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Canceing in Britain is published in March, June, September and December, by the British Cance 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

All editorial correspondence advertising enquiries and bookings to: The Editor, W. Balmain, 'Rookby', 70 Briarwood Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 5DB. Tel: (0632) 856388

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 Cance 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.

EDITORIAL

Now that September's here no doubt many of you will have experienced a summer adventure. It's funny how *Canoeing in BRITAIN* attracts stories of adventures abroad yet so very few in Britain.

Several members have written regarding manufacturers products. In each case complaints are taken up with the manufacturer for to be fair we must have both sides of the story.

Access is and will be a never-ending source of negotiations and diplomacy for our officials. As our population continues to expand I wonder what the ratio of Union and non-Union canoeists is. It's quite alarming how many canoeists one meets who are not members and observe no code of conduct – perhaps because they don't know there is one!

If you meet non-Union canoeists urge them to join us whether they just want to go messing about on the river or take part in competitive sport.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S COLUMN

Membership figures continue to increase and the number of issued full memberships has now passed the 5,000 mark – this is for the first time. Membership renewal forms are sent out with this issue, please make use of them! IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO HAS

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A MEMBERSHIP CARD OR HAS ANY OTHER UNRESOLVED QUERY, OR IF YOU HAVE ANY YOUR-SELF, PLEASE WRITE DIRECTLY TO ME AT THIS OFFICE AND MARK THE ENVELOPE "COMPLAINT".

We believe that all queries of this nature, that we have been written to about, have been dealt with - it is the others that have simply "gone missing" that we wish to be told of.

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

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF BCU COUNCIL

"... The Enclosures ..."

With this issue of *Canoeing in Britain* are included a number of papers which we ask you to consider very carefully.

The sheets relating to the Special General Meeting to be called on the 27th October in Birmingham require special attention. The members who have presented the proposals feel strongly that the changes relating to specialist committees, introduced at the last A.G.M. in Bury and due to come into operation from 31st October 1973, do not serve the best interests of the different branches of our sport. They have explained their reasons in one of the accompanying papers and they — and the Council — would ask you to study these with care so that the right decisions may be thoughtfully reached at the Special General Meeting.

The current review of aims and operations of the BCU continues to occupy the thoughts and time of Council – as it will for some time to come. The Development Project hopes to produce, with the June 1974 issue of Canoeing in Britain, a preliminary 'Green Paper' for study, comment and discussion by all members of the Union, and then, a year later, it is intended that final proposals on future development be presented to the Council. An essential preparatory stage, now being undertaken, is to pull in the views of as many canoeists as possible. Already the specialist committees have received formidable worksheets and soon clubs are to be circularised with requests for views; the questionnaire included with this issue is for individual members. I do hope that our members care enough about the 'state of the Union' and canoeing in this country to find the time (and energy!) to complete these forms, so that truly representative views can be obtained. Your efforts in this direction would be very greatly appreciated. **Geoff Sanders**

CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS

The attention of all competition organisers is drawn to the fact that the BCU Championship Medals are now available (in Gold, Silver and Bronze) and there is general agreement that these are a very attractive medal.

It is intended that they should be awarded in all NATIONAL and INTER-NATIONAL events as "parallel" awards in the different branches of the sport, including Junior and Novice classes.

For further details apply to the General Secretary.

Cover Picture:

Training in the Lake District. This colourful tree framed photograph was taken by D. Webb of Bexleyheath, Kent.

British Canoe Union Coaching Scheme

Competition Coach Training Course

National Watersports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham

October 22nd - 28th 1973

A one week course of training leading to appointment as Assistant Competition Coach of the British Canoe Union for either Racing or Slalom.

The course will assemble on Sunday 22nd October at 19.30 hours and will disperse at approximately 16.30 on Sunday 28th October. All participants will be expected to be resident.

The course will aim to give an insight into the following: -

Technique

- Knowledge of technique.
- 2 Analysis of technique by direct observation and recordings.
- Mechanical principles. 3

Principles and Application of Training

- Anatomy and physiology. Analysis of factors affecting performance.
- 3 Tests and measurements.
- 4 Training methods.
- 5 Training programmes.

Principles of Skill Learning and Performance Relevant teaching methods and principles 1

- of learning.
- Coach/paddler relationships.
- The role of the Coach. 3
- Δ Stress and motivation.

Knowledge of Rules and Organisation

- B.C.U.
- 2 1.C.F.

Honorary Coaches of the B.C.U. will provide the main body of staff for the course. The full time staff will be augmented by a series of other speakers drawn from a variety of different athletic and scientific backgrounds.

They will include: -Dr. J. D. Brooke, Human Performance Lab., Salford University.

Mr. M. Lindsay, Lecturer, Madeley College P.Edn., Dept.

- Mr. I. Ward, Head of Dept., Liverpool University.
- Dr. J. G. P. Williams, Secretary, British Association of Sports Medicine.

Course Fee : £25.

Cheques/P.O's made payable to British Canoe Union.

- Applicants must be:-
- Members of the B.C.U.
- 18 years of age or older.
- A B.C.U. Senior Instructor.*

* Applicants who do not hold a S.I. award should apply in the first place to the Secretary of the appropriate Technical Committee. Only in very exceptional circumstances will the Coaching Committee accept a person who has not qualified as a Senior Instructor.

(Note: It is now possible for a paddler with considerable experience to write to the Director of Coaching requesting exemption from the training course for Senior Instructors. If such a request is accepted then the paddler may apply for an assessment course for the S.I. award.)









Competitive Coaching Conference

January 1974

A conference for those involved or interested in the coaching of competitive canoeists.

