

CANOEING

IN BRITAIN 30p

No 99 FEB/MARCH 1976



1976 CALENDAR

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

SKYBLAZER

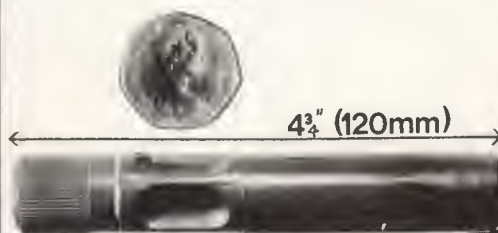
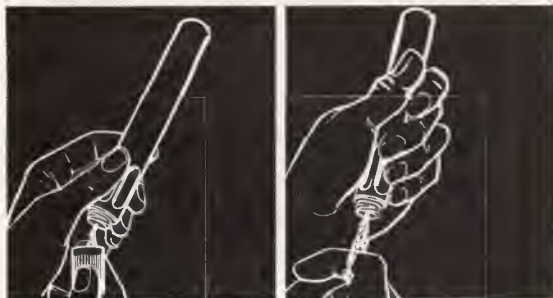
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CANOEING IN BRITAIN

WHOSE WATER?

Rights of Navigation, by E. Totty

The recent articles in C-in-B under this heading prompt me to write on yet another aspect of legal rights on water.

The BCU Guide to the Waterways states that the canoeist has a right to canoe on water affected by the ebb and flow of the ordinary tides. This may be an over-simplification of the position.

It is generally acknowledged that prima facie all waters which are tidal and in which navigation is possible are subject to a public right of navigation. It is essential for such right to exist that the water in question should be subject to the ebb and flow of ordinary tides. But although the fact that it is subject to the flow of the tides is strong prima facie evidence of the existence of a public right of navigation it is not conclusive since not every creek, river or channel into which the tide flows is on that account necessarily a public navigable channel although it may be sufficiently large for that purpose.

It is a question of fact whether a public right of navigation exists in any particular case. Once a river is subject to a public right of navigation, no act by a private person however long continued will destroy the right of the public, but the right can be extinguished by statute, in certain cases by a MAFF order on land drainage grounds; by natural causes such as the recession of the sea or an accumulation of mud rendering navigation impossible. The right is not lost if a river changes its course since it will be exercisable over the new channel.

Two cases at least throw doubts on the claim that the public have a right of navigation into all parts of all creeks, rivers and channels just because they are tidal.

R v Montague (1825) and *Sim v Ang Yong Huat* 1923 which seem to say, if the river is broad and deep, calculated to serve for the purpose of commerce it may be assumed to be a public navigation but if it is a pretty stream navigable only at certain periods of the tide and then only for a very short time and by very small boats it may be presumed that it has never been a public navigable river.

There are certain references to other cases but I do not have access to them but they may well be worth study:—

Ilchester v Rashleigh 1889 61LT477

Bower v Hill 1835 2 Scott 535

Williams v Wilcox 1838 8 A 7 E 314

Even if there is a right of navigation the

right has to be exercised reasonably. The decided cases have mainly been concerned with conflicts between vessels and oyster beds rather than with the rod and line angler but the principles seem to be (1) Navigators must not wantonly disregard anglers (2) Navigators must not negligently harm fishing (3) The right to navigate carries no right to fish (but this last principle, stated in *Micklethwaite v Vincent* was concerned with non-tidal waters) (4) The Rules of the Road at Sea must be observed (5) Byelaws (if any) must be observed.

A brush with a water bailiff, recently, whilst I was canoeing up a river with the help of a strong spring tide, caused me to undertake this research, with the help of a legal friend. There was private fishing from either bank. It would appear that the position has not yet been tested fully in the Courts, but I would welcome further information and opinions.

INCREASED RIVER AND WATERWAYS CHARGES 1976

The following increased charges have come to the Union's notice:

THAMES — Annual charge to 31 December — £2.40. Three years — £7.20. Period 16 September to 31 December — 80p. Visiting craft: 15 days or 1 month — 80p. 1 day (separate applications) — 40p. 1 to 6 consecutive days (one application) — 40p.

WEY and GODALMING NAVIGATIONS (National Trust): Annual charge to 31 December — £2.50. 1 month — £2.2 weeks — £1.50. 1 week — £1. Visiting craft: 1 day — 30p — only from Thames Lock to New Haw.

BRITISH WATERWAYS CANALS AND NAVIGATIONS: Annual charge to 31 December — £8. 6 months — £6. 3 months — £4. 1 month — £2. BCU members applying through BCU Headquarters: year £6; youth £5. 6 months after 1 July £5; youth £4.

News for the Sailing Committee is that they are about to ratify a Junior Sailing Canoe, hard chine, made on the I-tie-ply principle, which should be able to keep the cost of a craft down to about £300 plus. This will be a restricted class and details can be had from the Sailing Committee Hon. Sec.

Editorial

Regionalisation and the BCU AGM seem, on the face of it, to be very different topics, yet in the cold light of January 1976 I find they have a direct bearing on each other.

For some time now small regional associations of BCU clubs have been growing up such as the West Midlands Association The North East Canoeing Association and others. BCU clubs are being forced to organize so that they can speak authoritatively for a region on matters of access, representation on water sports bodies etc. It is, for the most part, a case of organize or be forced off the water. However, these regional groups have a great part to play within the BCU as well as without.

In some 20 years of going to AGM's, I have never seen more than 400 attending, and sometimes as few as 90, representing with their votes the wishes of the total membership — now around 8,000. The council has tried with yeoman fortitude to attract the membership of the AGM; move it to the provinces every other year; hold it in conjunction with boat shows; run it in conjunction with the AGMs of the technical committees; proxy votes; postal votes. These in their time have all been hailed as the panacea for the nonsense of a tiny minority taking major decisions which affect the total membership.

Now is the time to marry the regions and the BCU's democratic problem by actively starting regional associations, and then creating the council from one elected member from each region and technical committee representatives. Thus we could have a council which truly represents canoeing in Great Britain and, at the same time, do away with this annual search for democracy.

Chris Hare

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Enquiries regarding non-receipt of magazine, notification of changes of address and general enquiries should be sent, quoting your membership number,

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WEST OF ENGLAND TROPHY AND NOVICES CUP

JEFF STAMPS

The event was held at Edgbaston Reservoir on 11/12th October and attracted competitors from as far afield as Harwich and Yorkshire. A series of short, two lap races were held on Saturday and Sunday mornings in conditions varying from gusty to very light. We found that the University Sailing Club was also holding an event on Saturday morning, this proved later to be quite interesting when we found that fleets of Larks and Canoes were rounding the marks in opposite directions!

The racing was very close, with one mistake allowing the others to pass and take the lead, and it was not until the final race on Sunday that it became clear who had won the event.

The sailors enjoyed themselves in conditions which were unfamiliar to most, with close cut and thrust of pond sailing.

Results: West of England Trophy: 1st Tony Marston BCC; 2nd Ken Davis HTSC; 3rd Ian Smith HTSC; 4th Jeff Stamps BCC.

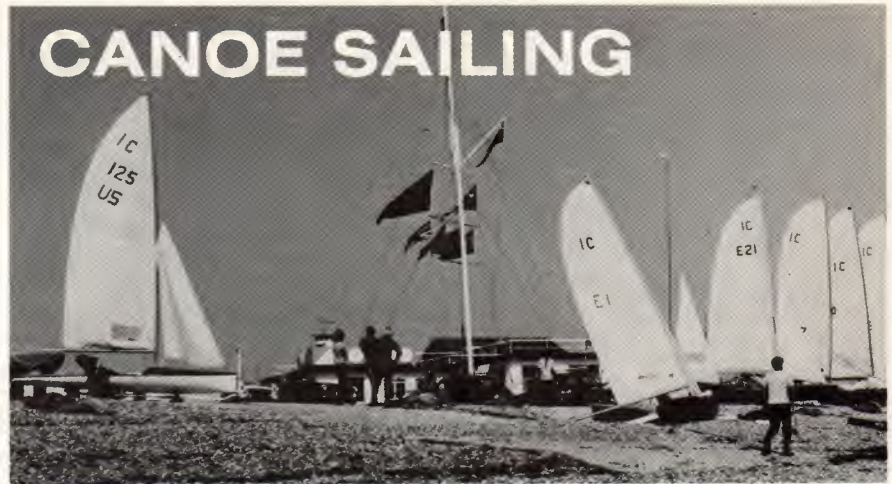
Novices Cup: 1st Ian Smith HTSC; 2nd Jeff Stamps BCC; 3rd Mike Hartley; 4th Robby Sampson.

6th I.C.F. CANOE SAILING CHAMPIONSHIPS 1975

Jeff Stamps of Birmingham C.C.

The arrival of Hayling Island of the B.C.C. members resulted in protests to the ICF Sailing Committee over the measurement of our sails, to be over area. I won my protest but Tony lost his, unfortunately, over rule bending.

The practice race on Saturday in a force 4 SW showed the beginnings of the pattern for the week the winds remained very light and variable, causing the race officer great difficulty in laying the courses. This was especially evident on Tuesday when we were on the water for a total of 8 hours following a 2 hour postponement; the starting line on



6th IFC Canoe Sailing Championships (O. J. Cock)

the race resembled a Grand National fence with two Spaniards capsizing on the line, and bringing down a few others too. As a result of a collision with a Spaniard during this race, Tony protested and the Spaniard was subsequently disqualified – they have never been the same since they lost the Armada!

The Swedes continued to score consistently well, and their team officials gave them strong shore support. The team consisted of two factions – from Gothenburg Canoe Club and Stockholm Canoe Club, both groups sail intensively during the summer and train hard in winter – a system which perhaps should be followed in this country judging by the results at the end of the week.

Of the English contingent Tony Miles achieved a 4th on Sunday when the wind was at its strongest, but was not to be seen in the first 5 thereafter; John Biddle, 4th on Monday and 3rd on Wednesday, was the only English sailor to finish in the top 3 in any race while Ken Davis proved to be the most consistent always in the first eight, giving him the best English result of

4th overall. Ian Smith, late Toy champion, found his way around the windshifts to finish 6th on Thursday (with me 7th my moment of triumph!) and 6th on Friday.

