bronze Plaque by the Board of Suomen Kanoottiliitto – Finnish Canoe Association – for having put Finland on the map for British Canoeists.



*Our picture by C. T. D. Quant shows a member of a party of canoeing/mountaineering instructors from Snowdonia surfing in the sunset at Whitesand Bay, Pembroke. A team of five spent a week there, canoeing round Ramsey Island and Skomer Island. They describe their three hours evening surfing as superb.*



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If anyone knows the address of these people perhaps they could tell them we do not know their new address.

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The craft, designed by Richard Sherwin and called the Triton, can be used for various water sports, including surfing and conventional canoeing. If the user capsizes the craft he merely falls off and can climb back on again. The canoe has no well, and therefore cannot fill with water or trap the user. Even in heavy surf it retains positive buoyancy.

The canoe has an aerodynamic shape formed from two glassfibre mouldings — a deck and a hull — of compound curvature, both laminated with Beetle polyester resin supplied by BIP Chemicals (Turner & Newall Limited). A polyurethane foam core between the deck and hull enhances the craft's buoyancy and strength. The deck surface is contoured to provide a comfortable sitting position for the canoeist. The contours also provide footrests when canoe is used as a surf board.

Because it is fast and easy to manoeuvre, the Triton also has life saving applications, being a rapid and simple means of running a lifeline out to a swimmer in distress.

The craft is 2.8m (9ft 3in) long and weighs approximately 17.24kg (38lb). It is easily carried on a car roof rack and, in the words of the manufacturer, can be handled with ease even by slender beach girls.

Triton costs £39.50 (including paddle) and is obtainable from Westcoast Glassfibre Mouldings, Knowle, Braunton, Devon. It is also featured in the John Player gift catalogue.



H. Thelen advises us that the official ICF International Cruising Calendar will be published soon. He has however compiled the following events for our information.

### INTERNATIONAL CRUISES SUMMER 1973

#### BELGIUM

11–12 August  
29 September

River Lier from Moise to Nete.  
River Semois from Bouillon to Alle.

#### BULGARIA

3–12 September

In conjunction with XVIII Danube Cruise TID Slistra to Black Sea and trip in the Danube Delta.

#### FINLAND

18–24 June  
9–15 July  
24–29 June  
26 June–1 July  
2–12 July  
30 June–7 July  
6–12 August

Two cruises on the Poets Way — each 155 km.  
Virrat — Ruovesi — Tampere.  
On the Blue Saima Lappeenranta to Mikkell. 150 km.  
Ivalokoji to Inari. 150 km.  
Inari to Jaameri. 200 km. Wild water experience required.  
Otava Harbour to Lahti.  
Kajaani from Anattijarvi to Vuokatti.  
Information from Heiki Kukulola, Kaupakantie 28a 12, 0320 Helsinki 32.

#### FRANCE

1–10 July  
31 July–15 August

River Garonne  
Rivers Severais (WW III), Durance (WW II), Guisanne (WW IV), Ubaye (WW IV/V), Verdon (Grand Canyon).  
Information from Maurice Chalavoux, F-69 Bron-Lyon, 41 Rue J. Jaures.

#### ITALY

24 June–1 July

3rd International Cruise on Po Pavia to Delta.

#### POLAND

18–24 June  
21–24 June  
2–9 September

VIII Wild Water Week on Poprad and Dunajec.  
XXXII International Cruise on Dunajec.  
VI International Cruise on Masurian Lakes.  
Information from Tadeucz Pilarski, ul. Lenartowitza 21/6. Cracow.

#### SPAIN

5–12 July  
21–22 July  
22–29 July

II International Meet at Seo de Urgel (Lerida).  
Cruise on Ebro.  
R Rally on Noguera Pallaresa.  
Information from Jose Biosca Tomas, Principe de Viana 82/2 Perida.

#### XVIII INTERNATIONAL DANUBE CRUISE

29 June–6 July  
7–14 July  
15–20 July  
21–30 July  
31 July–16 August  
17 August–2 September

Germany	:	Ingolstadt to Passau.
Austria	:	Passau to Hainburg.
Czechoslovakia	:	Hainburg — Esztergom.
Hungary	:	Esztergom to Mohacz.
Jugoslavia	:	Mohacz to Kladovo.
Bulgaria	:	Kladovo to Slistra.