At the National Water Sports Centre, **Holme Pierrepont**

January 13th and 14th, 1974

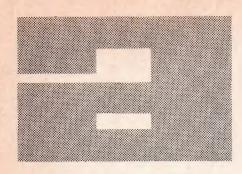
Cost : £4 including accommodation

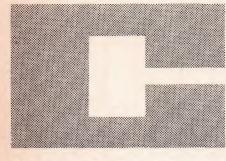
Speakers from outside the world of canoeing have been invited to the conference which will draw together the top coaches and competitors from both the fields of Racing and Slalom.

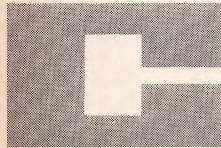
Application forms will be circulated in due course and will appear in the canoeing press.

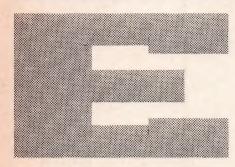
There will be a meeting of the Panel of Honorary Competition Coaches on 1974 at Saturday 13th January 10.30 a.m. preceding the start of the conference.

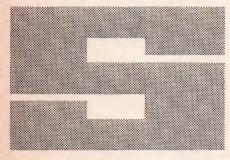
Further details from J. A. FAZEY, 28 Richmondfield Lane, Barwick-in-Elmet, Leeds.

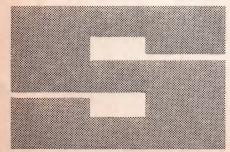












RIVER TYNE ACCESS AGREEMENT

This Agreement has been negotiated with representatives of landowning and fishing interests, as first visualised at a Regional Meeting two years ago in the Northumbrian River Authority area.

Although only effecting about eight miles of the Tyne, it must be pointed out that it took a year to convene a meeting of representatives for this stretch of river, and another year - until summer 1973 - to thrash out details. The BCU value greatly the machinery by which this Agreement was reached, and point out that :-

a) only BCU members are covered by the Agreement;

b) permission will be withdrawn if there are infringements.

RIVER TYNE-HEXHAM TO BYWELL BRIDGE AGREEMENT

- 1. Access will be allowed at the following times:-

February to May inclusive On the first and third Sundays from 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon. In addition when river is in spate, it being agreed that the final decision on spate conditions should be made by the Chairman of the Riparian Owners Association or any person authorised by him. This would apply to spate conditions throughout the year. June to August inclusive

On every Wednesday from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. and on the second Sunday from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and under spate conditions

September and October

No access allowed except in spate. November to January inclusive

On three weekdays each week, to be selected by the British Canoe Union. The days selected should be notified to the Association of Riparian Owners before 1st October.

2. Canoe Racing

Canoe races may be held on one day in the months of November, December and January to be agreed with the Association of Riparian Owners before 1st October.

3. Access Points

- a. Tyne Green, Hexham, downstream of Hexham Bridge. No use allowed of Hexham Weir.
- b. The road bridge at Corbridge - north bank, upstream of bridge, south bank, up and downstream of bridge.
- At Riding Mill, on the south bank. C. d. At Bywell Bridge, north bank, down-
- stream of bridge.

4. Canoe Parties

There should not be more than twelve canoes in one party and each party should have a leader.

5. Spate

No level has yet been agreed, but as a guide the river is in flood when the river is 6" deep all of its width under the bridge at Corbridge.

RIVER NORTH TYNE-KIELDER TO CHOLLERFORD **VOLUNTARY ACCESS CODE, 1973**

This stretch of river, 32 miles in all, has been subject to increased pressure this year, probably due to restrictions elsewhere on canoeists. After consultation with the main interested canoeists in the area, and taking into account the known wishes of some of the landowners, who are all at present extremely co-operative, the British Canoe Union now recommends the below restrictions immediately. This is not a joint Agreement with riparian owners but an attempt to forestall any problems in the future and everyone's co-operation is essential. The whole idea

hinges on the fact that we have a Local Coaching Organiser on the spot, who is the Warden of the Kielder Outdoor Centre.

Canoeists must now contact him, either by letter or telephone, giving as much notice as possible before contemplating any trip on any part of this stretch. The purpose of this is so that numbers of canoeists on the river at any one time may be controlled - parties will be "booked" for a certain day - in accordance with the restrictions below.

The man to contact is:-

- Bob Hodgson,
 - Warden, Kielder Outdoor Centre,
 - Kielder, Hexham, Northumberland. (Tel: Kielder [066 05] 231) between 8.30-9.30 a.m. and
- 5.30-6.30 p.m.

Canoeists not keeping to this voluntary code will face disciplinary action by the British Canoe Union.

JULY 1st - OCTOBER 30th 1973

- 1. Access allowed on every day of the week, except Wednesdays. There is increased fishing on -Wednesdays now (and the
- Warden and Tyne Agreements allow provision for canoeing on Wednesdays).
- 2. Times : Canoeing allowed between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. every day, to leave early morning and evening fishing undisturbed.
- 3. Numbers : Parties must be limited to twelve people maximum, and only two parties will be allowed on any one day. As far as possible, two parties would be directed to different parts of the North Tyne. This is to try and ensure that fishing at any one point is only disturbed once during a day.
- 4. Canoeists should all preferably be member: of the British Canoe Union (as future agreements are sure only to apply to British Canoe Union members), but the leader of a party must be a member and be identified, i.e. by carrying a member ship card.
- 5. Spate Conditions : We are not identifyin a spate level at present, as much fishing still carried on in flood. Do not assum that because the river is high, you ma canoe on the river.

NOVEMBER 1st 1973 -JANUARY 31st 1974

In the fishing close season, we believe canoein may be allowed every day. It would still be helpful to contact the Kielder Centre though, as it is hoped to calculate accurately the numbers using the river.

There will be a circular in the future about the position from February 1st, 1974 onwards.

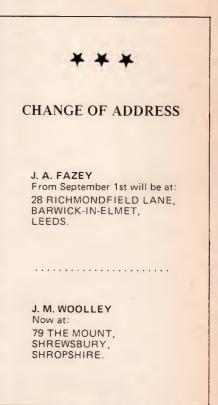
ACCESS POINTS

Only general advice is given here, with some mileages, as there are no objections known at present to any access points. Between Kielder and Bellingham, access from the road is possible in many places. See O.S. Maps 76 (Carlisle) and 77 (Hexham).