While the UK fleet lick their wounds for the second year running, the overall performance has without doubt, improved but lacks the development in rig which the Swedes have achieved. Racing was close at all times, courses were well laid but the tides often turned the reaches into runs with the light airs which prevailed. Hayling Island's organisation both on and off the water was excellent, although there was something of an erratic start to the week at the opening ceremony when the German flag proved to be Belgian and no Stars and Stripes were to be seen anywhere. The next international event will probably be at Mar Menor, Spain next Easter.

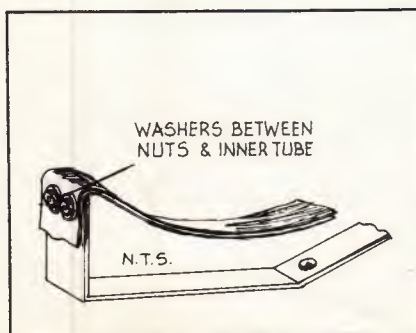
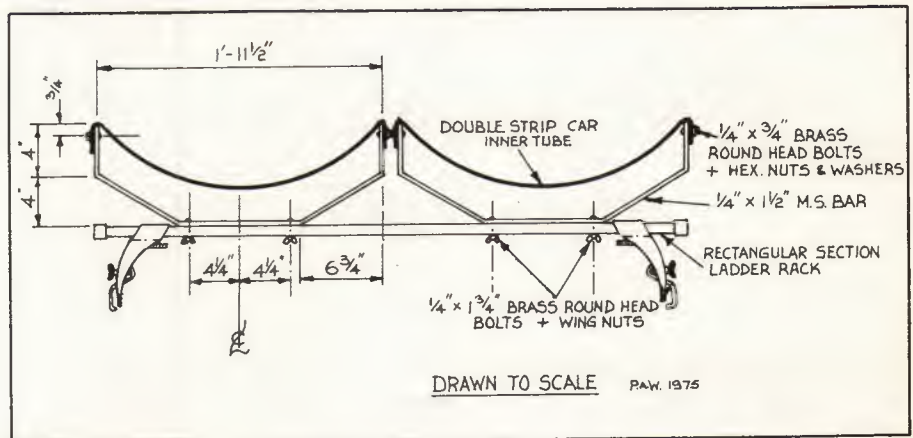
Results: 1st Lars Erik Lundgren, Gothenburg CC; 2nd Leif Johansson, Stockholm, 3rd Mats Lind, Stockholm CC; 4th Ken Davis, Harwich Town SC, 14th Tony Marston, Birmingham CC; 18th Jeff Stamps BCC

DIY CANOE RACK

designed

by

P. A. Wiles



Canoes lashed tightly on to car ladder racks may suffer compression damage, especially when exposed to the additional stresses of slipstream, cornering, braking and cross winds. Any carelessness in lashing may also result in canoe and car parting company, which is damaging to canoe, ego and bank balance.

The canoe cradles drawn here were designed to avoid the above dangers, and have to date given almost three years' good service. I use large "elastic bands", made from old inner tubes, to hold the canoes in the cradles, so avoiding over-compression. However, it is essential that bow and stern are secured to the front and rear of the car. Thus the canoes are prevented from shifting sideways by an "elastic" lashing and the side uprights, and ride without being in contact with any hard surface.

BUILDING

I suggest that the shape of the cradle is drawn on a piece of paper, and the mild steel bar then bent to suit. All bolts should have round heads, which should be on the inside of cradle. The wingnuts allow the cradles to be released quickly from the rack. The assembly shown here is suitable for a Mini, and is drawn to scale.

CALVERLEY'S COMMENTS

Ray Calverly has dominated the British Slalom scene for many years now and to quote him has been, until last year, the most consistent 4th in the world championships.

1975

Ken Langford has moved out of the National Team Coach job to be National Competition Coach and I have taken over team coaching. Information from the first executive meeting is that it was all very boring, there was no heated argument and decisions were reached *during the meeting*.

Gordon Richards, our new BCU Director, has been getting things done and has demolished the rumour that the job was only to be awarded posthumously.

There is at present no WW Race Trainer - no comment - sub judice. In the National Championships Nicky Wain (1st) proved himself the best K1 and John Shackleton (2nd) proved to be a lot better than everyone said at Grandtully (the annual shoot the selectors match). Melvin Swallows' third place shows what talented

paddlers Chester have (he's currently river race king). Alan Edge could have done better, no doubt, but like many of the top paddlers who now compete at world level, he didn't compete seriously in enough GB races. Julia Harling K1W and Martyn Hedges C1 are world class paddlers with a bright future.

The World Championship at Skopje produced some fine results, gold medals in K1W Team River Race, Nicky and Alan in the seventh and eight places in K1 men slalom.

1976

This year the Canoe Exhibition at Crystal Palace will be fully supported by the trade and will really be worth attending for trade buyers and the canoeing public.

On the 29th of August the International and First Division event will be held on the top site Trewern. All serious slalom paddlers should be there, there's plenty of opportunity to paddle above and below the site and you can bring your cameras to

film the world's best. The executive are really moving on this event which they intend to make the showpiece of British White Water kayaking and canoeing.

Calling all club trainers. If your club or school doesn't have a club trainer it's time you appointed one. Although my prime responsibility is coaching the National Team I am very concerned that information on training and techniques is passed back down to club level to stimulate the development of our young paddlers and improve our intake, in turn, to the National Team. Manchester has already commenced a scheme in parallel to the National Team to develop its white water competitors in slalom and river racing. Talk this one through your club committees and then send two stamped addressed large envelopes to: Ray Calverley, National Team Coach, c/o Harishok Ltd., Unit 3, Clarendon Trading Estate, Clarendon Road, Hyde, Cheshire. I will send you all the necessary information to get club coaching and an integrated scheme under way.

Did you know that the World Championships are to be held in Britain in 1981, a tremendous boost for the sport. Positive action is needed now, to ensure success.

SPRINT WORLD

CANOE CANADA '75

Following the disappointing results in the Belgrade World Championships for Seniors, our paddlers did better in the pre-olympic regatta in Montreal - admittedly against a weaker opposition than in Belgrade. D. Parnham gained a ninth place in the K1 500 m race (in 1.58.63 against the winner's time of 1.51.45), W. Reichenstein an eighth place in the C1 500 m race (in 2.15.45 against the winner's time of 2.08.49). S. Burnett a ninth place in the K1 500 m event for women (in 2.18.73 against the winner's time of 2.08.49) and the crew Goodwin-Peacock also ninth place in the K2 500 m event for women (in 2.04.61 against the winner's time of 1.51.97).

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND WHITE WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Results: North Tyne Men's Kayak - 1 M. Swallow, Chester; 2 A. Hall, Leeds; 3 N. Morley, Lakeland;

Youth Kayak (Under 18) 1 J. Hibble, Leeds; 2 J. Oliver, Roxburgh; 3 A. Dobson, Sunderland.

Ladies Kayak 1 L. Rickerby, Sunderland

Canadian Singles (C1) 1 J. Harvey, R.A.F.C.A.

Canadian Doubles (C2) 1 Alcock/Milne, Aber, 2 Golightly/Lightfoot, North Tyneside, 3 Hall/Hall, Manchester.

BCU FILM LIBRARY

The British Film Institute discontinue handling our library on December 31st but satisfactory arrangements have been made for this to be taken over by the National Audio Visual Aids Library.

Hire charges will be the same as on the BFI list except that Canoeing I and II are

each now £3.50, A Judge's Lot £1.00 and Haute Riviere £2.50 in the 16mm size or £1.75 in standard 8 mm.

PYRANHA YOUTH AWARD

Pyranha Mouldings felt that most prospective champions need encouragement on their way to the top and so as an incentive it was decided to donate a diolen canoe from their slalom range to the most aspiring youth, who finished highest on the previous years ranking list. The only stipulation being that the paddler chosen must not have started that season in Division 1.

1975's ranking list having now been compiled, it was announced that Peter Godfrey of Manchester Canoe Club was to be the lucky paddler to receive this award

at the first Division 1 slalom in 1976 (Grandtully). Peter has only been canoeing competitively since July 1974 when he entered Chester slalom as a novice. Since that time he has managed to 'climb the divisions' at all the slaloms he entered except one, until finally he 'made it' to Division 1 during March 1975. However his biggest achievement yet was to be picked for the Great Britain Youth Team competing at our home International in October '75, where he came 4th in the individual.

Peter is only 15 years old and still at school, but this has its advantages too where canoeing is concerned. The school he attends, Marple Hall, is situated on the banks of the River Goyt where Manchester Canoe Club meet and is fortunate in being able to train there.

WRONG PRESENTATION!

photo by Bill Richmond



SHEPPERTON DIVISION 4 SLALOM — 5/6 OCTOBER 1975

The event was the best attended slalom at Shepperton for several years. In spite of the event clashing with another Division 4 Slalom at West Tanfield and with the International Slalom, 73 paddlers entered for men's K1, and 60 actually turned up to compete.

The flow in the Thames was very low following the long dry summer and to take advantage of the little turbulent water available a course was arranged to take the competitors right up close under the weir. In spite of the fact that a number of gates had to be rigged on nearly stationary water there was a wide spread of penalties and very few clear runs. The men's K1 was won by Nigel Benham of Worthies CC but the result was very close and 14 secs. covered the top six paddlers who were all promoted. Incidentally, of the 60 paddlers, 40 were Youths. The ladies K1 was won by Helena Hall of Chester who unluckily missed promotion by only ½ sec.

The event ran very smoothly and the only blot was the outbreak of thieving which occurred on Saturday night. All competitors at Shepperton and elsewhere are advised to mark canoeing gear clearly with their name and even then to keep it safely in cars or tents, especially at night.

Div. 4 K1

1 Nigel Benham, Worthies; 2 Roger Webb, R.L.S.; 3 Joe Lyons, Canford; 4 Michael Staines, Shepperton; 5 Colin Isenman, Shepperton; 6 Trevor Haynes, Warren. All promoted.