## NEW HORIZON CAMPS

### Canoeing Holiday

for children aged 13 and over  
in Scotland, from August 16 — 29 1973

Starting from Fort William they will spend the fortnight canoeing through the Caledonian Canal, Loch Lochy, and Loch Ness to Inverness camping under canvas each night.

If anyone is interested in helping on this mobile camp and being in charge of the canoeing instruction and safety I will be very pleased to hear from you. There is also a preparatory camp at Whitsun for the same children when they will canoe along the Thames from May 25th — 28th and it would be very good if you could come to this as well. If you are interested, will you please write to Stephanie Garrett, 46 Fitzroy Road, London N.W.1. 01-586 0074.

Members may like to read a copy of the speech made by Peter Liddell at the Bury A.G.M. We are not likely to get such an important and authoritative statement for some time and therefore it is reported in full.

## BRITISH CANOE UNION A.G.M. BURY 27.1.73

I am very honoured to have been asked to address your A.G.M. today, and am particularly pleased to be able to be representing the Association of River Authorities as I believe that they have your best interests at heart.

This has been an important year for canoeing as a sport (with one unhappy exception to which I shall refer later) as the laymen like myself has so much enjoyed the excellent T.V. coverage — such as that marvellous Olympics slalom course at Augsburg, the splendid films of the Colorado and Blue Nile expeditions, and nearer to home the very good coverage of the Llangollen international slalom, all of which captured the public interest.

This is important, and so are your admirable magazine and efforts such as this splendid exhibition we have enjoyed today, *because* they awake interest, they make people want to try it, they make people realise how much you do for canoeing and so stimulate membership; and *membership* is crucial, for as you grow in membership so you grow in influence.

These references to slalom give me an opportunity to float to a captive audience my "idea of the century" for which I have so far got little support from canoeists in the North! You have more or less completed an excellent course at Holme Pierrepont with a drop of 12 or 16ft or so, and that is a great achievement and I hope it gives you tremendous sport; but don't forget that in the North Tyne Valley we have the proposed Kielder Water reservoir, in the planning of which the Sports Council has been implicated since the first pen touched the drawing board, with a fall of 120ft or more. Why don't we get a hydraulic model made to see what sort of slalom course or white water course you could make with the water flowing from that, and as it is a regulating reservoir designed to let water down the river and take it out many miles down, water has to drop that distance. It should have been under way by now, but the recent deferment by the Secretary of State has given sporting interests an opportunity to nobble the draughtsmen and get in again at the earliest stages. After all, Edward Wrangham the Chairman of our Water Amenities Committee is also Chairman of the Water Resources Committee of the Northumbrian River Authority and is responsible for promoting this scheme, and he also happens to be on the Water Activities Committee of the Northern Sports Council, so why not go and see him and talk about it? The water flow could be controlled according to the standard of competitors, the course could be altered as required, and it could provide a permanent facility of Olympic standard — and what an opportunity for training!

The mention of your magazine leads me in briefly to talk of access agreements. Both as Chairman of the River Authorities, and of the Northern Sports Council, I can say these bodies are extremely anxious to see agreements achieved with good will on all sides, and in Cumberland and Northumberland we have made a significant start which I know will be watched carefully by anglers everywhere. The Eden wild-water race in November was, I am told, most successful and most enjoyable. Both the Salmon and Trout Association's branches and the local Riparian Owners Associations have taken a leading part in encouraging these

agreements, and I think that among the sympathetic and helpfully inclined anglers the Wharfe decision in the Appeal Court reacted to increase the sympathy and desire to help. I have certainly urged the Association of River Authorities and the Salmon and Trout Association — successfully I believe — to continue to be sensible and to help.

Mr. Dudderidge in his article on Access in your magazine last month mentioned Ramblers. Now once every three years I get a rousing bout of 'flu and retire to bed, and there are always two days in which one feels so rotten that one can't read seriously so I have a go at my grandfather's old bound volumes of *Punch*, which range from the 1870's to just after the turn of the century. Those were the days of the Ramblers' fight — and how entertaining it is to read about it; every time you find a Rambler you find a bull in the field or a gamekeeper behind the Rambler, and they were the butts of every silly-ass joke. Every time a few M.P.'s put the Ramblers case for them, the bulls and the gamekeepers were back for a year or two until people forgot again. Now of course they are respectable, their needs acknowledged, and they have their Pennine Way and many local routes. But even now they do not, if they are wise, go through pheasant woods or over grouse moors in the nesting or shooting season, nor across growing crops. So I hope all of you must realise there will be some waters and some times where and when you will never be welcome, and to talk about prescriptive rights in the *offensive* (as opposed to *defensive*) sense is sheer folly and will make all our work on access much more difficult. Back will come the bulls and the gamekeepers, so to speak.