- Kielder Outdoor Centre. About two miles down is a difficult stretch. Access better at:--
- 2. Mounces (road alongside river) four miles down.
- 3. Falstone (at ford 1/2 mile above bridge, and one mile below bridge).
- Bent House Bridge (41/2 miles below 4. Falstone).
- 5. Bellingham. Best access 1/2 mile below bridge, north bank from town.
- From Bellingham, no landing through Countesspark Wood, a private estate. Next access, Lee Hall Farm (west bank).
- Ward Bridge, east bank, upstream.
- Chipchase Mill (east bank).
- Barrasford (east bank)
- 10. Chollerford (east bank).



An excellent action photograph submitted by 14 year old Clive Roberts of Nuneaton Kayak Club depicting Whorlton Canoe Slalom (Novice) on the River Tees.



ACCESS

continued

SOUTH TYNE

Objection has been made to canoeing between Haydon Bridge and Warden on the South Tyne by the main landowner concerned. It is not clear what the actual situation is, as it appears that some parties of canoeists have received permission for this stretch, to the detriment of other canoeists. The position is being investigated.

RIVER ADVISER - TEES & WEAR

Eddie Williamson, present adviser for Tees, is leaving the area. Volunteers for this job are asked to contact John Dudderidge, President B.C.U. Until further notice, Eddie Palmer, River Access Negotiator for the North East, will take on this work.

E. Palmer, 108 Holly Avenue, Newcastle upon Tyne, 2.

UPPER STRATFORD AVON

The Upper Avon Navigation Trust Limited, Stratford on Avon has now made such progress in building new weirs and locks that only a few hundred yards near Stratford remains to complete the work of making it navigable again for cruisers all the way to Stratford, and so linking up with the Stratford on Avon Canal and the Grand Union Canal. The Trust was successful in becoming the statutory navigation authority in November 1972, and can now charge tolls. John Dudderidge, as President of the Union, took up the question of fair charges for canoeists, many of whom would not be keeping a boat on the river for an extended period. Through his efforts and the goodwill of the Trust, it has been agreed that the B.C.U. will pay an annual amount to the Trust in respect of canoeists in general, and tolls will not be levied on individual canoeists, nor will they be registered. The basis of this agreement is that the cost of administration for issuing permits would necessitate a charge (if the Trust was not to make a loss) greater per canoe for short visits than would appear reasonable. Payments have been made in respect of 1972 and 1973.

This arrangement is a favourable one for canoeists, and it would be a gesture that the Trust would appreciate if canoeists using the river (and others who know the river) were to make a donation to the Trust's current appeal for £25,000 to finish the job.

TOWY

A complaint has recently been sent to the River Adviser concerned (S. J. Pugh-Jones, Cregina, Meinciau, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire) by the Llandovery Angling Association about a party of 14 canoeists who on Monday July 9 passed through their fishing water, and who were "quite brazen" when challenged. The Association said that it had resolved to prosecute any canoeists who passed through their water in future. The River Adviser had previously been trying to approach the local interests to discuss canoeing on the river before it raised intractable problems. He has written to the Association asking for particulars of the party, and suggesting that in future riparian and fishing interests on the river should try to obtain particulars and inform him so that the Union could see whether there was anything it could do. "Brazen" behaviour is only going to create antipathy and sour relationships at a time when the Union is anxious to negotiate sensible arrangements for canoeists to use game fishing rivers at times when fishermen will be least inconvenienced. If the party concerned recognises itself we ask the leader to have the public spirit to get in touch with Mr. Pugh-Jones, and help him to straighten things out. (It is not known whether the party had any connection with the B.C.U. or an affiliated organisation. We hope not.)

In view of this occurrence, all members are asked to be sure to consult the River Adviser before going on the river.

B.C.U. INFORMATION STAND

The photograph shows the B.C.U. Information Stand as it was set up at the Holme Pierrepont international regatta. This stand, which is completely demountable and will easily fit in the average car boot, is kept at H.Q. and is available to any meeting organiser who can undertake to transport it to and from the meeting and to make adequate use of it at the meeting. For further details apply to General Secretary.







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Thamas Wichmann the Hungarian World C1 Champion at the International Regatta at Holme Pierrepont. Photograph by Francis P. Haines (Richmond C.C.).



NEW STRUCTURE

1974 will see a radical change in the structure of long distance racing, the aim being to try and relieve the overcrowding of the programme that has come about over the last few years.

The current situation has an adverse affect on Clubs wishing to compete on a serious basis for the Hasler Trophy, which although decided on the outcome of only eight events, results in the need to attend some 20 races across the length and breadth of the country, with the result that the whole competition becomes a matter of transport and finance, rather than of canoeing.

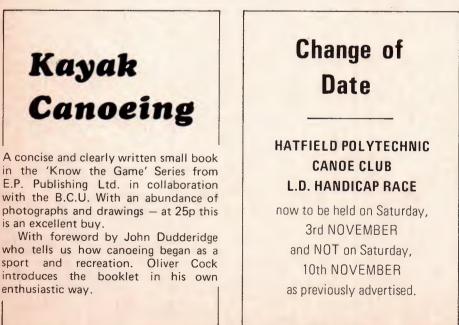
It is with factors such as these in mind that over the last year plans have been drawn up to restructure this branch of canoesport, and the new look will come into effect for 1974.

The basis of the structure is a tiered system of races, and in this context the National Long Distance Championships will become the top event, out on its own, as an event of this nature should be.

enthusiastic way.