Div. 4 Ladies K1

1 Helena Hall, Chester; 2 Meryl Setchell, Warren; 3 Mary Fuller, Bristol. None promoted.

Open C1

1 Philip Beadle, Shepperton.

Open C2

1 Alexander/Thomas, Shepperton; 2 Banner/Holloway, Eyott; 3 Beadle/Staines, Shepperton.

Team Event

1 Richards/Hunt/Melville, Beauchamp Lodge; 2 Staines/Howell/Isenman, Shepperton A; 3 Mills/Benham/Edwards, Worthies.

Judges Event

1 Richard Fox, St Albans; 2 Andrew Halliday, Shepperton; 3 Warwick, Fortescue.

LAKELAND CANOE CLUB LEVEN WILD WATER TEST.

1975 — ERIC TOTTY

The Leven Wild Water Test, which was the forerunner and inspiration for all wild water racing in this country, completed its 22nd year with a disappointingly low level of water for the final run of the season. During the year, 315 timed runs were recorded, with competitors drawn from 41 clubs. The Dipper badge is now worn proudly by successful competitors from every part of the United Kingdom and in Europe. This year alone, 91 contestants qualified for the silver badge and 94 for the bronze, whilst 130 others live to try again another year.

The Gold Dipper for 1975 was well and worthily won by Nigel Morley of the home club with a convincing time of 5 mins. and 1 sec. on 12 October — only one second outside the all time record for the course. Melvin Swallow (Chester C.C.), last year's winner, was in second place, with N. Wain also of Chester, third. Nigel retains the Leven Trophy for another year by virtue of the fastest run by a member of the home club.

The Slalom class was headed by Pete Woof, also of the home club, with a time of 7 mins. and 1 sec. last Nov. since when he has appeared in the racing class. Robin Whitham of Lakeland was a close second with his January run, whilst A. Yates of Carlisle and D. Taylor of Gateshead tied for third place.

In the Ladies events Viv Blythe of Grappenhall C. C. headed the Racing class, and Sylvia Hope from Leeds Carnegie, topped the slalom class.

The Bradford club provided the winners of the C(2)(R) class with the two Mikes, Hopkinson and Jones, returning a time of 7 mins. exactly. The redoubtable mixed team of John and Jean Hall from Manchester were second. S. Sowerby and P. Swan of Leeds took 8 mins and 14 secs in the C(2)(S) class. Paul Broom, of the same club, led the C(1)(R) class at 7 mins 59 secs with M. Spencer, of Manchester, in second place. Ray Hind, of Carlisle, headed the C(1)(S) class in 8 mins exactly, with K. Rooker of Sheffield only 10 sec behind. The Leven Paddle trophy for the fastest ever C(1) was retained by Jon Goodwin as his time of 7 mins 10 secs last year, remains an unbeaten record

in the single paddle event.

Competitors are reminded that entries are now limited to 60 for any one fixture. This is on a "first come" basis of properly completed entry cards accompanied by the correct fee of 30p per head. These will always take precedence over incomplete or irregular entries. This postal entry system, as in slaloms and WW races enables most of the paper work to be dealt with in advance — but there are still too many competitors who expect special consideration and who thus inadvertently throw a spanner in the works!

Entry cards and rules and all other relevant information may be obtained from the organiser in return for a SAE — foolscap size, or at least large enough to take post card size entry cards without folding — from: Eric B. Totty, Craigmuir, High Knott Road, ARNSIDE, Near Carnforth, Lancs. LA5 0AW.

B.C.U.

OLYMPIC APPEAL—

Sponsored Canoe Marathon

March 13th, 1976

Various

Nationwide Venues:

Co-ordinator:

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Telephone Leeds 560953
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Concentration at Gate 9 — Pontrilas

Photo: Mike Lewis



ESSEX COUNTY
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Canoeing Instructor (M./F.)

The appointment is from 1 April 1976 until 31 October 1976.
B.C.U. Coach or Senior Instructor Award desirable.

Salary: £120.00 per month (free board and lodging when on duty).

Application forms and further particulars available from the Warden, Bradwell Field Studies and Sailing Centre, Bradwell Waterside, near Southminster, Essex.

LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

CANOEING PRESS T-SHIRTS

Dear Sir, In response to an advertisement which appeared in a recent edition of C in B I ordered a T-shirt and sweat-shirt from Canoeing Press Ltd., 25 Featherbed Lane, Croydon. I sent off the order at the end of August 1975, waited patiently for two months, then sent the firm a gentle reminder that I still had not received their goods. My cheque had been cashed on September 15. I still have not received any word whatsoever (10-12-75) from Croydon to account for the delay; there is no Canoeing Press in the telephone directory. I would be grateful if you could find time to investigate the authenticity of this advertisement and perhaps suggest how I might proceed, either to secure the goods or obtain a refund.

R. J. Williams, Plymouth

Comment from editor: This is one letter representing some 20 complaints I have received by letter and telephone, the latest being December 23rd. I spoke to Canoeing Press in the person of Mike Clark who now lives at The Chapel, 19 Main Street, Hemington, Derby DE7 2RB., who assured me that all orders would be fulfilled and that pressure of work was causing the delay. The gentleman in question will be at Stand 25, Crystal Palace Exhibition so I suggest this would be a good opportunity for all of you to see Canoeing Press about your grievances. It must be understood that we accept advertisements in good faith that the advertisers can in fact deliver the goods.

MANNERS MAKETH CANOEISTS

Dear sir, At a recent meeting between the Telford Angling Clubs, the local council, and our club, we as a club agreed to write to the official journal of the Union to express condemnation of certain incidents which have taken place on the River Severn during the summer. One in particular is worthy of mention, witnessed by some of our members.

A group of racing canoeists, four abreast, charged through a fishing match hurling abuse when they got caught in the fishing lines. This I contend is no way to foster good relations. Whilst the Severn is a right of way we are the local club paddling it almost every day and we have, therefore, no wish to wage a running battle with anglers. I might add that relations have been excellent and I hope will continue to be so.

It is a great pity, but I am afraid the same old story of a few "cowboys" spoiling things for the majority. Can I appeal to all readers of the magazine to exercise care when paddling the Severn in the Telford/Tonbridge area.

Mike Jones, Telford Canoe Club

Comment by editor: How about a new year's resolution from all responsible canoeists to take personal action against the "cowboy" fringe who disrupt canoeing facilities. Perhaps the BCU registration scheme will help to eliminate the minority of irresponsible canoeists.

THIRD PARTY INSURANCE

Dear Sir, I read with interest Mr Davies' letter and the comments of Oliver Cock. Frankly I don't see how we can afford not to have third party insurance on the premium it can be obtained for anywhere near the figure suggested (20p per member or 40p to cover surfing). It would be a

good step forward if something along these lines could also be done to give instructors indemnity against liability for their students. With all the work and time instructors put in, it strikes me as rather unfair that in so doing they put themselves at risk and the insurance for an individual is quite expensive.

On the question of the Access Committee trying to get a "Club Licence" I say more power to their elbow. These are the sort of benefits that will help promote the BCU.

D. L. Bowtell SI(1)BCU, Ware, Herts

COMPLIMENTS

Dear Sir, the "new-look" C in B is certainly an improvement on the old. In particular the centre page photographs are excellent, there being very few photographs in colour to match their size and subject. They have been so good, in fact, that I have used most of them for preparing visual aids depicting all sides of the sport. However by using the centre pages, the reverse sides, containing print from some good articles are lost, so may I suggest that the reverse sides of the centre pages be replaced by advertisements, so that people who wish to use the photos for further promotion of the sport (I'm sure there are many), and the magazines content is not destroyed.

N. Pomeroy, Salisbury

SOUTHAMPTON LD

Dear Sir, This race has been revived and is now run from the Calshot Activities Centre. We are short of a number of perpetual trophies from the original series, and would appreciate the return of these. Would any member who still has such a trophy in his possession please contact me regarding its collection.

G. C. Good, Calshot Activities Centre

LINTON LOCKS

Dear Sir, We have been asked by Mrs Sherburn of Linton Locks Marina Ltd to make it known that they cannot admit any canoeist who is not a member of an organised club through which club a prior arrangement has been fixed and accepted. The premises will be closed from 1st November to 31st March 1976.

We trust that all canoeists will take heed of this to avoid unduly troubling Mrs Sherburn and to preserve our good relationships at this excellent slalom site.

C. M. Rothwell, Manchester Canoe Club

TEES RIVER RACE

Dear Sir, Four of us attended the Tees Ranking Race on the 13th December in two cars, driving some 160 miles from Edinburgh. We found on arrival that the river was below a reasonable level to expect for a ranking race. Two of us paddled the river to ascertain its suitability for racing. Subsequently we returned to Edinburgh on the same evening, having spent in the region of £25 on petrol and entry fees.

This occasion was the third in which I have driven to the Tees and not raced, either due to the river being too high or too low. The BCU must reconsider the ranking of the Tees races in the future and almost must ensure that organisers of ranking events provide a phone number from where one can obtain accurate information — as to the level of the river on the Friday or Saturday before the event.

A. Morton, Falkirk

REPLY FROM TEES RIVER RACE ORGANIZER

Re: Tees Ranking Race 14.12.75

I would like to point out that the West Yorkshire Canoe Club did not ask for the Tees race to be a ranking event, it was brought onto the ranking list by the Slalom Committee at their instigation. The water has been exceptionally good over the last two seasons of races but they must have forgotten that it can be very low as well. However no Tees race has ever had to be cancelled.

A race was run on the day towards the NEOWWC. All competitors were given the same start times corresponding to the ranking event. I was approached by competitors who were annoyed about the Slalom Committee members cancelling the ranking event at 9.30 a.m. on the morning. I had a number of telephone calls on the Saturday evening to check if the ranking event was still on; some competitors had made a round trip of 600 miles.

The local weather forecast for the Saturday night was light rain and a sharp rise in temperature, the river did rise if only a couple of inches, thus making the course easier than the ice-breaking Saturday practice, but it still had the occasional bump! Who knows a river that was in spate that day?

I feel that in view of the distance travelled by competitors the ranking event could have taken place. Lets face it, it would still be the best three results from five events. You don't have to cancel an event because some competitors shouted louder than the others when the members of the slalom committee were discussing the situation.

In conclusion I would like to see a better guide line to organisers of ranking events as to when a ranking race is de-ranked.

Mike Butler, Bishop Auckland

Comment by editor: It might be a good thing if the people who cancelled this as a ranking event had taken into consideration the periphery organization which suffered as a result of people leaving early. i.e. Pub with special extension and catering for 200 people; competitors who arrive at an event in time to start, the decision to cancel being at 9.30 and many competitors arriving at 10.30 onwards.

