

CANOEING

IN BRITAIN 25P

No. 92 OCT/NOV 1974



**INTERNATIONAL NEWS
PADDLES REVIEW
CLUB CHAT**

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CHANGES AT HEAD OFFICE



After our move from 26, Park Crescent into more spacious offices at 70, Brompton Road, London, it became possible for the Director of Coaching to bring his office from his home at Henley-on-Thames into the central office. This he did on the 15th of May.

On the 14th June, on a visit to our Head Office by the Chairman of the Council and our Honorary Treasurer; Mr. Tudor Williams our General Secretary resigned, and the Director of Coaching was asked if he would temporarily fill the gap until other arrangements were made. Messages of thanks were passed to Mr. Tudor Williams for the hard work he had put in while he had been with the B.C.U. as General Secretary and for the service that he had rendered us during that period.

On investigating the situation in the General Office the Director of Coaching, Oliver Cock, realised that certain problems had been allowed to rest which now needed speedy solving. The office, too, needed some re-organisation and tidying up. Mr. Cock immediately called on the assistance of Mr. P. G. T. Butler who had previously done an audit of membership for us. Mr. Butler was given the specific task of sorting out annual subscriptions by bankers' orders. He has since taken on certain other tasks and is proving himself a very valuable temporary member of staff.

After four years of very valuable

service with us, we are very sorry that Mrs. Barbara Boyer is shortly to leave us as she is expecting a baby. We can honestly say that Mrs. Boyer's service to us has been of the very highest, and her knowledge of the workings of the B.C.U. has got us out of difficulties many times. We are going to miss her at Head Office very much, not least for her wonderful memory of what has occurred in the past.

At the time of writing we have not yet found a replacement for Mrs. Boyer; but we have put out enquiries to many employment agencies and we are hopeful of finding somebody soon.

In the way of office management we have been lucky in that Mr. Jack E. D. Travers, T.D., has expressed an interest in joining us. Mr. Travers has long been in the canoeing world, and he has a good knowledge of the B.C.U., having been chairman of the Corps of Canoe Lifeguards, representing them on the National Coaching Committee and on the Council. At present he is the Principal of the Premises and Purchasing Department of Messrs. Morgan Grenfell & Co., Ltd., merchant bankers. Indeed, he has supplied our offices with a great part of our furniture, second hand from his Bank, for which we are most grateful. It will be a pleasure to have with us someone who not only knows about office management but also knows the ways of canoeists. All

It is with pleasure that we can confirm that the Annual National Canoe Exhibition and Conference will again take place at the Crystal Palace, on the weekend of the 22nd/23rd February, 1975.

The response to a letter from us, inviting members of the Trade to join us once again has been very encouraging, and we are sure that our affiliated members will support us as they always have done. There will be the usual demonstrations and events in the swimming baths, and there may even be an opportunity for ordinary people to try their hand at rolling under expert supervision. There will, of course, be the usual final rounds of the National Canoe Polo Championships.

Volunteers will be required to man some of the stands, so if you have a flare of interest in some aspect of canoeing, and would like to "sell" it as well as get a free entry ticket to the exhibition, please let us know and we will do our best to fit you in. Write to Head Office about this, please and we will pass your letter on to the right department.

Party booking will be available as usual. It seems unlikely that there will once again be a fuel crisis all at the same time, so make your plans now, and expect a warm welcome at the Palace.

Watch these pages! Through them we will keep you fully informed of our progress.

being well, Mr. Travers will be joining us at the end of October.

We believe we are reasonably on top of our job at Head Office. We have already mentioned our most seriously outstanding section: That of members who have asked for their annual subscriptions to be paid by bankers' orders. Mr. Butler has had to employ a great deal of detective work to get the things sorted out. Nevertheless, we hope that those of you who paid your annual subscriptions for the year 1973/74 by banker's order and have still not got their membership cards will bear with is a little bit longer. We are honestly doing our best. We still await replies from some of those to whom we have written.

As to the remainder, if anybody who has sent in a subscription or given us an order longer ago than about a month — remembering the delays that occur in the Post Office — and have still not heard from us would care to drop us a postcard to this effect, we will look into the matter thoroughly and let you know the situation as we see it at this end as soon as we possibly can. You should hear from us within a week — always remembering the delays that occur in the Post Office!

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Canoeing in Britain is published in March, June, September and December, by Ocean Publications Ltd, 34 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 0RE (01-834-3511/3430). Comments, articles, photographs and reports are welcomed, and should arrive by the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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Advertisement copy should arrive by the 1st February, May, August and November for the March, June, Sept. and December issues respectively.

FRONT COVER:— Steve Brown shooting the final hazard in the Desert of the River Sella in Spain.

Enquiries regarding non-receipt of magazine, notification of changes of address and general enquiries should be sent, quoting your membership number, to the General Secretary. Names and addresses of the principal officers of the British Canoe Union can be found on the B.C.U. Calendar, published in March.

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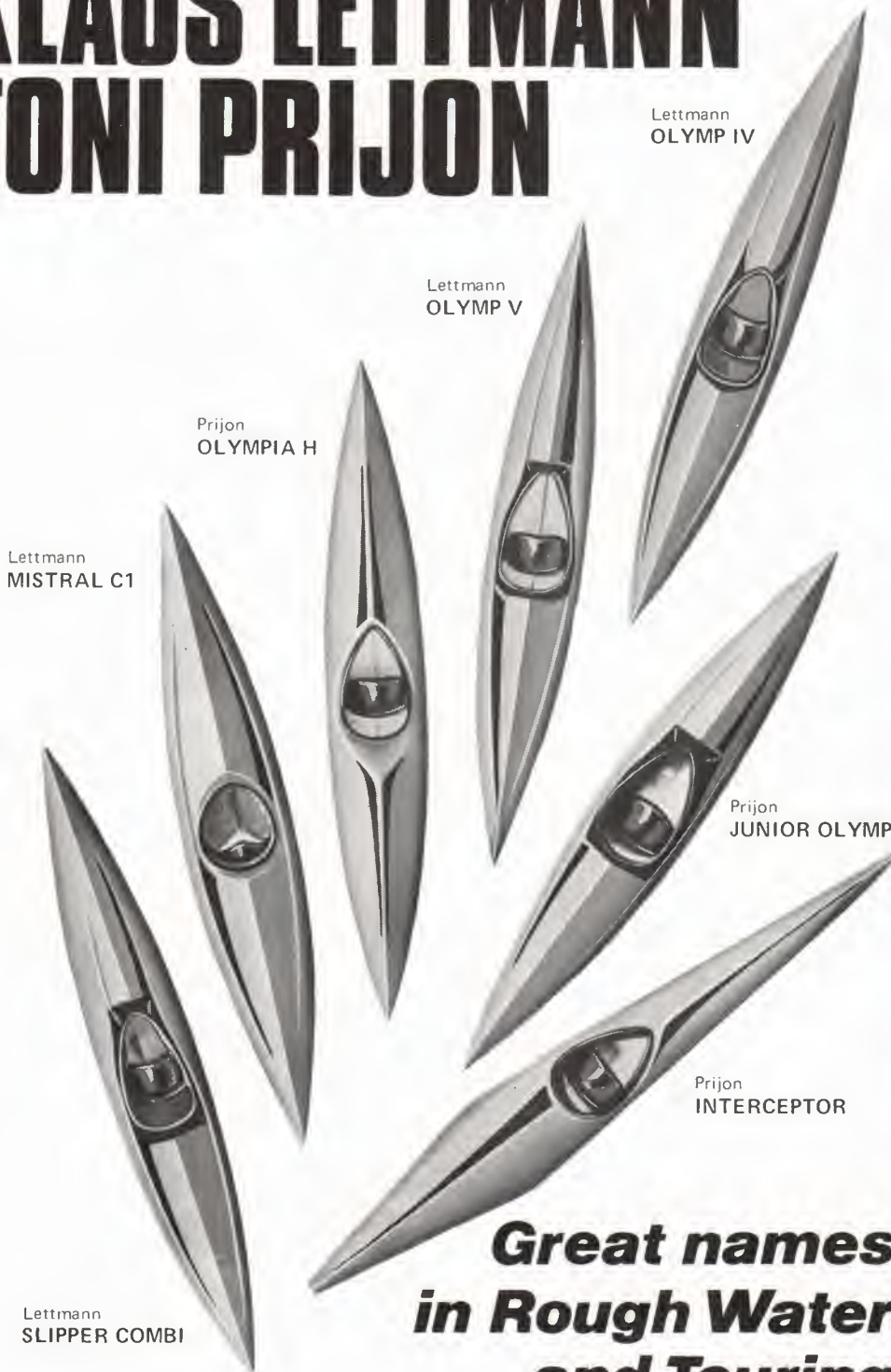
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LETTERS