Of course there are extremists on all sides, there are extremists among the anglers and there are — and I hope you will not deny it, extremists among the canoeists, but we all have to live with these. Don't think canoeists are the only ones with this problem — local anglers themselves have serious problems, for instance the local farmer discovers the bit of water at the bottom of the field that they've always had for a bottle of whisky a year is worth a lot of money, and sells it to a rich syndicate so that the locals can never get on it again.

I believe that river authorities should buy water as it comes up in order to preserve it for local interest, and when they do they can bear all forms of recreation in mind, they can share it or time-zone it so as to suit the most people for the most time, although of course the touring problem will take the longest of all to solve. If present agreements in the North last happily for two or three years, then I think others will follow and the breadth of options will grow — the more rivers the less pressure on any one of them.

I must at this stage pay tribute to the work of Eric Totty, whose influence on your behalf is felt at all levels; locally he is a member of the Cumberland River Authority's Fisheries and Water Recreation Committee, regionally a member of the Northern Sports Council, and nationally on the Association of River Authorities' Water Amenities Committee, he is always so courteous and persuasive, though firm, that he is listened to with the greatest of respect. Do get more representatives like him onto the new Regional Water Authorities, who are to have a statutory duty towards the promotion of water recreation.

We are all concerned about the young, and yours is very much a sport that attracts the young; firm coaching is essential, and good coaching is a matter of rules and discipline based on common sense and good manners, but not all people have them. I have recently heard of many physical education instructors in schools who are becoming deeply disturbed at a new trend, probably based on the bad manners they see on television, where referees are ignored and abused by fifteen-year-olds or even less, a most alarming thought. Did you in your own sport perhaps discover the tip of the iceberg when you published a letter from a fifteen-year-old victim of near-hooliganism on a river? This *lack* of common sense, *lack* of manners is what leads to the sad picture reported by your Safety Committee. If care is taken, and safety precautions always taken, then I am sure that subject to these being conditions you could find the insurance cover you need, and if I can help in any way, as a Member of Lloyds, I will be happy to try.

*P.S. Having put this down I seem to remember telling the paragraph about extremists on both sides, saying something to the effect that perhaps we should stop thinking about bloody-minded anglers or bloody-minded canoeists, and remember that they are probably just bloody-minded PEOPLE who happen to be out angling or out canoeing, and they probably beat their dog and kicked their wife before they left home anyway!*

# CANOEING COMPLETE

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## Kanu Weltmeisterschaften 1973

### CANOE

Preparations for the World  
Championship in Switzerland

The organiser — the canoe clubs of Schwyz and Lucerne, both members of Swiss Canoe Association — undertake the greatest efforts for the Canoe World Championship, which take place from 20th to 24th June 1973 on the Muota in the canton of Schwyz in the heart of Switzerland. A brave driver of a bulldozer risked going into the wild river with his "engine" to shift about 70 cubic metres of stones and boulders, in order to get a more attractive course for the competitors announced from 20 nations, which are hunting for World Championship medals. There is still much snow on the mountains near Muotathal, and we are quite sure that just on time the river will have a considerable water-level. The picture shows the working bulldozer in the snowbound Muota.



## LLANGOLLEN INTERNATIONAL CANOE SLALOM

The 1973 Llangollen Canoe Slalom is once again to be organised, on behalf of the British Canoe Union, by last year's organiser, Keith Wickham. All enquiries and queries regarding the Slalom should be addressed to him at 36, Dovedale Road, Seaburn Dene, Sunderland.

The sad news for 1973 is that Rothmans of Pall Mall Limited will not be sponsoring this event. There appears, however, every possibility that Rothmans will sponsor subsequent future events at either Llangollen or Grandtully.

Rothmans reason for withdrawing sponsorship for this year's event is due entirely to the fact that their plans for sponsorship have taken a more international form and they are sponsoring more events abroad this year.

Keith Wickham is at present negotiating with other sponsors and there is a great deal of hope that one will be found for this year's International. Let us hope that it will enjoy the success and draw as much publicity as last year.

## YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE CANOE COACHING COMMITTEE

### River Cruises

June 10th	Yorkshire Derwent, Melton Railway Station, 10.30
17th	River Ure Cruise, Masham, 12.00
24th	Surfing Saltwick Bay
Sept. 16th	River Nidd Cruise, Summerbridge, 12.00
Nov. 4th	River Swale Cruise, Grinton, 12.00
11th	R. Aire Cruise, Stocksbridge, 11.00
18th	River Ure Cruise, Masham, 12.00
25th	Upper Wharfe Race Cruise after New Inn, 12.00
Dec. 2nd	River Tees Cruise, Eggleston, 11.30

### Organiser

		(4)
		(3)
		(5)
		(4)
		(1)
		(2)
		(3)
		(1)
		(3)

### Organisers

- (1) Leeds C.C., M. Markham, 22 Wrenbury Crescent, Leeds 16.
- (2) Bradford & Airedale C.C., Miss W. Horne, 9 Castlefields Lane, Crossflatts, Bingley, Yorks.
- (3) J. White, Asj Lea, Ferry Lane, Stanley, Wakefield, Yorks. (West Yorks C.C.).
- (4) D. Cox, 3 Firth Park Avenue, Sheffield, (Sheffield C.C.).
- (5) R. Rymer, The Lodge, Kirk Hammerton, Nr. York.

## IWA National Rally of Boats 1973 on the Fenland Waterways

### Duke of Bedford to be Patron of Waterways Rally

His Grace the Duke of Bedford has accepted an invitation to become the Patron of the 1973 National Rally of Boats. Organised by the Inland Waterways Association, the Rally will be held from 3-6 August on the River Great Ouse at Ely.

The Bishop of Ely is to be the Honorary President of the Rally which will take place during the celebrations to mark the thirteenth centenary of Ely Cathedral.

# B.C.U.

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## SPONSORED 60 MILE CROSS-CHANNEL CANOE EXPEDITION ENGLAND/ FRANCE — MAY, 1973

On the weekend commencing Friday, 18th May, 1973, a small fleet of gallant, hardy and experienced sea canoeists will be attempting a "CANOEING FIRST".

They intend paddling from the Solent Area to Cherbourg, France, a distance of approximately 60 miles, on a sponsored expedition at sea to assist the *Eastleigh and District Committee for the Mentally Handicapped* in raising funds to create a residential centre and also to complete projects already in hand. The canoeists are providing their services and meeting their own expenses to support this worthy cause.

They will assemble at Hamble on Friday, 18th May, and attempt the crossing during the weekend, or weekday, the following week should the weather be unfavourable.

Owing to the very changeable weather conditions, strong tides and the amount of

shipping in the area, stringent safety precautions are being taken. It is expected that 6 canoes will be manned for this crossing and that they will paddle in small groups, each being shepherded by an escort boat.

The services of these escort boats are being donated by notable Hamble and Solent personalities, who will also act as adjudicators.

Medical advice both before and during the crossing will be provided by Dr. Tees, a yachtsman and member of the Royal Southern Yacht Club.

The canoeists on the water will be under the joint control of Mr. Geoff Blackford, B.C.U. Senior Coach and Director of Canoeing at Calshot Activities Centre, and Mr. Chris J. B. Gardiner, Principal of Hamble Sailing Centre and B.C.U. Coach who has specialised in Sea Canoeing Training and Expeditions for twenty years.

The crossing, in reasonable conditions, is expected to take up to 16 hours so whatever the start time may be, some night paddling will be required.

The weekend of 5/6 May is being set aside for a get together of canoeists, escorts and organisers. At this meeting a full briefing

will be given, the canoeists and their equipment will be examined and some training will be carried out. The venue is The Hamble Sailing Centre, Ropewalk, Hamble. News Editors are invited to send reporters and cameramen to the Hamble Sailing Centre at 09.30 a.m. where they will be given facilities not only to hear the briefing, but to meet the organisers and participants both ashore and afloat. It would be appreciated if you would confirm to our information officer Mr. J. Windust, The Hamble Sailing Centre, Ropewalk, Hamble (Hamble 3106) the names of your representatives so that he can meet them on arrival and ensure they are given every facility.

Facilities will also be made available at the start point of the expedition if required.