The next level will be a completely new series of eight races, each to be held on an exclusive date with no other event being permitted to clash with it. This new series of events will be for K1 and K2 classes only, with sub-divisions into Senior, Senior A, Junior and Ladies, each of these classes having a new trophy awarded to it for results over the series as a whole. In addition there will be a new team trophy awarded to the best Club over the whole series. At the present time the final details of the series are being concluded with the respective organisers, and in addition the final details for the sponsorship of these events are also being clarified.

The third tier in this new structure will be the current ranking races, although the terms of reference for these events have been altered somewhat. In future race organisers will be required to offer a reasonable number of the existing classes, rather than having to include all of them in the programme as at present. The other major change relates to dates for



these events, and in this connection, organisers will no longer be given the exclusive use of a date for their event. Instead, the criteria will be that the date does not clash with either the National Championships, or an event in the new series, and that there is no other ranking event being held in the same region.

The final level under the new structure will take in all other open long distance events, and as from 1974 they will be required to register with the Long Distance Committee. Registered events will be granted the use of British Canoe Union facilities for publicity, and assistance in overcoming problems related to organisation and associated matters, however all events will have a registration fee levied against them although the amount of this will vary dependant on the precise nature of the event involved.

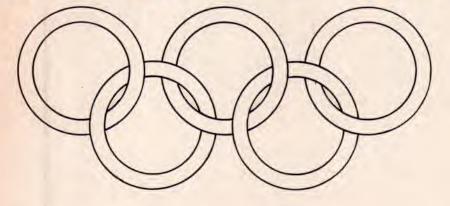
Under the new basis the trophies currently awarded in connection with the ranking races, ie. Hasler, Rhodes-White and David Shankland, will continue to be awarded in connection with these events.

One of the other major objectives of these new changes is to bring the large number of events now outside the ranking system, and as a result beyond the control of the LDR committee under the jurisdiction of the Committee. The ultimate result of these changes will, it is hoped mean an overal improvement for both competitors and organisers, and a general further improvement in standards across the whole spectrum of long distance racing.

Event organisers are advised to contact LDR Sectetary, Mrs. C. M. Laws, the 47 Bowgate, Gosbetton, Spalding, Lincs., as soon as possible with details of their event in order that the full 1974 programme, including events at all levels can be compiled and circulated as soon as possible.

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British Olympic Association A.G.M.



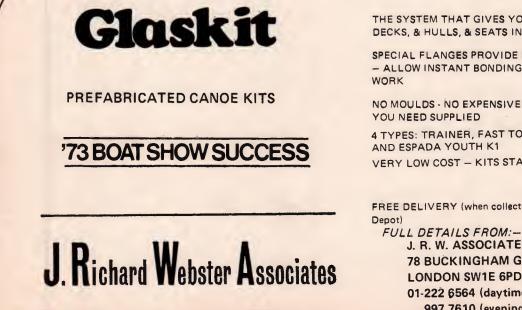
The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on June 27th. 1973 at the Waldorf Hotel, London, and was attended by 20 members of the Council of the B.O.A. and some 120 Individual Members. The Meeting approved the very

comprehensive Report of the Council which included a summary of the work of the Association in connection with the preparation and administration of the Great Britain Teams which took part in the Winter Games at Sapporo and the Summer Games at Munich; the Olympic Appeal; the provision for altitude training, and stressed the problems confronting the Olympic movement, problems which contributed to the decay of the Ancient Games - amateurism, commercialism, politics, excess nationalism and, what many feel is the excessive size of the Games.

It was reported that, financially, the Association had had a very successful year. The target of £250,000 for the Olympic Appeal had been exceeded with a gross return of £358,590. From this had to be deducted £47,370 to meet Corporation Tax requirements, and the cost of running the Appeal had amounted to £21,414 leaving a net total of £289,806.

The total expenses of Great Britain's Teams for Sapporo and Munich together with altitude training had taken £150,472. Taking these into account together with other expenses, the surplus funds had been allocated as follows:-£43,689 to capital reserves and available to meet the Team's expenses at the Winter Games 1976; £22,469 to general reserves for four years administration costs 1973-6; and £37,707 had been set aside for the Olympic Preparation Fund from which grants would be made to assist the teams in their preparation for 1976. This sum is three times that previously reserved for this purpose and would be increased if further money becomes available.

Lord Exeter, the President stressed that that Fund was designed to reinforce success for individuals as the time of the Games approached. The Meeting closed with the showing of an Olympic Film made available by the B.B.C. Television. J.W.D.



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Name



.....

11

RESULTS - REPORTS

CHELMER CANOE RACE

For the 22nd year this ever popular long distance cance race was held on Sunday June 3rd, and organised by the Chelmsford Boating Club. As has been the practice now for a number of years the race started below the sluices in Kings Head Meadow and finished at the Wave Bridge, Heybridge, a total distance of 13% miles. In that distance all the 10 locks were portaged. The entire course is over the River Chelmer.

Over 100 competitors took part in the race but the trend for them to compete in K1 and K2 racing craft rather than touring canoes continued this year with the result that the touring classes were rather small in numbers. As a result the average time per competitor continues to be reduced. There were many thrilling results as canoeists finished the race within minutes of their nearest competitor. The senior event (Senior 'A' K1) for which the trophy is the Essex Weekly News Trophy was won by C. Tatham after several years of trying. He is a familiar figure on the Chelmer scene as a regular competitor in the Chelmsford Boating Club's event. In this race he was closely pursued by J. Burr of Litchfield CC.

Local winner was Paul Fleming winning the Class 3B touring canoe class (Maldon & Burnham Standard Trophy) closely following him was Peter Harvey also of Chelmsford. Both these lads belong to Chelmsford's small, young but up and coming racing team.



SOUTHDOWN LONG DISTANCE CANOE RACE

(FORMERLY CHANDY CHALLENGE)

Last year's entry of 313, still remains the largest for a BCU ranking L.D. canoe race ever held in this country, this year saw an entry of 304 with 268 starters with the course class record being broken in 13 classes. The race was held in bright sunshine before a large crowd of spectators who especially enjoyed the thrills and spills of the river canoe polo match which resulted in a 7–1 win for Tilgate Youth Centre over the Sussex All Stars Team.