Dear Sir,
I was disappointed to read in the June edition of C in B that the request by Guildford Canoeists to run a ranking Div. 4/novice slalom has been refused. As a competitor in last year's Guildford slalom I found the organisation very efficient, all events ran smoothly and the results were posted promptly.

Since this is one of the few slalom sites within easy reach of London and the South it seems a shame that younger paddlers, who find transport problems especially difficult, should be deprived of a local ranking competition.

I hope the Slalom Committee will reconsider their decision and again allow ranking competitions to be held at Guildford.

Leatherhead Clive Clark
BCU Senior Instructor

Dear Sirs,
I would like to add my support to Guildford Canoeists in their minor dispute with the Slalom and W.W. Racing Committee.

Regarding Guildford Slalom last year, the event was well run on the day, and was enjoyed by many. If the results were received late, then there is a system of fine-penalties which could have been invoked, rather

than curtailing a club's efforts to promote a ranking event in the South East, presently a slalom desert.

It is probably regretted by all concerned that Guildford Canoeists were not extended the courtesy of receiving a proper explanation for the rejection of their application for ranking status.

I speak on behalf of my club in saying that we hope and trust that the Slalom and W.W. Racing Committee will reverse their decision for next year's calendar, and that Guildford Canoeists' enthusiasm is not dampened.

Incidentally, the small scale non-ranking event held by Guildford recently in place of their proposed ranking event ran like clockwork.

Ian Townsend,
Brighton Cruising Club

Dear Mr. Levison,
I realise that you have taken over the magazine again for a while and I do not want to "knock" what you are doing but I make the following observation.

The cover of a magazine is very important, it should attract and arouse interest. One should be encouraged to open the magazine. The cover should also reflect the present day image of our sport.

On these two points I object strongly to the picture

as shown on the June/July issue of C in Britain. I see no reason why this photo of canoeing in the mid 50's should not appear within the magazine and labelled flash back. True this is how canoeing began to evolve but the image that it portrays does not do justice to contemporary canoeing. The centre page would be more suitable.

Ipswich R. N. Castle,
BCU Coach.

Dear Sirs,
Firstly may I say how much I welcome the proposals to produce CinB at two monthly intervals. This is a long overdue improvement and will help in a small way to keep news up to date and improve the status of our magazine. I read in the Coaching Newsletter that you may be including that publication into CinB and must say that coaching news at two monthly intervals rather than six monthly intervals will also be a welcome improvement. May I wish you the best of luck in this venture and formidable task.

Secondly may I, through the pages of the September edition of CinB, make the following comments on the subject of touring:

'In recent months I have read, in various publications, of the very small numbers of club canoeists who actually

tour. Touring secretaries continue to write of the nice trip they organised and enjoyed on their own. In my own case from a club of seventeen touring adults we vary in support from thirteen to two which does seem a little above the average.

I consider that there is a need to distinguish between potterers and tourers. The BCU classifies all non-competitors as tourers and clearly this is not correct. I suggest that a tourer is a person who canoes different waters covering around fifteen miles on an average day run and/or canoe camps and in one year logs in excess of one hundred miles of non-repeated water. In view of the relatively small number of tourers I would suggest that they should get together on a national basis, under the general control of the BCU Touring Committee, and organise their trips on a regional basis. If I were to receive sufficient support for this idea I would like to include an invitation, in the December edition of CinB, to all interested persons to attend the BCU AGM and would ask the Touring Committee to make space and time available to hold an inaugural meeting.'

Olney Colin M. W. Kempson



Pictured this month is the highly superior club house which **Midland C.C.** have assembled after a chunk of concerted effort and grant-aid.

Beside the clubhouse is a separate boat store, and a toilet/generator block is being constructed. At the far end of the clubhouse is (would you believe) a 3-lane slide (for the kids) and the Club Tree (?) Other clubs please copy.

★ ★ ★

Follows a quotation from the newsletter from the

Birmingham Canoe Club dated 22nd May 1974. They give a number of reports of both competitions and tours which the club has done. One of these reads:—

"*Inebriate's Run, Hampton Loade - Arley 12th May. Hic!*"

★ ★ ★

Four class records were smashed in the 1st **BURGESS HILL SCOUT GROUP'S** Southdown Race in June. 263 paddlers actually completed the course, and

Ladies K2 crew Barbara Lovell/Linda Perrett achieved an interesting result by beating all the boys' crews in the Junior K2 event in which they were placed with the exception of their **LEIGHTON PARK SCHOOL** team mates B. Kinch/M. Davis.

★ ★ ★

Leeds C.C. have submitted a detailed report to the Director of Sport in Leeds on the leisure potential of the Leeds/Liverpool Canal and The R. Aire. They have a moan in their newsletter about unauthorised borrowing of gear (an old complaint) and vandalism on a canoe — from within the club. Until now we always thought the pathetic creatures who did this sort of thing were the ones who *didn't* join organisations.

★ ★ ★

Shrewsbury C.C. had a good week in Pembrokeshire this year. Mike Callow describes an episode in their newsletter: "Two sea miles and 2,000 waves later, we reached the shelter of Ramsey Island and turned north up the Sound. It was like stepping on a train! We flashed past such

well known landmarks as the Bitches and Horse Rock at an incredible rate; but up ahead something stirred and heaved... an enormous wall of water with surf waves lay right across our path. The current which passes westward of Ramsey Sound was being blown back by the strong winds and piled on top of the 6 knot Ramsey Sound tide race. Soon we were in the middle of it. Great surfing waves boiled up out of nowhere and we had an exciting half-mile paddle to round Point St. John."

★ ★ ★

The **Royal Canoe Club** Paddling Challenge Cup Centenary race, held at Teddington on July 29th, attracted a record number of 95 racing canoeists from various parts of the country to compete for this magnificent silver cup which is the world's oldest canoeing trophy.