THAT'S A THOUGHT

Dear Sir, You write in Page 10 of C in B No. 98 — "we can all learn even from mistakes." We all can — except for the corpse that is, it's too late for him!

Bernard Harrison, Sassenheim, Netherlands

BRITISH HIMALAYAN CANOEING EXPEDITION 1976

Dear Sir, I was asked to take over the organisation of this venture as Mike Fenessy felt unable to carry on due to poor health.

We have spent several hundred pounds obtaining information from the area involved including a reconnaissance visit by an expedition member.

It was decided after consideration of all the facts available that an expedition was not a viable proposition for 1976 due to political and access problems.

Five of the members present at the winding up meeting, Bob Smith, Ian Matheson, Richard Knight, Patrick O'Sullivan and Steve Nash, resolved to attempt an even more spectacular venture, details of which will be released soon.

Steve Nash, Gallows Tree Common



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LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS

COLIN RALPH MEMORIAL

Dear Sir, Your readers will undoubtedly know of the untimely death of Colin Ralph, a Junior International slalomist, and certainly one of the finest paddlers the South has produced.

The Hampshire Junior Training Squad of which Colin was a founder member, and the local Association would like to see Colin's memory perpetuated, and to this end are establishing a fund to produce a trophy for national slalom competition.

Friends of Colin are invited to subscribe to this fund by sending their donation to me at the address below.

G. C. Good,
Hampshire Association of Canoeists,
c/o Calshot Activities Centre,
Calshot,
Hants.

THANKS

Dear Sir, Mr & Mrs Ralph would like to thank all the friends of their late son Colin, for their floral tributes & messages of sympathy after his tragic death.

R. Ralph, Fareham.

PLEASE NOTE . . .

The new secretary of Sheffield Canoe Club is Keith Maslen, The Hall Bungalow, White Edge Drive, Baslow, Bakewell, Derbyshire.

LIFEJACKET - TO BE, OR NOT TO BE

Dear Sir, I have read with interest over the past year or so the growing debate on lifejackets. Having seen A. J. Ford's letter in the November issue of C in B I feel compelled to put my views forward. Contrary to current BCU policy I believe that lifejackets or buoyancy aids in surf are a positive liability.

Before I give my reasoning behind this statement I think I ought to point out that I am not just a weekend surfer who pops down to Cornwall at the end of the slalom season. I live in Bude and work as a beach lifeguard and I am also part of the lifeboat crew. Over the past two years I have surfed in France, Spain, Portugal, Morocco and Mexico.

Back to my point - an unbroken wave is not a moving body of water, it is a pulse, but once the wave has peaked and broken it is then made up of moving water and this water creates, for want of a better word, a stopper. As any errant slalomist will know the only way to get out of a big stopper whilst swimming is to go underneath. It is basically the same in surf. If one is unfortunate enough to go for a swim the only way to make the shore is by letting the waves roll over you. Have you ever tried going over a 4ft. wall of soup? It is virtually impossible.

Lifejackets, especially the BSI 3595/69 make this technique totally impractical, a person tries to swim under an approaching wave and the lifejacket hauls him up, resulting in a lungful of water. Twice this summer, whilst working on the beach, I

was forced to rescue a canoeist who was having just this kind of trouble; one was only 50ft. from the shore and had he been unhampered by lifejacket he would have been able to make dry land without my assistance.

Ex national champion Ian Faulkner, and Danny Broadhurst also subscribe to this way of thinking. To us it appears logical, but to the slalomist or white waterman so hooked on the lifejacket-at-all-costs theory, it may seem a rather radical departure, but believe me it works.

Of course there are exceptions to this rule. I surfed at a reef break at Casablanca last year where a spill would have meant a two mile swim, but generally around this coast I would not wear any kind of lifejacket.

On a parting note I believe that eleven canoeists, presumably wearing lifejackets, died last year in Britain alone. Whilst in the whole world one Malibu surfer, lifejacket-less, died by drowning.

Ian Sutherland, Bude, Cornwall

THAT'S A THOUGHT!

If the water I paddle on once passed through the bowels of my ancestors does that mean I own it?

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- + Wildwater Race
 ■ Canoe sailing event
 ● Ranking regatta
 ★ Ranking slalom
 A Open water (sea, estuary, lake)
 B River
 P Portages
 ○ L.D Registered event
- number after prefix indicates miles.
 1, 2, 3, 4 — Slalom divisions
 N Novice
 Rest Entry restricted numerically
 OT Open team event
 J Judges' event
 H.I. Home Internationals

Most events in the British Canoe Union Calendar are followed by a code number in brackets. To find the address of the organiser, look up the corresponding number in the list of organisers below.

Most events are open to all members of the British Canoe Union. Organisers will be pleased to send details in receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. Please mention C in B when writing

In all cases, please get in touch with the organisers beforehand in case of last minute changes of plan, and always start and keep with the party, especially on difficult rivers, where a compact group causes much less disturbance.

Above all, do not take advantage of trips announced for 'difficult' rivers to use the organisers' camp site for a different run on private water; this brings the organised runs into disrepute locally and often means refusal of facilities afterwards.

COMPETITION AND SOCIAL EVENTS 1976

February

- + 1 River Tees West Yorkshire CC (39)
 + 1 River Tay (Ranking) Forth CC (40)
 + 8 River Dee Manchester CC (41)
 + 15 British Open Championships, River Tryweryn (42)
 + 15 Leven Test (43)
 + 22 Northumbrian (Ranking) (44)
 + 22 River Goyt, Manchester CC (45)
 ○ 22 Winter Series (1) LD Race Newbury Tier 4 J 15 S 15 (76)
 ○ 28 Windsor LD Race, Tier 4, J.B9 SB9 (77)
 + 29 River Wharfe Leeds CC (3)

March

- ★ 7 Shepperton 2 Shepperton CC (1)
 ★ 7 Duck Mill, Bedford NOJ Viking CC (2)
 ○ 7 Gailey Canal LD Race Tier 3 JB5½ SB12 (54)
 ○ 7 Winter Series (2) Tier 4 J22, S22 (76)
 ○ 13 Sponsored Paddles for Olympic Funds Tier 4 (78)
 + 14 Leven Test (43)
 ★ 14 Dedham Mill, 4N (4)
 ★ 14 Appletrewick 2 Leeds CC (3)
 21 Dedham BSCA (4) Slalom
 21 Invercarnie BUSF Aberdeen University CC (5) Slalom
 ★ 21 Pontrilas NO Wydean CC (6)
 ★ 21 Durrigate NO Worthies SSC (7)
 ○ 21 Lincoln, Fosse and Witham LD Race, Tier 3 J.B 8, S.B12 (55)
 ○ 21 Winter Series (3) Tier 4 J.25, S.25 (76)
 ★ 28 Dedham 4N Suffolk WSA (8)
 ★ 28 Bingley Myrtle 4NJ, Bradford & Airedale CC (9)
 ○ 28 Leamington LD Race Tier 2 S B12 P5, J/L B7 P4 (49)

April

- ★ 4 Shepperton, 3 Shepperton CC (1)
 ★ 4 River Awe, 2,3,J Edinburgh UCC (10)
 ○ 4 Thames LD Race, Tier 3, Tidal river J8 S12 (56)
 ○ 4 Winter Series (4) Tier 4 J.35, S35 (76)
 ○ 4 Stour Descent, LD Race, Dorset, Tier 4 JB10 SB10 (79)
 ★ 11 Peterborough 4N Proteus CC (11)
 ★ 11 Marple 4J Manchester CC (12)
 ★ 11 Comrie 4N Ancrum CC (13)
 ○ 11 Nottingham LD Race (50) Tier 2
 ○ 16-19 Devizes to Westminster Tier 4 J4 x 31 S125 (80)
 16-19 Sea Canoeing Rally, Chichester (103)
 ★ 18 Hambledon 3J Chilton Edge (14)
 ★ 18 Grandtully 1
 ★ 25 Bala Mill, 1J Midland CC (15)
 + 25 Tryweryn (23)
 ○ 25 Bedford St Neots LD Race, Tier 3 JB8PI, SB15 P4 (57)

May

- 1-2 South West Surf Championships Cornwall (46)
 ● 1-2 Richmond Regatta Holme Pierrepont, K4 National Championships BUSF Sprint Championships; BSCA Youth Championships (67); 1st Olympic Selection.

- 1-2 Canford Wier Slalom, Hampshire (106)
 1-2 Northern Coaching Panel night sea cruise, Sandsend South Shields (108)
 ★ 2 Newbury N Newbury CC (16)
 ★ 2 Ironbridge 4N Telford CC (17)
 ★ 2 River Teith 3, 4,N,J (18)
 ○ 2 Taunton LD Race Tier 3 J.B7½P5, SB13 P5 (58)
 ★ 9 Old Windsor 2,0, Windsor CC (19)
 ○ 9 Southdown LD Race, Tier 3 J11½ S11½ (59) tidal river.
 ○ 9 Lee and Stort LD Race, Tier 3, JB9P7 S.B12 P9 (60)
 ○ 9 Trent Descent LD Race Tier 4 J.B11. S B17 (81)
 ○ 9 Tweed LD Race Tier 4 J.B8, S.B16 (82)
 ○ 15 1st's LD Race, Oxford, Scouts and Guides only, Tier 4, Up to 14yrs 5 miles Over 14 years 8 miles.
 ★ 16 Glasshouses 4N, Leeds CC (3)
 ○ 16 Reading LD Race (51) Tier 2.
 ○ 22 Loch Lalinaig LD Race, Tier 3 J6½ S13 (61) Open Loch.
 ★ 23 Easby 3,4, J, Manchester CC (20)
 ★ 23 Abingdon Weir 3JOT, University CC (21)
 ★ 23 Finchale 4 NO, Gateshead CC (22)
 ○ 24 Hove LD Race, Tier 3, J.A12P2, S.A15P2 (62)
 28-31 Bamburgh meet and cruise Tees KC (107)
 ● 28-30 BCU Regatta Holme Pierrepont 2nd Olympic Selection
 29 31 English Channel Crossing unescorted (101).
 ★ 30 Tryweryn Welsh Open 1 & 2 J. Chester CC (23).
 + 30 Tryweryn Welsh Open (23).