The 11½ mile paddle, on the River Arun, from Pullborough Public Ward to the Duke of Norfolk's Estate Arundel, attracted a variety of different canoe clubs, scout groups, Army, R.A.F., Schools, Sea Cadets as well as independent people. B. Perrett and S. Nash of Leighton Park

B. Perrett and S. Nash of Leighton Park School smashed the overall course record when winning Senior 'A' K2 in 1.19.48 and Leighton P.S. girls crew, L. Perrett and B. Lovell also won the Ladies K2 in record time of 1.45.01.

Senior 'A' K1 was won for the second year running by Alan Crossman of Aylesbury C.C. in the record time of 1.22.24. In class 2A Royal Engineers C.C. crew of A. Mower and C. Norton broke the class record in a time of 1.20.15 with the Eastbourne Veterans, R. Moore and R. Pearson, in 2nd place in a time of 1.21.30. In Junior K2 I. White and O. Harding of Longridge C.C. successfully held off the challenge of D. Powell and R. Kelleway of Worthing C.C. by just seven seconds to win in record time of 1.23.03. In class 1A K. Topham of Viking K.C. won in record time of 1.25.25 with a very promising 16 year old John Freeman of Thames C.C. in second place in 1.25.46.

Junior K1 was won by R. Frost of Bradford on Avon in 1.32.44 with R. Avery of Wey K.C. winning in Espada C in 1.46.05. The Holmes brothers, Guy and Graham, of Hove C.C. were the winners of Espada A and B respectively in times of 1.46.52 (a record) and 1.42.26.

Class 3A was won in record time of 1.32.50 by G. Mitchell of the Royal Engineers C.C. who just pipped veteran paddler Des Capps of Windsor C.C.

Class 3B was won in record time of 1.40.20 by Alan Fieldus of Wey K.C. Class 3C and 4C were paddled over

Class 3C and 4C were paddled over respectively by Linda Mitchell of 1st Burgess Hill S.G. and P. Samuels and L. Mantle of the 2nd Mortlake S.G. in times of 2.37.12 and 3.06.58.

Class 4A saw Malin and Matthews of Pangbourne Y. & R.T.C. break the record in 1.27.25 with B. McKeague and R. Rumney of the Royal Engineers second in 1.28.32 and just to show age was no barrier the Royal C.C. of F. Russell and K. Judd who admitted having left the Royal Engineers over 30 years ago were 3rd in 1.36.32. The Class 4B record went to Donohey and Kirkwood of R.A.F. Halton in 1.39.55.

In the Senior Slalom Class T. Horne broke the record in 1.45.15 and in the Junior Slalom Class there was a dead heat between R. Rose and R. Monger of Arethusa in 1.58.27. Trinity C.C. schoolgirl Sally Barlow did very well to win Class 5C in record time of 2.15.08.

The Scout under 16 Singles Shield was won by Stephen Johnson of 14th Tonbridge Sea Scouts in 1.46.12. The Scout under 16 Doubles Shield was won by R. Thomas and D. Bidmead of 14th Tonbridge Sea Scouts in 1.40.10. The top club to gain most national hasler trophy points were the Royal Engineers C.C. and the top Sussex club were Worthing C.C.

This year's Southdown L.D. canoe race was organised by 1st Burgess Hill Scout Group with financial support from the advertisers and the Chandy soft drink bottling company. Next year's race is provisionally booked for June 2nd 1974. Reg Atkins Bedford — Kings Lynn Race This race was started by the Viking Kayak Club in 1972 when it attracted four entries. The race is restricted to senior paddlers, ie. over 18 years of age (January 1st) in any type of double canoe. Distance is just over 72 miles and up until last years race, the record time for the trip was held by Messrs. Hulatt and Mears who now reside in Bromham with a time of around 14 hours 45 minutes, set in 1939 but not in a race. The winning crew last year, Perrett and Freeman from Reading set a new record of 12 hours 23 minutes and our Viking pair D. Train and B. Holman were second in 13 hours 17 minutes, the winning crew paddled a K.2 and the second pair paddled a slower class 4 double.

The 1973 race will take place on November 11th when it will not clash with any other major race. The start will be from Bedford Town Bridge at around 2.00 a.m. (yes A.M.) and the finish is at The Ferry steps Kings Lynn. We anticipate a time well within twelve hours if the conditions are right and if we have calculated the tide times at Erith correctly. Of the seventy-two miles, thirty-six are tidal down the Hundred Foot cut from Erith and there are thirteen portages in the first half of the course.

JEFF WRAGG CANOE SURFING IN AUSTRALIA.

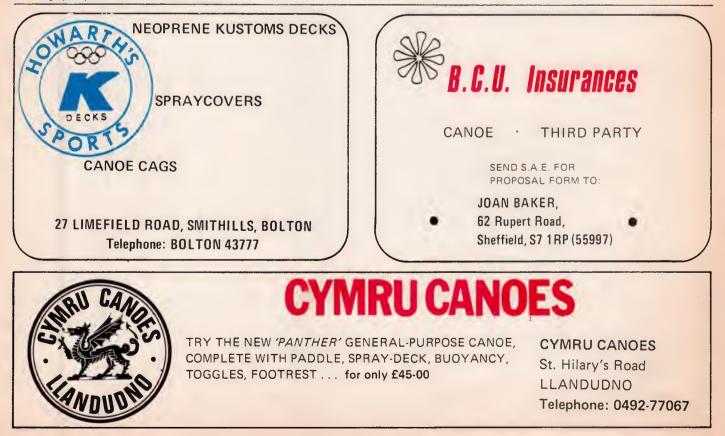
Jeff sends us this picture taken at Mylestrom beach 350 miles north of Sydney. Perfect surf conditions, waves not too full and surf around 6–10 feet during the day. Formerly with Birmingham C.C. and a P.E. teacher at Wolverhampton, Jeff also produced an excellent article which we hope to print in a future edition of C. in B.