The race, held over a 10,000 metre course was won by Doug. Parnham (Richmond) from John Fowler (Royal) and Eric Farrell (Royal). In addition to many prizes all finishers received a commemorative

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plaque.

At the I.C.F. Jubilee regatta, held at Duisburg, the G.B. sprint team included 6 of the club paddlers – six of their international canoe sailors also took part.

A cloudburst coincided with the start of the 35 miles Royal Marathon, held on the Thames from Longridge (Marlow) to Teddington on August. 4th and heavy rain continued throughout the race. The entry of the Dutch Long Distance Racing Team from Viking Club, Amsterdam, added an international flavour. Willie Reichenstien paddled the whole course in an international C1.

Despite atrocious conditions 25 of the 70 starters finished the course which included 13 portages.

As well as organising mini-LD races and Wimbledon Regatta, the newly-formed **London Schools Canoeing Association** is also running its own examination, at an Intermediate level between the B.C.U. Elementary and Proficiency. On obtaining the Award each person receives a Certificate and the Association's own badge.

For information about the L.S.C.A. contact Mrs. L. Hyde at the Hackney Free & Parochial Secondary School, Paragon Road, Hackney, London E9 6NR.

Although within the boundaries of the London Borough of Harrow there is no suitable water for canoes, canoe courses in both building and training operate throughout the year.

Harrow Youth and Community Service Canoe Section is a thriving organisation, and over the past fourteen years the Borough has organised long distance races on the Grand Union Canal. The first race attracted only six competitors, this year there were about 200 entries.



Storey/Clarke of Royal Signals successfully shooting a lock in the Bedford-Stilleats Long Distance race, whilst in the lead, closely followed by Royal C.C. crew, Lawrence/Farrell
Photo: Roger Davey



IC NEWS:
Meanwhile the IC flourishes. This year has seen more enthusiastic sailing than ever before, with a National Training Team being created to aim specifically at the world championships 1975 – Hayling Island.

Birmingham Canoe Club. The training started at Birmingham in March with a five race mini open event dominated by Peter Hunter showing early season form by winning all races.

In April the training squad attended the Grafham Residential Centre where video tape and their excellent facilities aided the sailors to understand and tune their craft better.

The two major summer open events Harwich and Stone were held in May and

June, following the Royal C.C. Knowles Bowl won by Peter Hunter after an exciting match race sail off against Peter Wells. Both the Harwich and Stone meetings were also indicator trials for the New York Trophy defence. Ken Davis our ancient mariner at the age of 52 showed that canoe sailing skill need not come only from the seamanship through years of experience. He won both event in light and heavy wind conditions. Ken, who served on Square Riggers in 1938/39 at the age of 15 only started canoe sailing in his forties. He has built many of his canoes including his present boat 'Tern.'

In the photo, Tony Marston sailing "Alfred the Great". Showing her new rig with self tacking jib, long luffed, short boomed mainsail.
Photo: Peter Wells

CALENDAR AMENDMENTS

OCTOBER 12
Canoe Orienteering, Hickling Broad, Norfolk. A. Cornford, Y.H.A. Damgate, Martham, Nr. Gt. Yarmouth.
NOVEMBER 10
Ouse Handicap L.D. Race. B7P4, Tier 4, Hatfield Poly C.C. (137) (Date changed from November 2nd).

TRESCA



The British Team seized on this Slalom Kayak and paddlers are now winning with it both at home and when travelling foreign. Production has now been increased to meet demand. This Kayak is built to the I.C.F. standards and was designed by Tony Young.

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Review of PADDLES

The last year has seen some considerable developments in paddle manufacture, and the beginner may well wonder which paddles he really ought to get, and how much he should expect to pay.

This review covers most of the blades available commercially in this country at present, although new models are being announced regularly, and at least one well-known manufacturer has plans to market a brand-new blade round about Christmas.

When choosing a double-ended paddle, for racing or touring, you should aim for such a length that you

can just wrap your fingers over the tip of the paddle when it is stood on end. For slalom and surfing, your whole wrist should go over the tip — in other words, about 3" shorter.

With some blades it is necessary to specify right or left-hand control — to check this, stand your present paddle on end with the spoon facing your feet. If the other spoon faces right, you will need a right hand control, and vice versa.

You will find the addresses of manufacturers and suppliers in the advertisement pages of this issue of C in B.



ACE touring and general purpose paddles injection moulded in glass reinforced structural foam polypropylene, in red or blue. No maintenance needed, and they are claimed to withstand more wear and tear than comparably-priced plywood-ended paddles. They float, and being of thicker section than other plastic and fibreglass paddle blades, do

not fibrillate in the water. Price complete with P.V.C. covered aluminium shaft, £3.90+V.A.T. Individual blades £1.50+V.A.T. Recommended for schools, scouts, etc. A similar flat paddle should be available shortly, and a larger bladed paddle for competition use is expected to cost about £7 complete. From A.C. Products (Chester) Ltd.



Left

7" wide Canadian blades made in Black ABS Thermoplastic by Ottersports. These are made either flat or curved, and are fitted to 1 1/4" aluminium tube shafts which are yellow P.V.C. coated and foam-filled. The handgrip is formed in ABS. Prices are £3.30 (4' 1"), £3.52 (4' 11") and £3.74 (5' 3"), all including V.A.T. Carriage extra 40p for one paddle, 50p for two.

Above

Ottersports 7" wide kayak paddles with flat or curved blades. Each blade has a deep centre rib moulded in ABS Thermoplastic, for strength and rigidity. No maintenance needed. P.V.C. covered aluminium shaft, foam filled. Specify left or right control for curved blades only. Made in two lengths — 6' 11" or 7' 6", all one price £4.95 incl. V.A.T.



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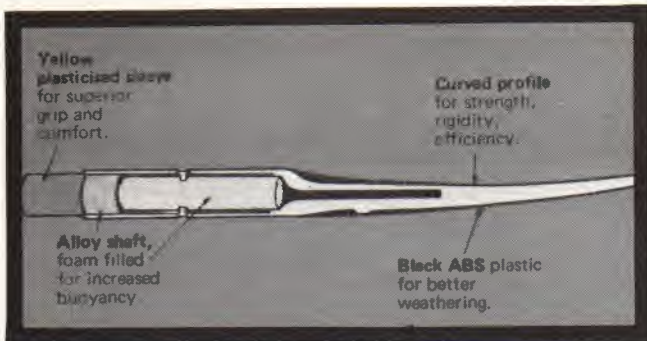
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Section through Ottersports A.B.S. Kayak blade.