June

- 1 Hove Adur LD races, mid week (evenings) 2 races in June 2 races in July J6, S6 (84) Tier 4.
 Some time in June Bat Polo tournament (Winchester) (106).
 1 6 Oban week Tees KC (107).
 5 Southampton Regatta Hampshire (106).
 ★ 6 Ironbridge 4NJ, Shrewsbury CC (24)
 ★ 6 Carlisle N, Carlisle CC (25).
 ★ 6 Elan Valley 3,4 (26)
 ★ 6 River Leny 3,4, N,J, Dundee WWC (27)
 ○ 6 Chelmsford LD Race Tier 2 (52)
 ● 6 Scottish Canoe Association Regatta open.
 12-13 Northern Coaching Panel Farne Islands Meet, Northumberland (104).
 ★ 13 Shepperton N (1).
 ○ 13/or/27 Soar LD Race Tier 3 J.B10,S.B12 (63).
 + 13 River Awe (40)
 ○ 13 Chester LD Race Tier 4, J.B9 P9, S.B13 P13 (85)
 ○ 13 Medway Lock LD race Scouts and Guides only, singles B8 P6, doubles B18P9 (86) Tier 4
 ● 18-19-20 Holme Pierrepont International pre Olympic Regatta 3rd Olympic Selection (96).
 Rother LD Race, Tier 3, J.B9, SB13 (64).
 ● 26 Royal Regatta Thorpe Surrey (97)
 ★ 27 Stone N.O, Staffs and Stone CC (28)
 ○ 27 The 8AJ LD Race Scouts and Guides only J5½P1, S8P1 Tier 4 (87)
 ★ 27 Pipe Bridge Slalom, Durham N4 Sunderland CC (102)

July

- 3 18 Camping cruise Isle of Skye, Northern Coaching Panel (95)
 ★ 4 Linton 2J, Manchester CC (29)
 ★ 4 Chester Weir 4NJ, Chester CC (23)
 ★ 4 Kirkstall ON, Leeds CC (3).
 ○ 4 Three Harbours LD Race Tier 3 J.A7½ S.B13½ (65).
 ○ 4 Royal Oak (Lichfield) LD Race Tier 4 J.B9, S.B13½ (88).
 ● 10-11 Wey Regatta Holme Pierrepont, Inter Club Championships K2 10,000 metre National Championships (98).
 10-11 Ailsa Craig cruise NCP (108).
 ★ 11 Darley Abbey NO, Midland CC (15).
 ★ 11 Linton 3,0, York CC (30)
 ○ 11 Exe Circuit LD Race Tier 3 J B8 S.B12 (66).
 ○ 11 27th Arun LD Race, Tier 4 Scouts only, doubles 17, singles 9½ Espada 7½ (89).
 ○ 11 Maidstone LD Race, Tier 3 applied for J.9P2, S.13P4 (90)
 11 Canoe Rally, Stafford (105) Youth groups and Youth clubs.

- ★18 Cookham Weir 4NJ, Reading KC (31).
- 25 Beccles to Bungay LD Race Tier 4 J12 P2, S12P2 (91)
- 27-31 Olympic Games Sprint events — Montreal.
- 31 Richmond K2 (67) Tier 3

August

- 7-8 Nottingham Regatta, Holme Pierrepont, National Sprint Championships 500, 1000 metres Open (99).
- 21 Royal Marathon Tier 3 J.B35 SB35 (68)
- 28-29-30 National LD Championships Worcester Tier 1 (48).
- ★29 Tryweryn International (1).

September

- ★5 Ironbridge 3,4 J, Shrewsbury (24).
- ★5 Marple NJ, Manchester CC (32).
- 5 Worthing LD Race Tier 3 J.B5%, S.B11½ (69).
- 11 12 National Surf Championships Bude, Cornwall (47).
- 11-12 Service Regatta Holme Pierrepont, Inter Services Championships, K1 10000 metre National Championships Open (96).
- ★12 Bingley (Castlefields) 4NJ, Bradford & Airdale CC (9).
- 12 Southampton LD Race, Tier 3, J.A7, S, A12 (70).
- ★19 Matlock 3J Sheffield CC.
- Scottish Confined Slalom Championship including Combined Services Championships (33).
- ★26 Pontrylas N.O., Wydean CC (34).
- ★26 Howsham 4 NJ, York CC (30).
- ★26 Whorlton 3, Tees Kayak Club (35).
- ★26 Serpents Tail, British Open and 1 Manchester CC (36).
- 26 Wey LD Race, Tier 2, S/S B12 P8, L/U16 B8 PS (53).
- 26 Orienteering (canoe) Competition, Norwich (100).
- 26 Farne Islands Meet, Northumberland (101).
- 26 Langham Slalom, Hampshire (106).

October

- 2 Sheffield Canal LD Race Tier 3, J.B5½ S,B 10½ (71).
- ★3 Guildford NJ, Guildford CC (37).
- ★3 Llangollen Town 1,J, Chester CC (23).
- 3 Northern Surfing Championships, Saltburn, NCP (109).
- ★10 Shepperton 4, Shepperton CC (1).
- ★10 Comrie 4N, Anrum CC (13).
- ★17 Potarch 3,4,NJ, Aberdeen U.CC (38)
- ★17 Durngate (Winchester) NO, Worthies SSC (7).
- 17 Longridge LD Race, Marlow Tier 3, J,B7, S,B10 (72).
- 17 2nd Sidcup's LD Race, Tier 4, Scouts and Guides only J.10,S10 (92).
- 24 Kennett River LD Race, Tier 3 J.B14, S.B14 (73).
- 31 Avon Descent LD Race, Tier 3 J.B7½P2, S.B21P5 (74).

November

- 7 River Cam LD Race, Tier 3, J.B8, S.B12 (75).
- 14 Hull and District LD Race, Tier 4, J B6½ S B10 (93).
- 14 Exe Descent LD Race, Tier 4 J.B20 S.B20 (94).

December

- 26 Boxing Day Race, Durham to Finchale Abbey (102)
- Sunderland CC.

Competition and Social Event Organisers

- 1 N Unwin, 5 Pine Walk, Surbiton, Surrey.
- 2 M J Carter, 5 Clarendon Street, Bedford, MK41 7SQ.
- 3 Mark Markham, 22 Wenbury Close, Leeds 16.
- 4 R N Castle, Leicester Close, Ipswich.
- 5 Aberdeen University C.C., J.C.R. The University, Aberdeen.
- 6 R Gardener, The Bungalow, The Square, Gosper Lane, Coalway, Coalford, Glos. GL16 7JW.
- 7 R Leppard, 49 Garbett Road, Winal, Winchester, Hampshire.
- 8 R Russels, 48 Broomhayes, Ipswich, Suffolk.
- 9 T O'Connell, 66 East View, Storr Heights, Thornton, Bradford.
- 10 R Tyler, The Pleasance, Edinburgh 2.
- 11 B Churchill, 78 Priory Road, Peterborough.
- 12 J Blundell, 6 Delbooth Avenue, Flixton, Manchester M31 2SD.
- 13 J Bigham, 10 Anrum Road, Dundee.
- 14 C Wing, 9 Red House Drive, Sonning Common, Reading.
- 15 C J Tims, 235 Ladywood Road, Kirk Hallam, Ilkeston, Derbyshire.
- 16 R Johnstone, 72 Turnpike Road, Newbury.
- 17 M Jones, 15 Ludford Drive, Strichley Park, Telford.
- 18 P Young, Heriot Watt University, Recarton Sports Centre, Currie, Midlothian.
- 19 D Hedges, 18 Arlington Road, Ashford, Middlesex TS15 2LS.
- 20 T Cannon.
- 21 T Wilkins, 16 Ashmore Road, Abingdon, Oxon.
- 22 T Blackburn, 12 Prudhoe Grove, Jarrow, Tyne & Wear.
- 23 Mrs Briggs, 106 Becketts Lane, Great Broughton, Chester.
- 24 S Nutley, Hill View, Kymersley Lane, Loughton, Shrewsbury.
- 25 T Yates, 2 Liddle Close, Lawrie Hill, Carlisle.
- 26 D Parker, Tiverton Court, Tiverton, Glos. GL19 3AF
- 27 S Ness, 180 Loccee Road, Dundee.