Should weather conditions be severe enough to cause cancellation of the channel crossing attempt, the canoeists will paddle a secondary route in the Solent area.

J. A. Windust, Information Officer, "Project Peter Pan" Hamble Sailing Centre, Ropewalk, Hamble (Hamble 3106).



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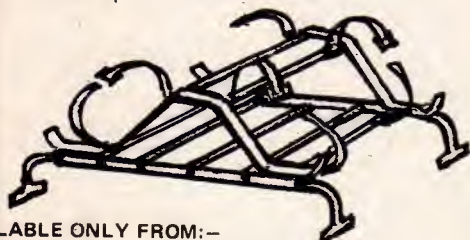
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# Devizes - Westminster Canoe Race 1973

## 1ST TEN RESULTS OF THE SENIOR CLASS

Pos.	Crew No.	Crew	Club	Time		
				Hrs.	Mins.	Secs.
1	175	A. K. Alan-Williams A. Chapman	Royal Marine C.F.	18	35	48
2	144	A. Haskey K. Collins	Royal Engineers C.C.	19	33	48
3	143	A. Williams C. Norton	Royal Engineers C.C.	19	50	40
4	111	H. Hoskins M. D. Purchas	Bradford-on-Avon R.C.	20	02	35
5	137	D. E. Andrews D. G. Ford	21st S.A.S. (Artists) C.C.	20	25	30
6	177	R. Jones R. Parry	Royal Marine C.F.	20	28	23
7	140	A. Edwards T. V. McQueenie	21st S.A.S. (Artists) C.C.	20	47	37
8	146	D. Evans N. Coe	Royal Engineers C.C.	20	53	25
9	145	A. Mawer E. Waterton	Royal Engineers C.C.	21	03	17
10	176	P. J. Dyke J. P. Lee	Royal Marine C.F.	21	50	13

## 1ST TEN RESULTS OF THE JUNIOR CLASS

Pos.	Crew No.	Crew	Club	Time		
				Hrs.	Mins.	Secs.
1	76	L. Knight D. Greenop	Army Apprentices College, Arborfield	18	57	06
2	17	A. S. Mitchell A. P. Ladley	Sussex Constabulary	19	07	19
3	35	I. M. White S. P. Webster	Longridge Scout & Guide C.C.	19	21	04
4	14	C. R. Munn A. R. Evans	Sussex Constabulary	19	24	52
5	16	P. Hayes D. A. Beck	Sussex Constabulary	19	50	49
6	79	R. G. Thorogood P. J. Doman	Newham C.C.	19	57	05
7	13	W. J. Jaggs K. Walker	Harrow and Wealdstone Scouts	19	57	11
8	51	S. Jefferies S. Ware	City of London Police	20	09	20
9	18	C. R. Putland R. G. White	Sussex Constabulary	20	13	57
10	77	T. R. McKeever A. J. Larter	Army Apprentices College, Arborfield	20	14	44

# CANOE WITH THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

## CANOE WITH THE BRITISH CANOE UNION!

The governing body of the sport of canoeing in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This form not to be used for renewal of membership

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Address .....

Date of Birth (if under 18 and claiming Youth Membership) .....

Name of Canoe Club (if any) .....

Names of 1. (Mrs./Mr./Miss) .....

Family 2. (Mr./Miss) .....

Members 3. (Mr./Miss) .....

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To: THE GENERAL SECRETARY,  
BRITISH CANOE UNION,  
26/29 PARK CRESCENT, LONDON, W1N 4DT.

I/We agree to be bound by the Rules and Regulations of the British Canoe Union.

I enclose Cheque/Postal Order to the value of £ .....

Individual Member Subscriptions ..... £ ..... p.

Signature: .....

FOR BCU USE

Date: .....

Please send me ..... copies of this leaflet to pass on to other canoeists.

### HOW MAY I JOIN THE BCU?

Complete the Application Form above and send it together with a Postal Order or Cheque for the appropriate amount to:

The General Secretary, BCU,  
26/29 Park Crescent,  
London, W1N 4DT.

If you prefer to pay by Banker's Order please ask for a form.

N.B.: The BCU's financial year is from 1st November to 31st October. Those who join between 1st September and 31st October are members until 31st October of the following year.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A MEMBER - PERSUADE YOUR FRIEND TO JOIN!