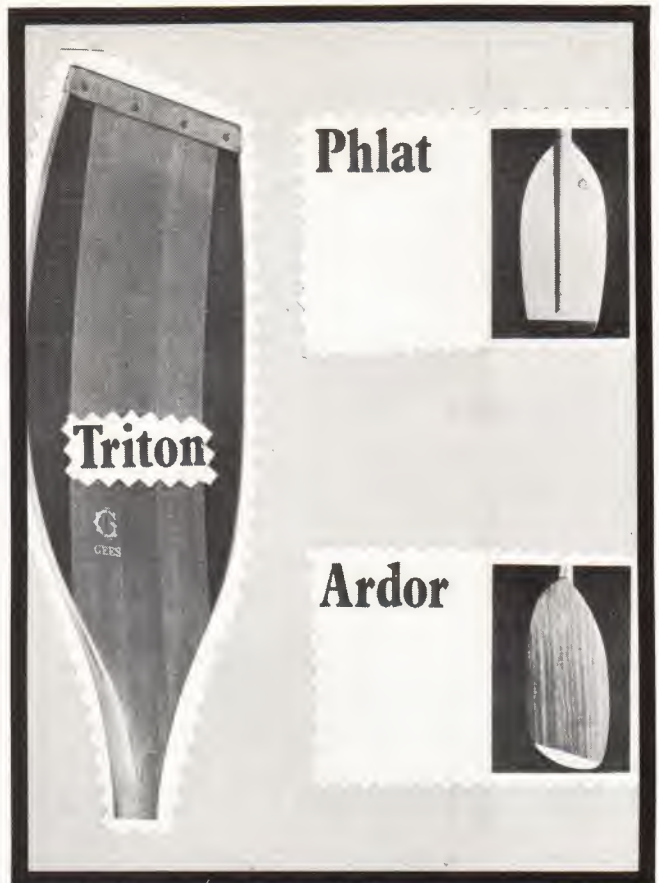


The first Wild Water Paddle was produced in October of 1973. This paddle has an oval shaft with fibreglass blades and during the first six months of production has been well received by canoeists. This has encouraged The Wild Water Centre to produce a wooden shafted fibreglass bladed paddle which has also had an

enthusiastic reception. A prototype of an all wood laminated paddle (centre) is now on trial and will be on the market September/October.

The alloy shafted glass bladed paddle retails at £7.50, the wooden shafted glass bladed paddle at £11, and the all wood laminated at £17, V.A.T. and carriage extra.

Pyranha Mouldings Ltd. offer a variety of paddles including A.B.S. paddles similar to those described elsewhere. At £4 per 6' 11" Kayak paddle (flat or curved) they are a robust and moderately priced product. Expect to add V.A.T. and carriage. For £5+V.A.T. they produce a paddle with strong fibreglass blades (E.P.4) tipped in alloy, mounted in a yellow oval alloy shaft, suitable for surfing, rolling and general thrashing about. The blades come in green, yellow, blue or red. Pyranha also supply Mark Gees and Lendal blades.



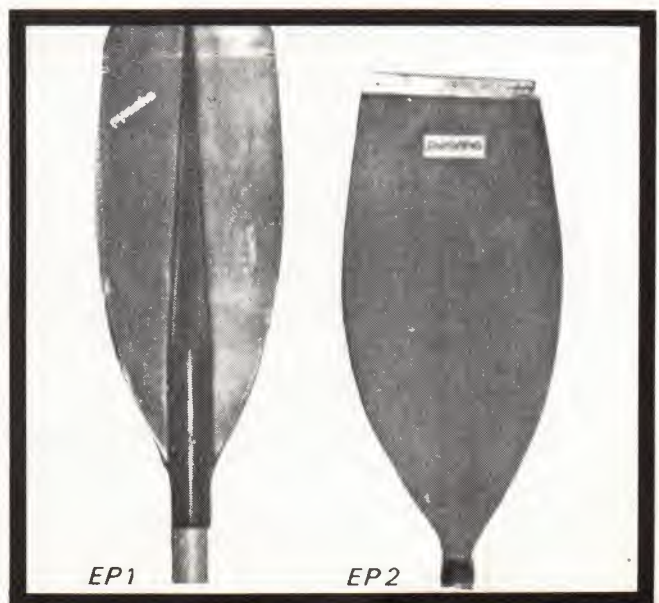
Mark Gees all wood paddles are the products of extensive testing and research. They are made from prime selected timbers and are hand-finished. Their most expensive model, the Triton slalom paddle is widely used. It consists of at least 20 laminations, the shaft of spruce with hardwood compression strips, the blade of spruce and mahogany with hardwood edges, hardwood crossgrain tip to the back of the blade, aluminium tipped for protection. The cost to you: £14.80 plus V.A.T.

Youth and Espada

paddlers might find the Ardor model suitable. A spruce shaft with hardwood compression strips carries moulded 3-ply blades with hardwood tips. Length to order, £10.40+V.A.T.

Phlat is a flat blade paddle kit of robust 5-ply construction, the shaft is ready to fit a plastic coated aluminium tube. Complete for £2.80+V.A.T.

In the near future Mark Gees expects to be able to offer a sprint racing paddle, and a slalom Canadian blade.





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Latest model in the slalom range, The Contra is of German design but British built! A low profile competition kayak ideal for the tight British course, but equally at home on the heaviest of rapids. Available in glassfibre or Diolen.

JAYCEE

WILD-CAT

The Jaycee Wild-Cat was used by both senior and junior winners of Surfing Championships throughout the year! Although designed for slalom, there can be little doubt that the Wild-Cat has proved to be one of finest of surfing kayaks.



JAYCEE

400 SUPER

The 400 Super — one of the most popular of the low-priced slalom and general purpose kayaks — is not only available as a completed production model, but also as a top value kit. The 400 Super is now used by many outdoor centres, education authorities, and youth groups.



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THE CANOE CENTRE (Twickenham) LTD

(Below)

Now available is the Sportsman Glass-coupled Polypropylene paddle from Topcraft Ltd. A smart paddle with orange spoon blades and black oval handgrip shaft, it sells for £8.64 including V.A.T., carriage 40p extra. It is available in 6' 10", 7' 0" and 7' 2" lengths. Don't forget to specify which control you want. Topcraft keep about 200 paddles in stock, including A.C., Jon Hyland, Ottersports, Mark Gee and Lendal.

The firm of Jenkins and Lancefield are at present developing several new lines in paddles, but were unable to supply details for this issue, and we hope to report on these at a later date.

Valley Canoe Products Ltd., no longer manufacture their own paddles as they feel that there are now sufficient, specialist paddle makers to adequately cover the market at competitive prices.

The full range that they hold in stock is as follows:

- (1) Lendal's Standard Flat Paddle, in kit form at £2.70: Assembled and varnished at £3.90; spare blades at 85p each. (General purpose paddle for centres and novices, cheap but strong.)
- (2) Lendal's Superior Curved Paddle, in kit form at £3.35: Assembled and varnished at £4.55; spare blades at £1.18 each. (Good g.p. or slalom blade with large area, very rigid.)
- (3) Lendal's Superior Asymmetrical Curved Paddle, in kit form at

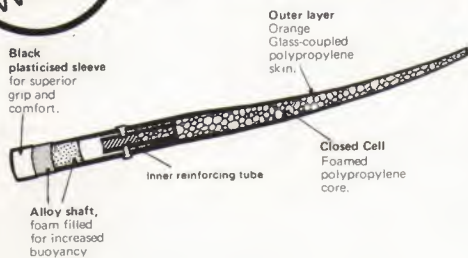
£4.00: Assembled and varnished at £4.75; spare blades at £1.50 each (inexpensive racing blade, also ideal for touring).