RICHMOND WATERFALL, RIVER SWALE, YORKSHIRE.

The task of negotiating the fall in these low conditions demands most thorough scrutiny beforehand. Only very small areas of the plunge pools are deep enough, as this canoeist, John Wickersham of Tees kayak Club, learnt to his cost on an earlier "hull-splitting" attempt! Photograph by John K. Harbron,







Seahawk Sea Touring Kayak.

A.C. PRODUCTS (CHESTER) LTD.

New paddles and oars are now being manufactured in high impact structural foam by A.C. PRODUCTS (CHESTER) LTD., who recently introduced a new canoeing crash helmet made of high impact nylon.

These blades, which are injection moulded, are curved to give greater velocity through the water and, being made of structural foam, they will not sink. The blades are designed to slot into light PVC coated alloy tube and may be used as canoe paddles or small dinghy oars. They are extremely durable and require no varnishing or maintenance. They will be ideal for schools, youth groups, etc. where hard wear and constant use are to be expected.

The blades are supplied either individually or assembled in a PVC coated tube and come in three colours: Orange, Blue and Natural 'Wood', the price of an assembled set being £3.80 + VAT and £1.50 + VAT per end.

NEWS FROM TRYLON

Development of the new SEAHAWK sea touring kayak, designed by Dave Whitelaw, is almost completed. This new design, intended for sea touring and expedition work, is aimed at club level and schools. The kayak is 16'9" in length and 22" beam. Moulds will cost £70 and will be available for purchase or hire shortly. This kayak is easily built by 'homebuilders', and materials will cost from £12 each. The photograph also illustrates some of the canoe accessories available from Trylon. Paddle Kits £2.40 each, B.S.I. Life Jackets £7.60, Ace Crash Hats £2.70, nylon-neoprene Spray Covers £2.25. All these prices are subject to the addition of VAT.

For further details write to TRYLON LIMITED, Wollaston, Northamptonshire, NN9 7QJ. Tel. Wollaston (093-363) 275.

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Customers wishing to call should telephone V.C.P's Ruddington Workshop first – just to check they have moved – as the actual removal date is not yet fixed.

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Bedford Youth - a busy scene

Photo - D. J. Lewis

SOUTH AFRICAN RIVER TRIP

CHECK LIST Sunburn tablets . . . yes Snake bite kit . . . yes Enough patchkit to join a broken boat . . . yes

The start of a canoe trip in South Africa is a little different from Britain and as you can see I wondered what I was letting myself in for.

I have been in South Africa for 18 months but as yet have not sampled white water here as the Eastern Cape, where I live, is renowned for its dry rivers. Natal (where the good water is) means driving 1,000 miles and it isn't possible very often, so instead I have been paddling in the surf which is quite hairy compared with my old hunting ground — Northumberland.

This year the Umkomaas trip was on for me and I was chewing at the paddle to get away. We started the trip where the main Durban-Cape Town road crosses the river and from then to the sea (100 miles away) we didn't see another bit of 'white' civilisation. If a boat is broken you either join it - as

If a boat is broken you either join it — as was necessary in one case — or 'walk out' — as another bloke did. The former one I would prefer if any choice had to be made since the 'bush' in the Umkomaas Valley is very forbidding. The first sight of the river gave me some idea of what the next few days had in store. It was 2—3 ft. above normal level, although not in flood, and was 150 ft. wide and flowing very fast. The Umkomaas River has the biggest volume of water of any of the South African rivers. The first rapid was taken very gingerly and the white water boat was jumping around like a skyrocket. The most noticeable thing I found was that if you came out, then getting to the bank with boat, paddles and self, took quite an effort in these fast water conditions. It seemed as though we were continuously in either rapid or heavy water for the whole of that morning and lunch was taken as a welcome break.

We were stopping frequently to film (both slides and cine) and this took some time.

The rapids on the Umkomaas are all named — Old Buck, Whirlpool, Pompamani, and a lot of them were Grade 4 in these conditions. Pompamani, being a real 'hairy' one of about 200 yards in length and Grade 3–4 all the way.

We camped on an island between two rapids that night and had quite a bit of patching to do. One boat needing almost a complete front end. It was a fabulous warm, clear, starlight night with the whole galaxy shining brighter than ever would be possible if you were in a city.

Next morning we were off by 9.00 and straight into heavy water with a cold wave of water to waken us up. The whole of the day was spent in fast water with the occasional bit of drama if someone took the wrong line or was forced into a different stream by pure flow of water. Again that night we camped on an island and savoured the beauty of the heavens.

 The last day dawned with a heavy mist over the Valley which soon cleared to reveal another beautiful hot day. The first thing we came across was 'The Big Wave'. "Nothing to it" said Norman, "Just a big stopper wave". He told me later that he was told the same thing on his Umkomaas trip. Well, I paddled into this thing hell for leather and then I disappeared. First I came out of the stopper then several minutes later my boat came out what a wave. Another bloke actually stopped in the wave and on the replay of the cine we counted 25 paddle strokes before he cleared it.

Next came the 'Waterfall'. A sudden silence had come over everyone as we approached and the first sight we had was a spray and rainbow in the distance. Out we tumbled and carried around for ¼ mile before going back to see what we had missed. A beautiful fall, 60 ft. high and pouring thousands upon thousands of gallons of water over its lip, which someone is reputed to have shot in a cance!!

The last main rapid we came across was 'Whirlpool'. On low water conditions this is exactly what it is, but in high water it was a raging torrent of water with deadly rocks placed in its length. This was the most spectacular rapid we had come across and a lot of time was spent filming.

Then the trip was more of less over. A weir, a couple of rocky stretches, and a 10 mile flat water paddle to the mouth.