- 28 P Goodwin, Wooden Dale College, Maer Hills, Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs.
- 29 L Wilbraham, 12 Pine Grove, Prestwich, Manchester M25.
- 30 A Fletcher, Mill Rise, Nether Poppleton, York.
- 31 D Looker, 24 Thames Avenue, Pangbourne, Reading RG8 7BU.
- 32 J Hill, 2 Overdale Road, Romily, Cheshire.
- 33 J Ross, Scottish Sports Council, 8 Frederick Street, Edinburgh 8H2.
- 34 G Rodgers, 68 Swift Road, Saintbridge, Glos.
- 35 W L Smith, 1 Draycott Avenue, Brookfields, Middlesbrough.
- 36 A Hardisty, 8 Muirfield Close, Prestwich, Manchester M25 5PW.
- 37 S J Penfound, 41 Coopers Rise, Godalming, Surrey.
- 38 Aberdeen U.C.C. Bulchaig Recreation Centre, University Road, Old Aberdeen.
- 39 M Butler, Milton House, Milton Avenue, Bishop Auckland.
- 40 A Morton, 34 Roselea Drive, Brightons, Falkirk.
- 41 F Bennett, 22 Chaucer Avenue, Redditch, Stockport, Cheshire.
- 42 S Fisher, 13 Wellington Crescent, Boughurts, Basingstoke, Hants RC26 5PF.
- 43 Eric Totty, Craigmuir, High Knott Road, Arnside, Cumbria.
- 44 T M Golightly, 17 Wallington Mews, Killingworth, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- 45 M Rothwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester M10 6QQ.
- 46 J P Hermes, The Cottage, Tregrehan, St Austell, Cornwall.
- 47 C Scott, Mount Green, Rose, Truro, Cornwall.
- 48 M Carwell, 7 Beaconsfield Road, Croydon, Surrey.
- 49 R A Sowman, 23 Stanton Walk, The Woodloes, Warwick.
- 50 C Gray, 128 Greythorne Avenue, West Bridgeford, Nottingham.
- 51 M Tapscott, 15 The Green, Theale, Berkshire.
- 52 J Marriage, Budds Farmhouse, High Wood, Chelmsford, Essex.
- 53 P Finch, 4 Warwick Lane, St Johns, Woking, Surrey.
- 54 J A Squire, 124 Gough Street, Willenhall, West Midlands.
- 55 Mrs A L Laws, 47 Bowgate, Gasberton, Spalding, Lincs.
- 56 Mrs B Plutheroe, 18 Clarendon Road, Ashford, Middlesex.
- 57 J Lumbis, 20 Mickling Close, Bedford.
- 58 Canoe Club, Millfield, Street, Somerset.
- 59 R A Atkins, 49 Mary's Road, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
- 60 Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Burn Mill Lane, Harlow, Essex.
- 61 Trossachs C.C., 2 Ancaster Square, Callender, Central Region, Scotland.
- 62 A Duncan, 16 Frith Road, Hove, Sussex.
- 63 E Porter, 15 Kirkstone Drive, Loughborough.
- 64 Mrs D Norris, 21 Osborne Close, Hastings, Sussex.
- 65 1 Harbour Cottages, Old Bosham, West Sussex.
- 66 Mrs Schnepf, 139 Monks Road, Exeter, Devon.
- 67 Mrs R Lawler, 41 Simplemarch Road, Addlestone, Surrey
- 68 Race Secretary, Royal C.C., Trowlock Island, Teddington, Middx.
- 69 N J Tricker, 70 West Avenue, Worthing
- 70 G C Good, Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Hants.
- 71 G Gregory, 9 Clark Grove, Stannington, Sheffield.
- 72 P White, Longridge Activity Centre, Quarry Wood Road, Marlow, Bucks.
- 73 M Brown, 1 Pentlands, Kintbury, Newbury, Bucks.
- 74 K Archard, 17 Moor Barton, Neston, Corsham, Wilts.
- 75 M D Greig, Churchill College, Cambridge
- 76 K Donkin, 47 Wenden Road, Newbury
- 77 28a Grove Road, Windsor, Bucks
- 78 N J Lilley, 51 Whinmore Court, Shadwell, Leeds 14
- 79 R Leppard, 49 Garbutt Road, Winal, Winchester, Hants.
- 80 F C Bartlett, 19 The Chantry, Hillingdon, Middlesex.
- 81 J Harrison, Overdale Cottage, No Mans Lane, Risley, Nr Draycott, Derby
- 82 D Cuthill, 2 Merchiston Bank Avenue, Edinburgh
- 83 G Shepherd, 33 Palmers, Wantage, Oxon.
- 84 A Duncan, 16 Frith Road, Hove, Sussex.
- 85 J Hubbard, 29 Rosslyn Road, Vicars Cross, Chester
- 86 D Hicks, 38 Cromer Street, Tonbridge, Kent
- 87 N J Tricker, 70 West Avenue, Worthing, Sussex.
- 88 D Green, 31 Hawthorn Road, Cheslyn May, Walsall, Staffs.
- 89 J Nuthall, 8 Burnham Avenue, Bognor Regis, Sussex
- 90 G Ingram-Monk, 186 Wayfield Road, Chatham, Kent
- 91 T Epps, 14 Manor Road, Bungay, Suffolk.
- 92 D Webb, 9 Imperial Way, Chislehurst, Kent
- 93 G Edwards, 137 Carr Lane, Wilerby, North Humberstone.
- 94 C Leach, 110 Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter
- 95 P A Wiles, 111 Catcote Road, Hartlepool, Cleveland
- 96 M Haslam, Work Study Department, COD Chilwell, Nr Beeston, Notts
- 97 B Greenaway, 214A Battersea Park Road, London SW11.
- 98 J Rossiter, 6 Birch Avenue, Caterham, Surrey.
- 99 M Nadall, Flat 5, 22/24 William Road, West Bridgford, Notts.
- 100 K Gale, Snaefell, Hall Lane, Felthorpe, Norwich.
- 101 J Ramwell, HM Borstal, Gaynes Hall, Gt Staigton, Huntingdon.

- 102 K Lambley, 8 Kingarth Avenue, Seaburn, Sunderland
- 103 T Baptie, Merton Adventure Centre, 226 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3HD
- 104 C Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Cleveland
- 105 E P Baskerville, 26 Hartlands Road, Eccleshall, Stafford
- 106 R Leppard, 49 Garbett Road, Winnall, Winchester

- 107 H L Smith, 1 Draycott Avenue, Brookfield, Middlesbrough, Cleveland
- 108 J Lowes, 28 Bamburgh Road, Newton Hall, Durham
- 109 D Hellawell, 79 Greenfield Drive, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees

COACHING CALENDAR

For details write to appropriate address to be found at the end of the Coaching Calendar, using reference number following course.

BEGINNERS - INLAND

- March 27/ April 3 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- April 3-10 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- April 17-24 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- April 19-26 Buxton/Matlock (46)
- May Every Tuesday. Hexham (59). Every Tuesday. Durham (56)
- May 3-10 Buxton/Matlock (46)
- May 5 Northampton (4)
- May 6 Nottingham (40)
- May 1-8 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- May 12-19 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- May 12 Northampton (4)
- May 13 Nottingham (40)
- May 19 Northampton (4)
- May 20 Nottingham (40)
- May 26 Northampton (4)
- May 27 Nottingham (40)
- June Every Tuesday. Hexham (59). Every Tuesday. Durham (56)
- June 9 Northampton (4)
- June 12-19 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- June 16 Northampton (4)
- June 25 Northampton (4) June 26-
- June 26- Glenmore Lodge (67)
- July 3 Northampton (4)
- June 30 Every Tuesday. Hexham (59). Every Tuesday. Durham (56)
- June 26-July 3 Nottingham (40)
- July 1 Northampton (4)
- July 7 Northampton (4)
- July 8 Nottingham (40)
- July 3-10 Plas-y-Brenin (60). Busham Abbey (54)
- July 14 Northampton (4)
- July 15 Nottingham (40)
- July 21 Northampton (4). Nottingham (40)
- July 24-31 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- July 22-31 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- July 28 Northampton (4)
- August Every Tuesday. Hexham (59). Every Tuesday. Durham (56)
- August 4 Northampton (4)
- August 7-14 Plas-y-Brenin (60). Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 11 Northampton (4)
- August 14-21 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 18 Northampton (4)
- August 21-28 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 25 Northampton (4)
- September Nottingham (41)
- October Nottingham (41)

BEGINNERS - SEA

- May Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58). Bangor, Northern Ireland (62).
- June Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58).
- July Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58)
- July 17-24 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- July 31- August 7 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- July 9-14 Calshot, Southampton (36)
- July 28- September 4 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- August Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58).

PROFICIENCY COURSES - INLAND

- February 20-24 Maldan (15)
- March 19-21 Stile, Todmorden, Yorks (50)
- March 27-28 Stone (27)
- April Nottingham (39). Nottingham (41)
- April 23-25 Stafford (27)
- April 24-25 Biblins-on-Wye, Monmouth (9)
- April 27 Every Tuesday Durham (56)
- April 30- May 2 White Hall, Derbyshire (6)
- May Every Tuesday Hexham (59). Nottingham (39)
- May 1-2 Warwick (24)

- May 4 Every Tuesday Durham (56). Tuesday evenings for 12 weeks, Norwich (20)
- May 5 Wednesday mornings for 12 weeks, Norwich (20)
- May 14-16 Biblins-on-Wye, Monmouth (9)
- May 21-23 Stafford (27)
- June Every Tuesday Hexham (59). Every Tuesday Durham (56). Nottingham (39)
- June 11-13 Biblins-on-Wye, Monmouth (9)
- June 25-27 Stafford (27)
- July Every Tuesday Hexham (59). Every Tuesday Durham (56). Nottingham (39)
- July 10-17 Bisham Abbey (54)
- August Nottingham (39). Every Tuesday Durham (56). Every Tuesday Hexham (59)
- September Nottingham (39)
- September 3-5 White Hall, Derbyshire (6)

PROFICIENCY COURSES - SEA

- April 28 South Shields (57) and every Wednesday Saltburn N. Yorks (58) and every Wednesday
- May Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58)
- May 6-13 North Wales (38)
- May 14-16 North Wales (38). North Wales (6). East Barnby (49).
- June Every Wednesday South Shields (57). Every Wednesday Saltburn (58).
- May 29- June 6 St. Davids (25)
- June 3-13 Pembrokeshire (38)
- June 11-13 East Barnby (49)
- July South Shields (57) every Wednesday Saltburn (58) every Wednesday
- June 9-11 East Barnby (49)
- August 1 Weymouth, Dorset (11). South Shields (57) every Wednesday. Saltburn (58) every Wednesday.
- August 23-31 North Wales (6)
- September 17-19 North Wales (6). Calshot (36)
- October 31 Weymouth, Dorset (11)