- (4) Ace plastic bladed paddle on alloy loom at £4.00 pair (strong g.p. paddle which needs no maintenance).
- (5) ABS black plastic paddle at £4.00 per pair with flat blades. (Ideal "knockabout" paddle for novices and centres. Needs no maintenance.)
- (6) As above but with curved blades.
- (7) Slipstreamer "resin moulded" paddle with glass-fibre blades on alloy loom at £7.40 as a kit or at £7.75 assembled on special "ovalled" loom. (V.C.P exclusive).
- (8) ABS black plastic

"Eskimo" or Junior paddle with narrow, flat blades at £4.00 per pair. (Ideal "spare" paddle for sea-canoeing as narrow blade cuts down the "beam-wind" problem. Also smaller blade area makes them very useful for the younger paddler).

- (9) Lendal Sprintmaster paddle at £12.96 of all wooden construction. (Top quality sprint or L.D. paddle.)
- (10) Mark Gee "TRITON" all wood slalom paddle at £14.80. (Top quality slalom or touring paddle.)

They also offer an "ovalling" service for all paddles with P.V.C. covered alloy looms. All prices quoted are ex-works, before the addition of V.A.T.



(Right)

Lendal Products offer a complete range of paddles for the canoeist from wooden kits, covering flat, curved and asymmetric shapes complete with 4' or 5' P.V.C. covered tubes, up to top quality racing paddles. They are currently working on two slalom paddle designs which will be on the market at the end of this year, plus a new concept in manufacturing design for the racing paddle, which is expected to be available in the New Year.

In their range of racing paddles Lendal offer two

types of shaft — wood or fibreglass. The latter are designed to give maximum flexibility with minimum weight, and are constructed with 70 per cent of the fibre running along the axis of the shaft giving exceptional longitudinal strength. The shaft will never tire, absorb water, or warp. A unique addition to the "Pacemaster" and "Whitewater" models is the patented handgrip. This moulded section is fitted to the shaft so that the user has a positive tactile indication of the attitude of the paddle



blades.

Lendal Sprintmaster (woodshaft racing paddle with stabilising rib in centre of spoon blade, 218 or 221 cms.) £12.96+V.A.T. Pacemaster similar, but with fibreglass shaft £14.90+V.A.T., should last a

bit longer. Whitewater down river asymmetric blade paddle, comes either with ash laminate oval-grip shaft, £10.20+V.A.T., or glass fibre shaft, 214 or 218 cms. price £13.58+V.A.T. In each case specify left or right control.



One of the rapidly increasing number of young slalomist competing on a course in Wales.

Photo by T. McLean



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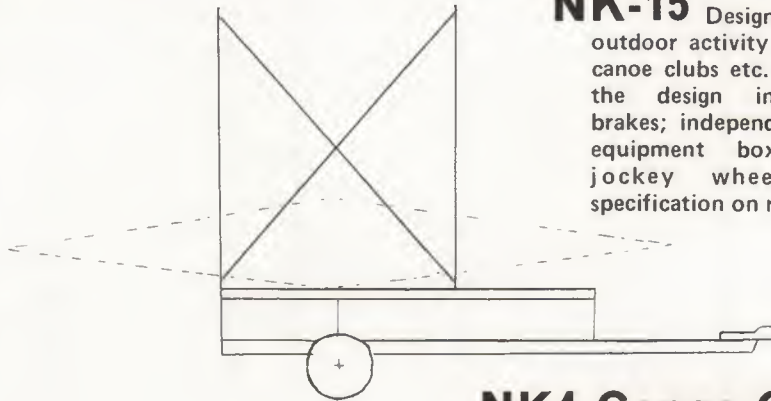
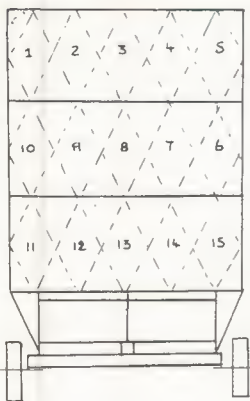
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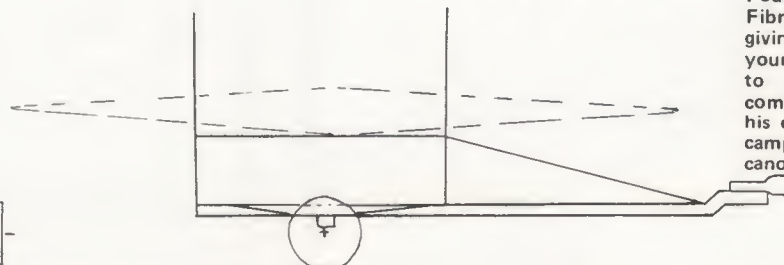
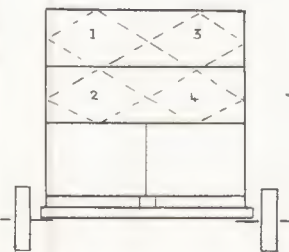
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NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Espada

There is now an Espada Award Scheme and the Secretary, to whom all correspondence about the scheme should be addressed is:

The Reverend Raymond Ball,
6 Station Road,
Tadcaster, York.

The Director remains as Director though what with boundary changes and STD his address is now: Bryntysilio, Llangollen, Clwyd. LL20 8BS. Tel: 0978-860454.

Mike Nadal is the registration secretary and cards should now be sent to him at Flat 5, 22/24 William Road, West Bridgford, Notts.

The remaining member of the Espada Committee which is responsible through the Competitive Committee to BCU Council is Dennis Clark who was nominated by the LD Committee. (Mike Nadal is the Sprint Committee's nomination).

Nine of the licensed manufacturers are now taking part in the scheme as far as is known the others have the option to do so but the only way in which the committee can know is by return of registration cards and the score of registered Espadas from moulds of the various manufacturers is as follows:

Trylon	114
Canoe Centre	96
Nottingham Kyak Club	32
Northern White Water Centre	25
Strand Glass	16

spooned blades or unspooned (yet curved along the length

Mills, working from boats. A Mills' scaffolder acts as a diver for underwater positioning and fixing of braces. We will forward any letters.

Eddie Banks

A note from Joseph Banks Ltd. of Warrington:

"Thanks for an excellent magazine — last month's advertisement has brought in quite a bit of extra business, and with only just breaking into canoe sport it is most welcome.

Yours faithfully,
Eddie Banks".

Thanks for the kind words Eddie. We sold a lot of extra magazines in July and have upped our print order again for this issue, so we hope to do even better for you in future. — Editor.

Repel

Do you suffer from flying-type creatures buzzing round your face whilst battling your way downstream? Do wasps settle lovingly on your person as you gobble your peach slices outside your tent? Do you come up in bumps from the dreaded midge-bites in Bonny Scotland?

Then you will be relieved to apply REPEL — a tissue sealed in a sachet which claims to give 4 hours protection.

face-moulded paddles — performance at minimum
£8.50 incl. V.A.T. for S2 practical price.

Interceptor was used to win the Bronze Medal in the Europa Cup White Water Race at Garmisch-Partenkirchen by Mrs. Pauline Goodwin.

The only regrettable factor about this development, is the immense cost of material and labour which make the price prohibitive.

BOOKS

The eagerly awaited new guide to the famous Verdon River in Southern France, "Le Guide Des Gorges Du Verdon", was published in England early in July. The guide, of 11¼" x 8¼" format, printed on coated paper, and containing over a hundred full colour photographs and some 37 line diagrams in anything up to seven colours, must surely be the most superb guide ever published on a single river.