So ended my first South African canoe trip, and what an experience NOW FOR A PINT!

Peter Coulson BCU Senior Instructor Port Elizabeth, South Africa

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Please Note!!

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- GLASS RANGER, 9 months old, overstern rudder. £50 o.n.o. Telephone Staines 51757.
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SITUATIONS VACANT

HAMPSHIRE

Calshot Activities Centre

HEAD OF CANOEING

Vacancy exists for Head of Canoeing at Calshot (present holder attending Academic Course for one year). Applicants should be B.C.U. Coach (Sea) Standard, or Senior Instructor (Sea) or equivalent and preferably be qualified teachers. Salary, Burnham Scale III (£1,718-£2,658) - 1973 Scale. In addition the post carries an extraneous duties allowance at present of £427 p.a.

Calshot Activities Centre has a residential capacity of 60, some 800 day use students a week and operates as a Sports Centre open to the public in the evenings. The successful applicant will have overall responsibility for running residential, day-use, and F.E. courses in canoeing from April to November. From November to March the Centre is land-based. The person appointed will be expected to take part in recreational activity courses, which includes Ski-ing, Climbing, Archery, .22 Shooting, Badminton, Roller Hockey, 5-a-side Football and Track Cycling. Competence to teach any of these pursuits would be an added advantage.

Application forms and particulars are available from The Warden, Calshot Activities Centre, The Spit, Calshot, Southampton, SO4 1BR to whom applications should be returned, completed, within three weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

CANOEING INSTRUCTOR with B.C.U. Senior Instructors Qualifications required. Apply to P. Barnard, Drake's Island Adventure Centre, Western House, Millbay Docks, Plymouth.

TWO YOUNG GIRLS required for a residential Outdoor Pursuits Centre in the Lake District. The posts are living in, and the duties will include cooking, cleaning and helping with school groups. Girls with interests in Outdoor Pursuits would be particularly suited to these posts as there will be opportunities to enter fully into the life of the Centre. Wages £15 per week, plus board and accommodation. Apply The Principal, Lake District Outdoor Education Centre, Fallbarrow Hall, Rayrigg Road, Bowness on Windermere, Westmorland.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUILDFORD CANOEISTS

Please note that the OPEN/NOVICE slalom at Guildford on 15/16 September 1973 has been changed to a DIVISION 4/NOVICE event.

In order to incorporate a team event in the programme, the Division 4 event will be restricted to 100 competitors and will take place on Saturday 15 September. The Novice event will be held on Sunday 16 September.

Entries to S. J. Penfound, 41 Coopers Rise, Godalming, Surrey.

CAMBRIDGE L.D. RACE

Sunday 28th October, 1973

SENIORS 12 MILES : 2 PORTAGES

JUNIORS AND LADIES 8 MILES : 2 PORTAGES

ENTRIES TO:-

R. C. Buckley, Wolfson Building, Trinity College, Cambridge, CB2 1TQ.

ROYAL DEESIDE W.W. RACE

28th October, 1973

K1 and C1 Events - 30p C2 Event - 40p

Entries to:-

A. MANWELL, BUTCHART RECREATION CENTRE, UNIVERSITY ROAD, OLD ABERDEEN.

NATIONAL CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS 1974

The National Canoe Polo Championships will again form an important part of the Canoe Exhibition at the Crystal Palace.

Eliminating rounds will take place as last year in regions, and entries should be sent to K. D. Clark, Denstone College, Uttoxeter, Staffs. before the 1st October.

All competitors must be members of the British Canoe Union.

INTER-SERVICES SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS (September 1973)

Service personnel are reminded that the proposal to hold this event at Grandtully meets with the strong disapproval of the BCU Slalom Committee and Council.

Persons competing under these conditions will render themselves liable to suspension from future events.

It has been suggested that the event be re-arranged, perhaps at Thistlebrigg. M. J. Markham

Chairman, Slalom Committee



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Bath to Bradford on Avon Photo - D. J. Lewis

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Last week, on a duly authorised trip on the River Dee (Wales) I was accosted by an irate, shouting, gun-waving water bailiff, who frightened myself and my twelve novice students considerably.

It took me half an hour of chat to make friends with this man and it turned out that 3 weeks previously an unauthorised group had made rude gestures and paddled away when he asked them to stop. It is easy to see how the fisherman versus canoeist battle develops, but I don't think it is necessary to heap coals on the fire to this extent. I feel just as angry as anyone else that I can't get on rivers whenever I like, but I swallow my pride and make friends if it keeps the peace.

I wish others would do the same.

Anne Seel B.C.U. Coach

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> UNIT 3 CLARENDON TRADING ESTATE CLARENDON ROAD HYDE, CHESHIRE, SK14 2LJ. 061-368 9216

OPEN 8.30 - 4.30 WEEKDAYS WEEKENDS BY ARRANGEMENT. Dear Sir,

On the 22nd June 1972 the outdoor pursuits centre at which I work purchased a cance trailer from Self Drive Caravans Ltd., Watling Works, 88 Parkstreet Village, Near St. Albans. We particularly wanted a strong trailer which would transport up to nineteen cances, and as such we were told that this particular model had been tested by the Armed Forces who were impressed with its performance.

We used the trailer during the summer and when we stopped canoeing at the end of October it became very apparent that several important defects had developed. On the 12th January 1973 I wrote to the firm outlining the problems. In particular I mentioned:

-insufficient ground clearance culminating in the brakes being put out of action within one month of purchasing the trailer.

-the working loose of the two boxes which have been screwed rather than bolted to the chasis. (Subsequently we have had to completely rebuild one of these boxes.) -the hinges on the boxes rusting through.