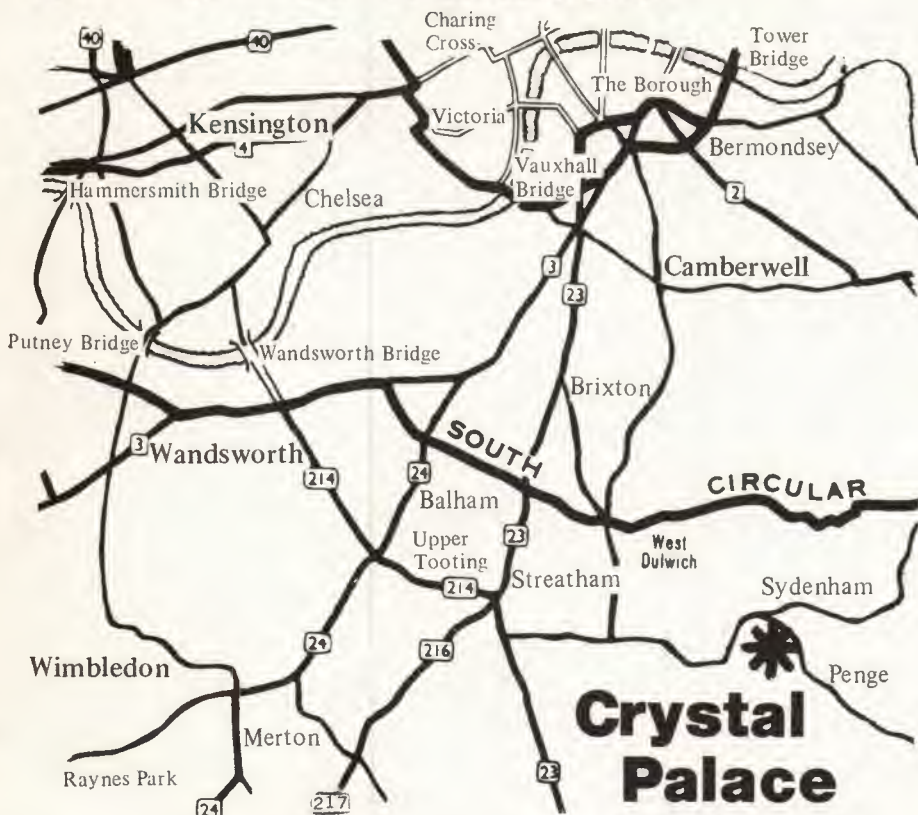
ADVANCED KAYAK TRAINING AND TESTING - INLAND

- March Limavady C.A.N.I. (37)
- March 28 North Tyne Northumberland (55)
- June 12-19 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- June 26- July 3 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- July 10-17 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- July 22-31 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 7-14 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 14-21 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 21-28 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- August 29- September 5 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- September 11-18 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- September 5-12 Glenmore Lodge (67)
- October 9-16 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- October 16-17 Longbridge N.S.B.C. Marlowe (1)
- October 30-31 Staunton-on-Wye (21)
- November 5-6 Catton, Northumberland (55)
- November 19-21 Carlisle (18)
- November 27-28 Staunton-on-Wye (21)

ADVANCED KAYAK COURSES AND TESTING - SEA

- April 9-11 East Barnby (51)
- April 23-25 Beal, Northumberland (55)
- May 29- June 5 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- June 9, 16, 23 Pembrokeshire (38)
- June 25-27 Pembrokeshire (38). Bangor, N. Ireland (63)
- July 3-4 Felixstowe (10)
- July 10-17 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- July 17-18 Calshot (36). Bangor N. Ireland (64)
- July 30- August 6 Calshot, Southampton (36)
- September 11-18 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- September 25-26 East Barnby (55). Anglesea (25)
- October 9-16 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
- October 30 Advanced Sea Theory Course (42)
- November 4, 11, 18, 25 Advanced Sea Theory Course (42)

1976 CRYSTAL PALACE CANOE EXHIBITION



The 1976 National Exhibition is bigger and more exciting than ever before. The trade are back in force. Combined with stands of clubs, associations, outdoor activity centres and one college they would, on their own, give the visitor a feast of canoeing. But I have always found the best of the exhibition is the National Bat Polo Championships. For effort, skill, enthusiasm, and at times waterborne fury, it cannot be beaten. This is on Sunday but Saturday has much to offer as the programme below shows:

Saturday:

- 12-30 Teaching Elementary Canoeing (T. Baprie of the Merton Adventure Centre)
- 12-50 Canoeing for the Disabled (B. T. Barton and the Florence Treloar School)
- 1-10 Trade Demonstration
- 4-50 Demonstration Canoe Polo Match - Denstone College v Bere Forest of Hampshire.
- 5-10 Canoe Lifeguard work (Weymouth Canoe Life Saving Club)
- 5-30 Musical Ride (M. Tapscott with the Arborfield Apprentices College and Leighton Park School)

Sunday:

Semi finals and Finals of the Canoe Polo National Championships.

Note: times are approximate.

SPECIAL FEATURE

CANOE BUILDING - ROOM G3

This year the Oxford Riverside Centre will be demonstrating their skill and expertise in Canoe Building. Since their programme is designed to cover as full a range as possible of all the stages involved, the team will have sole use of gymnasium G3 at Crystal Palace. This exhibit will be of interest to beginner and expert alike.

Also showing throughout the show are the following films: Canoeing in Snowdonia,

Surf Canoeing, Give Him Air, Colorado, White Water Champions.

Facilities: Crystal Palace Sports Centre has a restaurant, refreshment bar and licenced bar, as well as good car parking.

Times:

Sat. 21st Feb. - 10.30am-6.30pm
Sun. 22nd Feb. - 10.30am-6.30pm

How to get there:

By car: the Centre can be approached from A.212, A.214, A.234 and A.225. By train: from Victoria or London Bridge, or from Waterloo via Clapham Junction, to Crystal Palace. By bus: numbers 2, 2b, 3, 49, 63, 108, 108b, 137, 154, 157, 186. The main entrance is in Ledington Road, off Anerley Hill.

LOCATION AND STAND NUMBERS

South Balcony

- 1 B.C.U. H.Q.
- 2 Film Tickets
- 3 Olympic Canoe Team
- 4 Plas-y-Brenin
- 5 Sports Council
- 74 Shepperton Design Studios
- 75 Crystal Palace

Concourse

- 6 Sports Posters
- 7 Ocean Publications
- 8-13 B.C.U. (6 areas)
- 33 London Youth Canoeing
- 34 Riverside Centre
- 35 Canoeing Press
- 36 Harishok Ltd
- 37 London Federation of Boys Clubs
- 38 St. John's Ambulance
- 38a Capt. Frank McNulty & Sons Ltd
- 39 Dynamo Information Stand
- 40 Surrey Docks Canoeing Centre
- 41 Disabled Association - Canoeing

North Balcony

- 14 British Schools Canoeing Association
- 15 Bowles Outdoor Pursuits Centre
- 16 Canadian Canoe Association
- 17 Richmond Canoe Club
- 18 Hove Canoe Club
- 19-20 Woolwich and Samuel Montague Canoe Club
- 20 Southdown Canoe Club
- 22 1st Burgess Hill Scouts
- 23 Shepperton Canoe Club
- 24 Hastings and District Canoe Club
- 25 Sea Rangers
- 26 Devizes-Westminster Canoe Race Committee
- 27 Y.H.A.
- 28 B.W.B.
- 29 I.W.A.
- 30 Nordkapp Expedition
- 31 Canoe Centre

Main Hall

- 42 Trylon
- 43 Gaybo
- 44 Strand Glass
- 45 Paddle Pleasure
- 46 A. C. Canoes
- 47 Granta Boats
- 48 Nautical Training Corps.
- 49 Jaycee
- 50 Cymru Canoes
- 51 P. & H. Fibreglass Products
- 52 Pyranha Mouldings
- 53 Topcraft
- 54 Canoe Camping Club
- 55 Kennett and Avon Trust
- 56 Water Rat Canoes
- 57 Valley Canoe Products
- 58 Canoe Sport International
- 59 Atlantic College
- 60 Bedford Outdoor Pursuits Centre
- 61 Wild Water Centre
- 62 N. L. Rescue Commando
- 63 Longridge Canoe Club
- 64 Scout Association
- 65 Army Canoe Union
- 66 Tyne Canoes
- 67 Royal Canoe Club
- 68 Avoncraft
- 69 P.G.L.
- 70 Dolphin Wet Suits
- 71 Brookbank Canoes
- 72 Howarth Sports
- 73 Boys Brigade

LATE NEWS

Flaretec Ltd, 60 Glenthams Road, London SW13, formed by Mike Flint of Mike Flint Marketing, has a range of survival equipment.

Their survival kits are based on the Skyblazer Meteor Aerial Flare which is believed to be the only flare designed since the War specifically for the sportsman. The flare is compact - 12cm long with a diameter of 2cm, in a self contained launcher with weights just 1 oz. It is 100% waterproof, and tests carried out show that it is capable of altitudes up to 300ft.

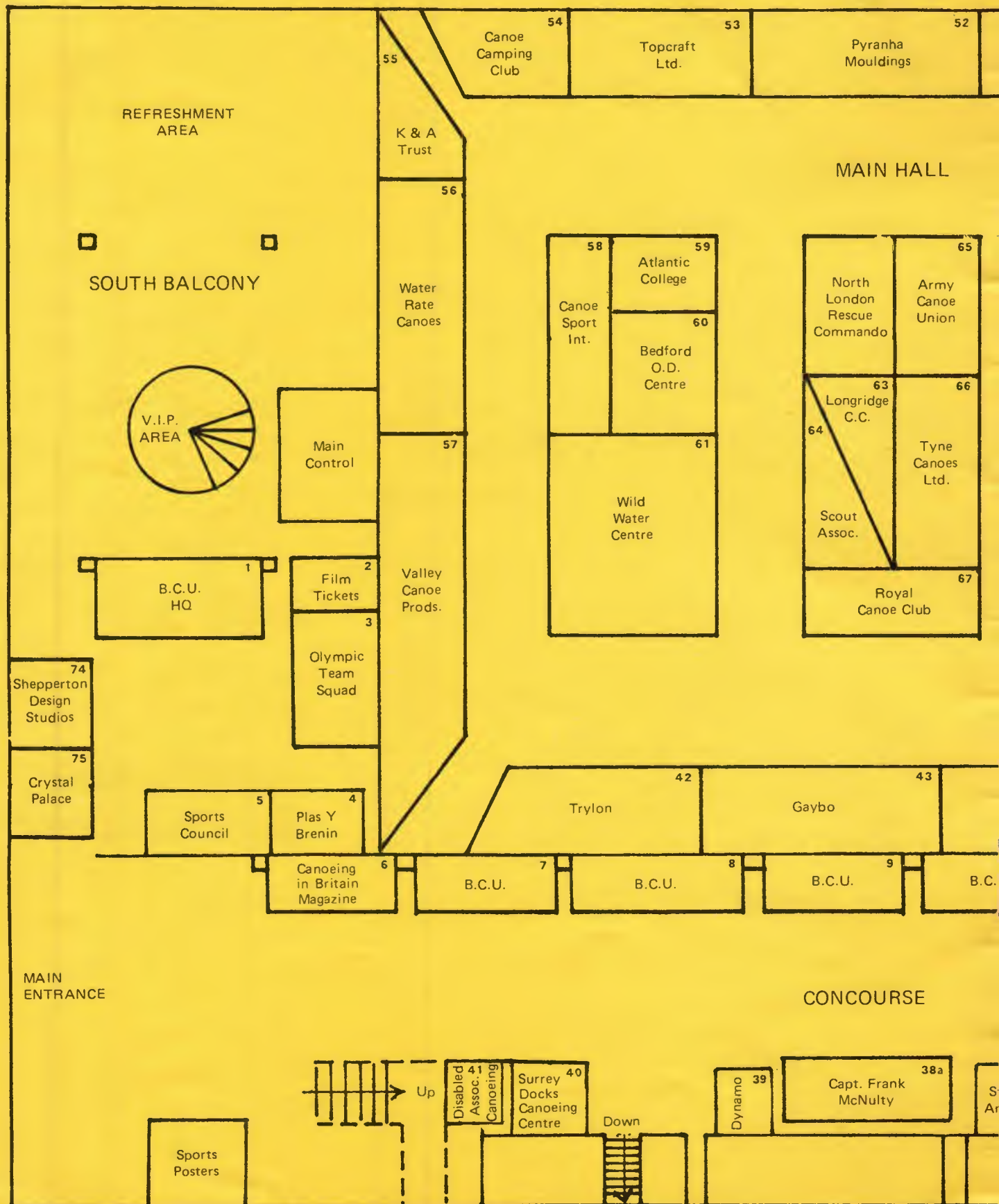
Flaretec Ltd is starting a campaign to educate all sportsmen to carry a Skyblazer Flare in their pocket at all times.