The guide takes the Verdon Gorge in three sections, then breaks down these again into smaller sections, giving advised routes down the many rapids and pointing out the dangers to be encountered. The text is in three languages, French, German, and English. In some respects it is a pity Mitchwood at £14+tax and Colorado at the same price.

Trylon are agents for three paddles, including a paddle kit (flat wooden blades) at £2.40+V.A.T., and offer a speedy and efficient service. Their ABS paddles, flat black with drip rings cost £4+V.A.T., and they have curved structural foam jobs at £3.80+V.A.T.

Joseph Banks Ltd. carry supplies of Jon Hyland, Mark Gees, Ace and ABS paddles. They also have kits by Lendal and Canoe Centre for do-it-yourself enthusiasts in the Warrington area.

Euro kayaks claim to stock most types of paddles on the market.

P. & H. Fibreglass Products keep Ace paddles in complete or kit form, and you can buy from them the Lendal kits — made up and with two coats of varnish if you wish for £1.30 extra, including tax.

Also in stock are Ottersports and John Hyland blades. They keep a particularly good selection of Mark Gees Paddles in, and can offer a quick despatch of this type of paddle.

Although every care was taken in compiling this feature, we cannot guarantee the accuracy of prices quoted because of the economic situation.



Jon Hyland's wood Canadian blade has a thin section to cut through the water easily when executing slalom

strokes. The edge of the blade is laminated with a protective strip and is tipped in alloy. 5' or 5' 2" as

standard, but 5' 3" on request. Cost is £6.60 incl. V.A.T.

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Deposit: £4.50

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Greehaugh, River Tyne
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Deposit: £4.50

Closing date: October 28th
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NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

Strand Glass

Strand Glass International Canoe Regatta and 1974 British Schools Canoe Championships

Over 830 entries were received for the International Canoe Regatta and the 1974 Schools Canoe Championships — held on 22 and 23 June at the National Watersports Centre Holme Pierrepont — the largest entry ever received for any canoe competition in this country.

The international events in the senior class attracted over 200 entries — including entries from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, Germany and Rumania.

T-shirts

From the Director of Coaching British Canoe Union, a cautionary note:

"Canoeing Press are offering some very nice T-shirts, with first class emblems on the front of them, and words to suit various types of our sport. One of these shows someone doing what appears to be a high draw stroke and wearing a buoyancy aid. The words round this emblem are "Senior Instructor".

I must inform people that Canoeing Press has issued this T-shirt without any reference at all to the National Coaching Committee, therefore, since anybody can buy this T-shirt persons wearing it cannot necessarily be regarded as Senior Instructors qualified under the B.C.U. National Coaching Scheme. The correct badge authorised by the National Coaching Committee is the usual B.C.U. Blazer pocket badge with the words "Senior Instructor" written underneath it. People wishing to employ qualified instructors should always make sure that anybody claiming to be qualified is a current member of the Scheme."

Northumbrian River Races

As the above series of three races are not now amongst the ones ranking next winter, it is likely that they will form part of a Northern or North-East W.W. Championship. The races, held on the North Tyne, will include both adult and youth classes. For details contact: E. Palmer, North Tyneside W.W. Club, 108 Holly Ave., Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2.

Change of Address—

Roxburgh C.C. (Secretary/Treasurer)
John Currie, Howdenburn, School House, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire.

Unlabelled

A suggestion from Senior Instructor Phil Walton which may save a lot of bother for the rescue services in this country. If unlabelled lifejackets, canoes or other equipment are found unattended beside water, especially on coastal beaches, emergency services may be brought into action unnecessarily. Label ALL your gear and you could save someone trouble; you may even get your lost property returned!

Australia

F.C. Whitebrook, writing to us from Australia, gives one or two interesting

sidelights on the Commonwealth Games Invitation Slalom held in Christchurch, New Zealand last February, where our competitors did so well. "The second run of the Mens K1 was ruined by a big rise in the water due to a melting glacier" he writes, "and the course became quite different. It was altered on the second day to allow for the bigger rapids and faster flow. The second day's events included the Ladies individual K1. Sue Whitebrook, 13 years old, came 3rd in the Ladies K1 behind Pauline Goodwin.

Australia was apparently informed that Wild Water Racers were not permitted in the Down River Race. The rule was altered, but too late for them to take the correct boats. Ian Royds who came 6th in the Wild Water Race, did it in a slalom K1.

Times for the WWR were:

1. N. Jackson GB 28.05; 2. D. Mitchell GB 28.20; 3. B. Fletcher NZ 28.25; 4. M. Fletcher NZ 30.40; 5. D. Smith GB 31.10.8; 6. I. Royds Aust. 33.45 Slalom K1.

Severn Bore

A run on the Severn Bore of over 4 miles from Rea to Haisemore Weir equals the world record surfing distance set up by Mike Evans in 1971 using a V.C.P. Surf Shoe.

The run was made between the same two points by Frank Goodman, one of the directors of V.C.P. in a Surf Shoe 73 on Sunday, 21st July, 1974.

Slalom

A meeting of all River Race Organisers was called earlier this year by the B.C.U. Slalom Committee, to discuss the possible revision of this type of event — some are very poorly attended, others (like the Dee Races) are over-subscribed. Only A. F. Hardisty of Manchester turned up, so nothing was done.

On the same day the B.C.U. Slalom Executive met, and allegedly most of the senior members resigned, including Ian Pendleton and Jack Spuhler. This information from Manchester C.C.'s newsletter. So far no comment from the disturbed world of slalom.

Fatal

An inquest on a canoeing fatality during a Proficiency course at Oxford in May showed that the deceased, Mr. R. Cooper, 48, had been suffering from a serious heart condition. There was no evidence that he had drowned, a capsizing had caused cardiac arrest, and resuscitation procedures were applied without success. The coroner said that the safety measures employed at the Riverside Centre were adequate.

Canoe Lifeguards

Slalom, sprint, LD, touring and even canoe polo. We all have some idea what they are, what type of canoes they use. But Canoe Lifeguards, what are they? We see them at Crystal Palace every year with their red and yellow stripey canoes with the funny backs, demonstrating rescue techniques in a nice heated pool. Do you ever listen to the commentary? do you ever think that your club could use a rescue team — just to be around while other club members are competing?

Or perhaps you already have a group who already do this for you. Why not affiliate them to the Corps of Canoe Lifeguards, and gain the benefit of the experience and training weekends of the Corps, which have been developed over the last ten years. We even have a Corps National Championship at the end of the

summer, real competitive spirit, held over a weekend with a social get together included. If you are in the Gosport area (Lepe Beach) on Saturday 5th or Sunday 6th October why don't you look in and see the Corps in action? You will see Units from all over England and Wales — come on you Scots, we've no Units over the border.

What does the Corps of Canoe Lifeguards do, you may well ask. Well here is one answer from Kris Apps, chairwoman of the Thames Valley Lifeguards:

"Anything. It depends on the Unit, their function and their location. The coastal Units help man beaches, sometimes in cooperation with S.L.S.A. or R.L.S.S. or other rescue organisations, and sometimes alone. The beaches vary too, and this also determines the type of Unit and what it does. Long distance swims, channel crossings, regattas, long sea trips and such like all come within the scope of these Units.