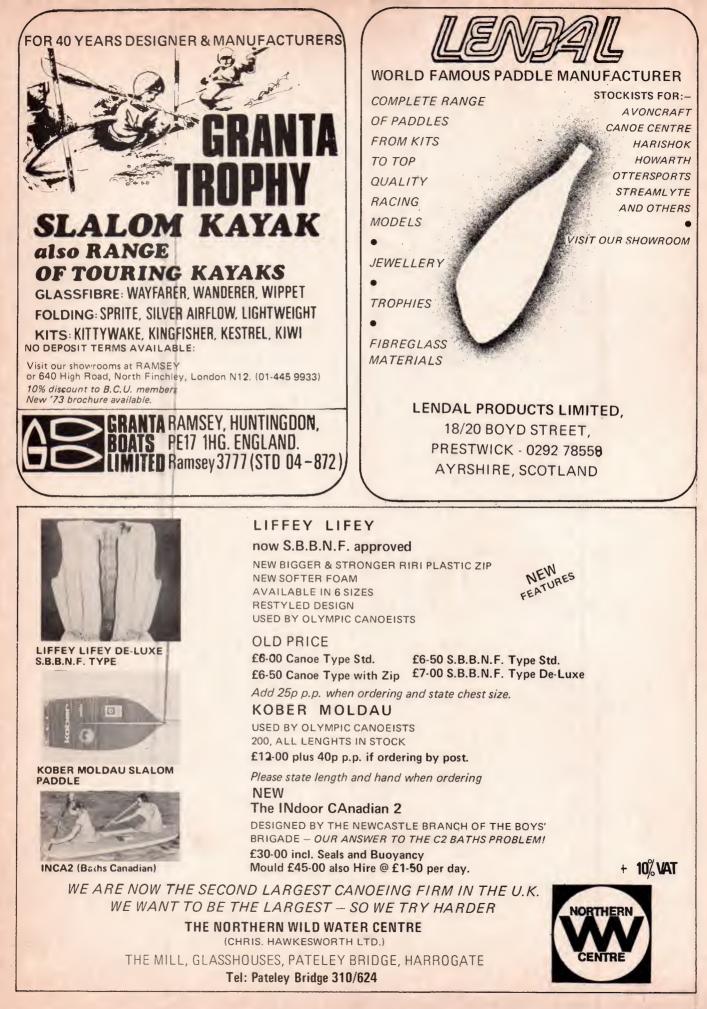
(The process is now complete.) —the canoe support bars, which tilt up at the end, filling with water, and the protective covering coming off.

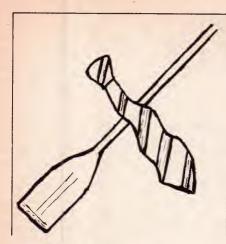
-most important of all, the tubular uprights, where they link with the horizontal towing bars, having completely sheared at one end of the trailer, hence rendering the whole contraption potentially very dangerous.

The letter brought forth no reply. In the twenty-one weeks which have elapsed since then I have telephoned the firm regularly. On most occasions I have been told everything is in hand but, in spite of promises, never have they contacted me. When I became suspicious that Self Drive Caravans Ltd. had no genuine intention of doing anything I started to record the date whenever I telephoned. The dates include sometime between 12 and 16 March, 23 April, 4 May, and 24 May. On the last occasion Mr. Babcock promised to telephone me back the following day but of course did not.

We are now well into the canoe season and, reluctant as I am to accept the fact that the firm does not intend to do anything about this catastrophic canoe trailer, we will have to do extensive repair work ourselves. I am writing this letter in the hope that B.C.U. members, outdoor pursuit centres, youth groups, schools etc. may learn something from my experience.

> The Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Nant Bwlch yr Haearn, LLANRWST, Denbighshire.





CANOEING IN THE COLLEGES

Over the last few years student canoeing competitions have been held under the titles of BUCA (British Universities Canoe Association), BPSA (British Polytechnics Sports Association) and BCSA (British Colleges Sports Association). The last named two organisations combined to run a slalom championship at Matlock last year and after the event a meeting took place to discuss the future of canoeing in the colleges. Briefly, the outcome of this was to try to unite all types of colleges, i.e. colleges of education, polytechnics, technical colleges, etc., etc., in order that they could compete in combined events of a higher quality. At the British Universities Sports Federation (BUSF) slalom championships in March, the A.G.M. held there changed the title of BUCA to BUCCA (British Universities and Colleges Canoeing Association) and it is under this title that next year's student competitions will be held. The provisional dates and arrangements for them are as follows:

December 16th, 1973. White water race championships on the River Dee at Llangollen.

On a date not yet fixed the L.D. and sprint championships to be held on the River Trent and Holme Pierrepont. Mid-March – a Slalom to be held at Ironbridge.

These events are open to all full time students of polytechnics and colleges that are affiliated to BUCCA. Full details of these events will be made available to all colleges that affiliate (fee £1) and enquiries for further details can be made to Mike Jones, (Chairman, BUCCA), c/o Athletics Union, Birmingham University. G. A. Cherry, The Hatfield Polytechnic, P. E. Department, P. O. Box 109, Hatfield, Herts. will be happy to liaise and pass on enquiries from colleges in the London area. G. A. Cherry

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

BCU MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM	Block Letters Please
Name (Mr./Mrs./Miss)	
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)	
Membership Fees: (including VAT) Note: Family membership is only applicable to members o least ONE is a FULL member.	•
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£	р.
Signature: FOR	BCUUSE
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 w Cheque for the appropriate amount to:	vith a Postal Order or

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.

F YOU ARE ALREADY & MEMBER - PERSUADE YOUR FRIEND TO JOIN!

"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

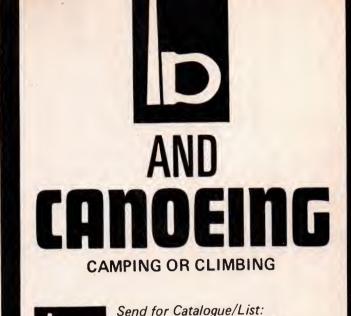
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CANOEING BOOKS

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.



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TAIN CENTRE

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