## UGGH ON CANOEING AND THE BEGINNINGS OF THE RIVER PADDLER

The recent popularity of river paddling is no fad. The hordes of people who are paddling canoes and kayaks on wilderness rivers have rediscovered an ancient thrill that has its roots far back in time.

The originator of the sport was George Ugh, a Missing Link who lived in a sycamore tree on the banks of the Niangua River during the Pliocene geological era (about ten million years ago).

George and everyone else in those days used their hands for one basic purpose — to grab and hold branches while swinging through the trees. Oh, sometimes George held onto a branch with his toes while he picked persimmons with his hands. But he never swung a baseball bat or passed a football with his hands. The only sport in those days was survival.

George was in love with a female Missing Link who lived on the other side of the river. Her name has been lost to history, but we will call her Jane for literary purposes.

Every evening George would grab onto a long branch of his sycamore tree that extended halfway across the river. Then he would swing hand over hand almost to the end of the branch, and let go.

He would drop about five yards and grab onto a branch that extended from a tree that grew on Jane's side of the river, and then swing over to make love to Jane.

One evening the branch on George's tree snapped at a point about six feet from the end, and George fell screaming into the river. Luckily he fell right onto the back of a crocodile. Well, the stomach, actually, because the croc was floating on his back and sleeping at the time.

It knocked the wind out of the croc, so the animal was unable to give George any trouble right away. The croc also began to sink for lack of air in its lungs, and George was panic stricken.

He was still holding the six-foot length of branch in his hands, and he lashed out in an effort to save himself. It happened that George was a natural born paddler, and his panicky branch wavings were perfect J strokes.

With the croc slowly sinking under him, George paddled straight as Cupid's arrow to the other side of the river, and he and Jane had their usual rendezvous.

Thereafter George always crossed the river by jumping onto the stomach of a sleeping crocodile, and paddling furiously across the river before the croc could get its wind back.

The reason that George didn't simply swim across the river is because he wasn't smart enough to think of that. Remember we are talking about a time in the history of mankind when the brain was a very primitive organ, and just not capable of thinking of things which would be obvious to a modern brain.

From this simple beginning the sport of river paddling developed. One of George's sons (who was nearsighted) jumped onto a log one day, thinking that it was a sleeping crocodile. He discovered that one could paddle a log just as easily as a crocodile, and without the risk of being eaten by your boat.

But a genius is seldom appreciated by his wife, and so it was with George and Jane. After ten years of marriage Jane had all she could take from her idiot husband, and she decided to split.

The only log Jane was strong enough to drag down to the river was a log that had been hollowed out by termites. She bashed one side out of the log dragging it over rocks, and there was the invention of the dugout canoe!

George still had the hots for Jane, and he wasn't about to let her get away easily. He raced to the riverbank to stop her, but Jane was already halfway across the river in her dugout log.

George jumped a floating log and struck out after her. But in his haste he jumped onto the back of a crocodile who wasn't asleep, and who didn't get his wind knocked out in the manoeuvre.

And so George discovered still another way to cross a river — inside of a crocodile. In a sense you might say this was the invention of the kayak, a craft that was later perfected by making it out of a dead animal skin instead of a live one.

Anyway, you can see that man's love for river paddling goes deeper than anything except his love for a woman. If you haven't tried river paddling yet, that explains why you sometimes feel a vague emptiness in your life.

Dave Hart



The winning design for the £325 'Echo'-Uffa Fox Trophy to be presented by Southern Newspapers Limited each year for an outstanding nautical achievement,

has come from Mr. William G. Chitty of Hurn Way, Christchurch, Hants.

His entry was a symbolic yacht with twin sails driving it through a stormy sea.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

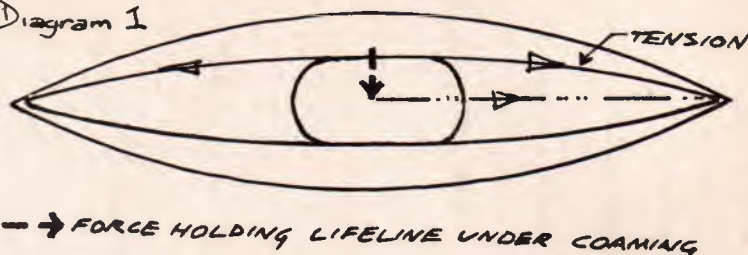
Dear Sir,

The article in the March issue of *Canoeing in Britain* regarding lifelines on life-jackets, prompted me to say a word on canoe lifelines.