The Corps is not confined to coastal Units. Inland Units, such as TVL, also perform similar and equally valuable work. There is of course a different bias to the duties undertaken, and we do a lot of dinghy rescues, together with safety patrols at slaloms, regattas, swims and so on. There are usually a few Scout or Guide camps each year that ask for our services as instructor/safety patrols, then we also arrange or give demonstrations, and our "advisory service" gets quite a lot of use — we can put parties in touch with Units on the coast and elsewhere, when a trip or camp is planned.

We also are often asked about lifejackets etc, about what safety equipment to carry, how to fit out a canoe — all sorts of questions directly or indirectly related to safety. And of course there are the potential Senior Instructors who come to us for information. Ours is a small Unit and we do not have the members to be able to put on regular patrols like some of the larger Units, but we are always busy with something. We are also available to the local authorities and police in the event of emergencies.

This year we have already logged some thirty seven incidents, including a case of mild exposure, a large cruiser out of control on the Thames, and a dinghy with a broken rudder. None of them striking rescues, but no casualties or damage either! But if we hadn't been there...? It is hard work being a Canoe Lifeguard, but very rewarding to be able to help others, and to put something back into canoeing." The Corps has seen a significant improvement this year, with an increase in membership to well over a hundred individual members and twenty Units. We have had two of our National Training Weekends, and fifteen Bronze Awards and two Silver Awards have been gained this year. Preparations for our Championships are well in hand now, and it promises to be an exciting event. Marsden Bay Canoe Lifeguards have run a long distance race, and Clare Allan (Chief Lifeguard) has just run a Corps Bronze/BCU Lifesaving course, both in the north.

Rescue Canoes continue to form the subject of a large number of our enquiries. The Rescue Canoe — the Corps version, and the Instructor Canoe — the non-Corps version, of these especially developed boats, are only available through the Secretary or Treasurer of the Corps and all official canoes carry our registration certificate. The Instructor version is now becoming very popular as its potential is slowly being realised by canoeists.

Brian Barton.
Chairman, C.o.C.L.

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Noel McNaught

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216 × 138 mm, 128 pages, 8 pages of plates plus drawings, 0 7182 0962 1, £2.20

KAYE & WARD

21 New Street, London EC2M 4NT

R. Wear

The situation as regards recent incidents on the Wear at Finchale Abbey and Chester-le-Street has now been clarified with the Sports Council, and angling representatives at regional level have confirmed that there is no objection to the canoeing which has taken place on the river for many years.

A very unfortunate assault took place in February this year, when a Div. 1 slalomist practising by himself was attacked by an angler for no apparent reason. The incident was reported to the police who were unable to prosecute due to the lack of independent witnesses. The clubs who habitually use this place for practice (a marina is being built by the local council here also) are now ensuring that no canoeist uses the river alone.

BOOK REVIEW

Canoe Cruising Manual, by Noel McNaught. Kaye and Ward, London, 1974. £2.20 nett.

This is a book which many canoeists, including your reviewer, will be glad to possess.

In it you will find in a very readable, and often even anecdotal, form, pointers and hints, advice on what not to do, drawn from the author's many years' experience of canoe cruising, which includes some that must be described as unorthodox and adventurous.

As a source of reference to events in the history of canoeing, publications old and new, feats of canoeists over the past 100 years and as a fount of canoeing stories it is excellent.

The plan of the book is well thought out. There is a history of canoeing and a conspectus of the present touring and access situation, followed by advice on points making for successful cruising, and descriptive accounts of the Severn and Wye. Then notes on other canoeable rivers in England (why not Wales and Scotland?) which, in present circumstances, perhaps makes too light of the risk of being challenged by landowners and angling interests. There follows sensible advice on rapid rivers, estuary and coastal cruising, cautionary descriptions of canoeing accidents and fatalities.

The chapter on "Canoeing abroad" is patchy and not up to the standard of the rest of the book. There are one or two geographical howlers, such as locating the river Dniestr in Poland instead of the U.S.S.R., and giving Poland a border with Rumania. The book finishes with an extensive reference section.

My assessment: it should not have been called a "manual", as it is not what I expect a manual to be. But none the worse for that, and undoubtedly a book to possess. R.F.T.

Touring Committee Meets

Early in May the Touring Committee met again to continue its discussion about the future of "touring" activities in the Union, with a view to making proposals to the Development Project Group.

The inhibiting effects of increasing objection to canoeing by fishing and

riparian interests on touring meant that the discussion extended to problems in this field, where it is a continual source of criticism that the Union has not sufficient local contacts to maintain essential contacts with the local owners.

The Committee also discussed what should be done to establish firm relationships with the new Regional Water Authorities who, in the course of this year, are taking over the functions of the river authorities.

It is evident that much more needs to be done on an area basis, rather than centrally from the Union's central organisation. Firm conclusions have not been reached, but it is quite clear that support will need to be asked for from clubs and local organisations able to "look after" local river and water facilities.

Certain Water Authority Regions are being studied in greater detail to identify the local areas and local needs.

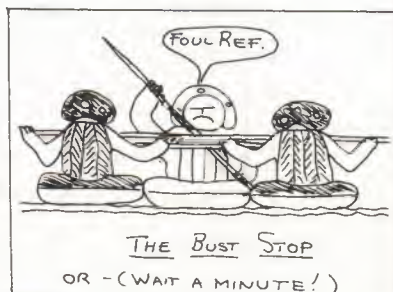
R. Tyne

It now appears that any objections to canoeing in the past on the stretch between Bywell Bridge and Wylam have been settled. Trips undertaken by groups this year have been logged, and no objections recorded. Canoeists are undoubtedly outnumbered by those using rowing boats, li-los or inflatable rubber ducks.

HURRY! To Enter for the National Canoe Polo Championships

The final rounds of the championship will be played at the National Canoe Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in February. Eliminating rounds will take place in regions, and entries for the Championship should be sent to K. D. Clark, Denstone College, Uttoxeter, Staffs, by the 1st October.

Below, our artist Mike Baines illustrates a few more naughties which the referees will penalise if they catch you at it.



ACCESS
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BOOKS
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POLO

International News

World Championships in Canoe Racing, October 16th to 20th, 1974.

Opening Ceremony: October 13th in Chapultepec Park, Mexico City. Regatta will be held on the Olympic Course at Xochimilco on the outskirts of the city.
October 16/17 — Heats and Repechages.
October 19/20 — Semi-Finals and Finals.
Friday, October 18th — I.F.C. Congress.
Monday, October 14th and 21st -- Meetings of the ICF Board.

The Organising Committee for the Championships has been negotiating with Eurovision and Interservice for the transmission of the Championships to Europe, and all national associations are asked to press their own TV authorities to include the Championship transmission in their programmes.

We understand that it is unlikely that a team from Great Britain will take part in these championships.

European Championships for Juniors, July 26/27, 1975

These will not be staged in Spain as announced, but Congress will be asked, in Mexico, to approve the offer of Italy to hold them on Lake Albano, the venue of the 1960 Olympic Regatta.

World Championships in Racing, July 18/20, 1975

These will be held, as announced, in Belgrade but the date has been changed from July 3-6, to two weeks later. This will bring them one week before the Junior Championships in Italy, thus making it possible for some officials to assist at both competitions.

Canoe Slalom World Championships in Skopje, Yugoslavia, June 26/27, 1975. Wild Water Racing World Championships in Skopje, June 28/29, 1975

International Seminar on the Problems of Water Tourism

This will be organised under the authority of the ICF Touring Committee by the Czechoslovak Association for Water Tourism. It will be held in Prague from 4th to 8th September, 1974. In addition to lectures and discussions there will be cruises on various rivers.

ICF. Photo Competition

The ICF Committee for Propaganda and Information decided at its meeting on March 30th in Prague, to organise a photo competition on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the I.C.F.

Entries for this competition are restricted to members of the national associations affiliated to the ICF.

Black and white prints as well as colour prints (NOT SLIDES) are admissible — minimum size 18 x 24 cms, glossy, without border.

Each participant is limited to the submission of not more than three photographs. As subjects can be taken any branch of canoeing.

FINAL DATE FOR ENTRIES: 15th February, 1975.

All photographs must bear on the back the name of the competitor, his address and a description of the subject portrayed.

The selection and presentation of prizes will be made by a jury of experts under the chairmanship of Mr. L. Spitz. The decision of this jury will be final and no appeal against any decision will be allowed.

The nature of the prizes will be announced later.

The competitors must declare their

willingness for their photographs to be published without payment of any royalty.

New Members of the I.C.F.

The Board of the ICF has granted provisional membership to Hongkong, Cyprus, and the People's Republic of China so that they can participate in the World Championships this year. This decision has still to be ratified by the Congress.

Applications have been received from Guatemala and Venezuela but until further documentation has been received, their acceptance into membership is deferred.

I.C.F. Jubilee Celebrations

On the 19/20 of January, 1924, representatives of the canoe associations of Denmark, Germany, Austria and Sweden met in Copenhagen and brought into existence an international governing body for the sport of canoeing. Its name, in Swedish "Internationella Representantskapet for Kanotidrott" with initials IRK or, in English "International Representation for Canoeing".

This year we celebrate the 50th anniversary of this event, and, as was announced in earlier issues of Canoeing in Britain, the celebrations have taken the form of competitions in all the sports disciplines of the ICF; Canoe Sailing and Paddling Racing at Duisberg; Slalom at Lippstadt. Unfortunately White Water Racing, planned for Monschau, had to be cancelled owing to low water level in the reservoir feeding the course.

The Jubilee Celebrations were opened on Wednesday, July 10th at an impressive ceremony in the Duisberg Stadium, when the speeches were prefaced by a local performance by the band of the Naval Cadets from Kiel and a local band. Following the speeches by the President of the I.C.F. and civic dignitaries of Duisberg, the assembled company was treated to a very impressive performance by a circus company, which included the finest "High Wire" act I have ever seen. The evening closed with a firework display.

On the Sunday evening competitors from Lippstadt and Duisberg, with all officials and guests were taken aboard two large Rhine steamers for the Celebration Dinner and Entertainment. The latter took the form of a cruise up the Rhine to see the annual display known as "Niederrhein in Flammen" or "Rhine in Flames". The banks of the river, the large industrial plants facing the river and the bridges had all been illuminated by red flares giving the appearance of fires, and the skies were filled with a truly magnificent display of fireworks. The river was crowded with steamers, launches and every other kind of boat, each full of spectators, and the banks were lined by hundreds of thousands of viewers. This is an annual festival arranged by a group of towns in this part of Germany, and the German Canoe Association are to be congratulated on their success in persuading the organisers of the "Rhine in Flames" to stage their show on the final night of our Jubilee Celebrations.

Touring

At the end of June some 70 touring canoeists assembled at Trier on the River Moselle to take part in the Jubilee Cruises. Unfortunately the weather was not very good, yet in spite of this they all reached Duisberg in time to join in the final festivities.

Examinations for ICF Competition Officials

Results of recent examinations have demonstrated that it is not enough to have a good knowledge of the Racing Rules, or even experience in applying them. Candidates are reminded that they must make themselves thoroughly familiar with the Statutes and Organisation of the I.C.F.

Participants and boats for Mexico

The several proposals for transport or competitors and craft to Mexico for the World Championships have had to be abandoned due to lack of sufficient support to make them viable. Therefore all teams taking part must make their own arrangements. The Organising Committee have offered to make a limited number of craft available and teams wishing to take advantage of this must make immediate application.

Provisional Calendar for 1975

Racing: Although at Duisberg a provisional calendar was agreed which included the placing of the World Championships in Belgrade on July 17/20, an objection to this has been registered by the USSR since it will clash with the Spartakiade which they propose to hold as a rehearsal for the Olympic Games in 1980. The matter will be settled at the ICF Congress in Mexico, and this may cause certain other modifications to the provisional programme. The Sprint Committee have the full programme, but we mention certain competitions which are likely to be of interest to the British Teams:
May 24/25, Ghent/Belgium — World Championship Programme.
June 21/22, Holme Pierrpont/Great Britain — World Championship Programme.
July 17/20, Belgrade/Yugoslavia — WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.
July 26/27, Lake Albano/Rome/Italy — JUNIOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Invitation Regatta:

July 5/6, Snagov/Rumania — World Championship Programme.

Notice from ICF Medical Committee

Anabolic Steroids are now on the list of forbidden drugs. This has been decided by the Medical Commission of the I.O.C. in connection with the Olympic Games of 1976. Accordingly the I.C.F. will amend its regulations to conform with this ruling. J. W. Dudderidge will be representing the B.C.U. at the Congress in Mexico in October.

Obituary: SVEN THORELL OF SWEDEN

In the same year as the ICF has been celebrating its Jubilee has died, at the age of 86 years, the last of the national representatives who met in Copenhagen in 1924 and founded the International Federation. Sven Thorell was indeed the "Grand Old Man" of canoeing and established his reputation on the hundreds of designs of canoes and kayaks which he produced and through which he influenced the position of Sweden in the sport, and the whole development of kayak for racing and recreation. Sven Thorell was also an active competitor and from 1908 to 1916 raced for "Foreningen for Kanot-Idrott" in Stockholm, winning nine national championships over distances of 1,500m and 10,000m. As a sportsman his interests extended beyond canoe racing, for he was also an active in competitive ice skating and also in 1928 gained a Gold Medal at the Olympic Games in Amsterdam in the Olympic Dinghy Class of Sailing.

History of the International Canoe Federation

A history of the I.C.F. from its foundation in 1924 is being compiled and will be published in English, German and French. Although it will concentrate on this period, it will also trace the origins of the sport from the time when John MacGregor made his historic journey of "1,000 miles in the Rob Roy canoe" and went on to found the Canoe Club (later to become The Royal Canoe Club), the first canoe club in the world, and so launched the sport of Canoeing. This was where it all began.

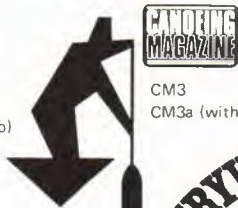
J. W. Dudderidge



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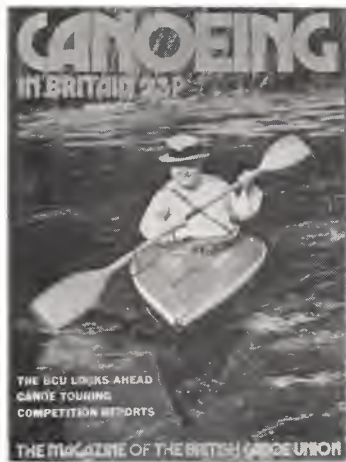
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