In this part of the world (Plymouth) the emphasis is on sea canoeing where some form of lifeline is undoubtedly essential. Now, I belong to the recently established Plymouth Polytechnic Canoe Club where bow and stern toggles (not loops) are considered most suitable. However, I attended a meeting of another local club where a senior instructor gave a demonstration of how to fit an all-round lifeline and he emphasised the need of tautness. In effect, a line was passed through bow and stern loops, around either side of the cockpit coaming and the two ends made fast.

Surely this is dangerous? In this particular case, the bow and stern loops were rendered useless for swimming the boat ashore, due to the tautness of the lines. This is easily remedied of course, but then the fore and aft lines still present a danger in that they can easily slip from under the coaming and trap the canoeist. I know, because it has happened to me. A simple diagram and a little common sense will show why even the tautest line will slip off.

Diagram 1



As diagram 1 shows, the force of tension in the cord can be split into two components: one fore and aft, the other athwartships. The athwartships force is that which holds the line under the coaming, and though my diagram may not show the true size of the force, it is painfully obvious that it is weak indeed! When I complained about this, the instructor illustrated how taut his lifeline was by upturning the canoe on the floor, and pulling it upright by means of the lines. As you may have guessed the lines slipped off and the boat had to be righted using the cockpit coaming.

P. J. Manning  
Y.M.C.A.  
Room 92  
Plymouth

Dear Sir,

With reference to the NWWC advert on Page 26 of the March *Canoeing in Britain*, I would like to point out an error in line 6. The Liffey Liffey was used by one Olympic canoeist an Irishman, not plural I would not wish any confusion to arise with the Harishok Life Vest which was worn by Over 45% of the paddlers at Augsburg; coming from 6 countries. Could you print this letter and give Mr. Hawkesworth opportunity to reply.

Raymond R. Calverley  
HARISHOK  
22 Schools Rd  
Manchester M18 8RF

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One of the best ways for the beginner to 'learn the ropes', and have an enjoyable holiday into the bargain is to be taught by experts on large but safe stretches of water.

The Scottish Sports Council has made extra provision for tuition in both sailing and canoeing, and there are still some places left at its Scottish Centre of Outdoor Training at Glenmore Lodge, near Aviemore, Inverness-shire.

A week's dinghy sailing or canoeing tuition, including food and dormitory accommodation costs around £18 (no married quarters available) and recognised proficiency certificates may be awarded to those who apply and show the required degree of skill. The courses will run from August 4-11 and August 18-25.

Further information can be obtained by writing to the Scottish Sports Council, (Courses), 4 Queensferry Street, Edinburgh EH2 4PB or Tel. 031-225-5544.

## CANOEING BOOKS

It is the intention to establish a collection of canoeing "classics" at B.C.U. H.Q. Anyone who has any old, unusual or simply no longer available books, papers or other works and who would like them to have a good home is invited to contact the General Secretary at H.Q. Foreign language books would also be interesting.

'A GUIDE TO WATER RECREATION' which is the strategy for Water Recreation has been produced by the West Midlands Sports Council, and should members wish to receive further copies, please contact F. M. Carey, Senior Regional Officer, of Crest House, 7 Highfield Road, Birmingham, B15 3EG. Telephone 021-454 3808.



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D. J. Lewis

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Although it has often been claimed that canoeing is one of the fastest growing sports today, the WEST MIDLANDS SCHOOLS' CANOEING ASSOCIATION have still been taken by surprise at the number of canoeing groups from schools, colleges, youth groups and scout troops who registered to take part in their "50/50" Sponsored Canoe Paddle on the morning of Sunday, 13th May. 45 groups from Birmingham, Coventry, Solihull, Worcester and many parts of Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire sent some 420 canoeists to paddle the ten miles on the Stratford-on-Avon Canal between Kings Norton in Birmingham and Hockley Heath. Canoeing groups are always notoriously short of money for the building of boats and provision of other essential equipment, and so the West Midlands Association planned the journey so that young canoeists could assist their own group funds and at the same time support the ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION; the sponsorship money taken will be divided equally between the two. Each group responsible for providing its own boats and leader, and all paddlers must be able to swim and must wear approved lifejackets. The main hazard to be negotiated is a 350 yard tunnel at Brandwood and all groups received detailed instructions on the procedure to be adopted there.

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