The Aerial Flare R20 is safe and simple to use and is available in a pocket size pack of three costing about £6.36.

Anyone interested will be able to see Flaretec products at the 1976 National Canoe Show, Crystal Palace, on the VCP stand and the Canoe Centre, Twickenham stand.

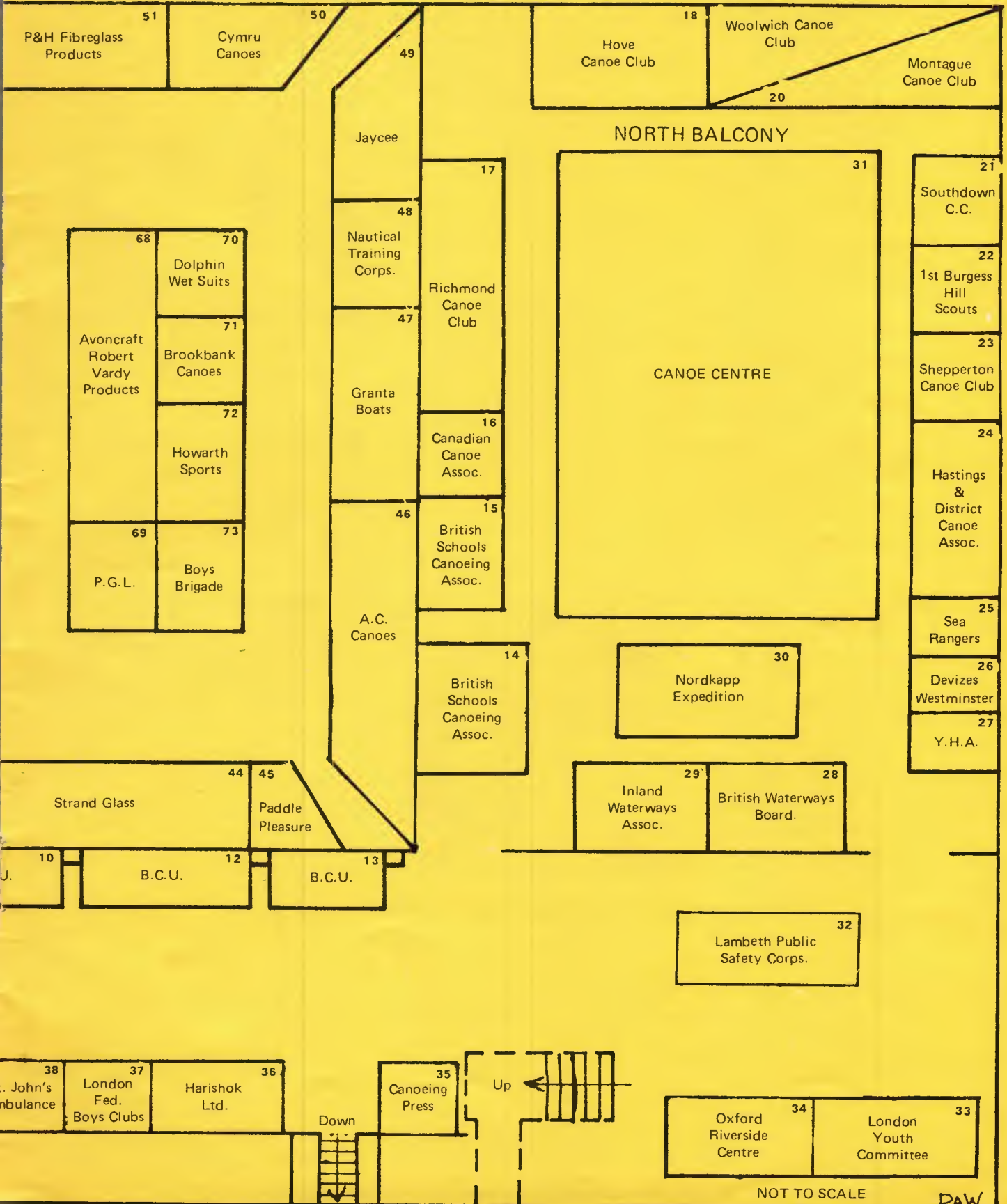
NATIONAL CANOE

STAND NUMBER



EXHIBITION — CRYSTAL PALACE

MAPS & PLAN



The Trade at the CRYSTAL PALACE EXHIBITION

Over the past two years the complaint about the Crystal Palace Canoe Exhibition has been that the trade is too lightly represented, but now that the differences between the BCU and the BCMA have been resolved, the whole of the canoeing trade is represented at what promises to be an exciting and stimulating exhibition. Many firms have produced new models for introduction at the show and details follow.

On Stand 52 Pyranha Moulding have five completely new craft on show including Shaft, the new river racer which has been used successfully by top paddlers during the last season. Developed from the Bullet, Shaft is more stable without any loss of speed; therefore faster in big water.

For Sprint and LD racing, Pyranha Competition announce the first new British K2 for many years. The Balder K2's advanced low profile lines give freedom of movement particularly in the rear cockpit along with its newly designed stronger more comfortable fittings. Also featured is a new construction method that has been under development for over a year. It gives rigidity comparable with expensive wooden Danish craft at a fraction of their cost and with an increase in strength.

Spartan, a new sprint C2 should be on show at the exhibition. Probably the first C2 to be made in reinforced plastic in the Western World, this canoe is being produced due to demand from a number of clubs and paddlers both in this country and abroad, and it is hoped that races will be organised for this class in Britain very soon. The design follows the latest continental trends and with the new construction method should prove more than competitive.

Pyranha Sport has two new models, the Simba 2, an improved version of the canoe that has been Pyranha's best-selling general-purpose canoe for the last two years, and Porpoise, a stable and quick single tourer with a large cockpit and plenty of storage room. Pyranha's range of equipment is always being extended and Poggles, an American styled canoeing mitt that goes completely around the hand and paddle thus giving all the feel of the paddle that one would get without the mitt, but still keeping the hands from the cold icy water are worth looking at. Velcro is used to adjust the Poggle and also allows the paddler to let go of the paddle instantly if necessary.

On Stand 39 Trylon Ltd. will have a complete range of canoe moulds on display which can be either hired by the day or purchased outright. The designs include touring, sea canoeing, canoe polo and training, sprint racing and slalom. For the show, Trylon are introducing a fully competitive lowline slalom design and believe that this will open up a new dimension for the home builder. This design, and a complete range of canoeing accessories can be seen on the stand. Finished canoes, manufactured to the British Canoe Manufacturers Standard, will also be available from Trylon in 1976. Technical staff will be available on their

stand throughout the exhibition to assist you in selecting the correct canoe design and materials to meet your requirements.

On Stand No. 51, P & H Fibreglass Products of Spondon, Derby, will be exhibiting at least 3 new models on their stand, together with their full range of slalom and touring canoes and associated equipment. The show stealer is sure to be the new P & H surf canoe, designed for the heavier paddler. The Surfer Mk. 3, as it will be known, has ultra fast rail edges and it's design should make it the fastest surf canoe available in the world.

Another new world class canoe on the P & H stand is the 1976 model of the slalom C1. Designed by Paul Hahn it needs very little introduction except that it is low, manoeuvrable and still manages to be fast. A fantastic achievement by Germany's top Canadian canoe designer.

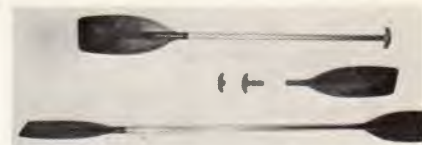
P & H are also breaking into the White Water racing market, at last, and introducing at the Show the Challenger W.W.K1. It has designed in America and brought here by Dave Mitchel and is now made under licence by P & H. Although it has only just become available it achieved a second position in the Exe Decent which was held with the river in spate.

A new product from A C Canoe Products (Chester) Ltd. on Stand 46 is the Ace De-Luxe Canoeing Helmet. This attractive new model has been introduced



in addition to the well known existing range of Ace high impact nylon helmets, and is made in Lexan Polycarbonate, an extremely strong plastic, as supplied to the British Slalom and White Water Racing team at the 1975 world championships. The helmet will fit most head sizes, incorporating adjustable polyethylene inner cradle and is available in translucent blue. Weighs only 12oz.

A C Canoe Products are also showing a new flat Canadian Kayak Paddles. Flat blades made from the now well-tried and tested high strength structural foam glass reinforced polypropylene - lightweight, unsinkable and hardwearing requiring no maintenance. The paddles may be purchased as loose blades (to fit standard aluminium tubes), as kits, or ready assembled. The blades are ideal for Canadian or Kayak arrangements where a



AC Canoe Products paddles.

flat blade is preferred. Canadian handles (which can be supplied in either male or female form) are made of the same material as the blades.

On Stand 57, Valley Canoe Products Nottingham, have a new surf canoe. The Moccasin's ability to punch out through



heavy surf is unique. Its effortless take-off leaves its rivals way outside and its aggressive grip on the shoulder puts it in the slot. It is fitted with BCP's new toggle parks and with optional extras of either skeg or wings. RD Fittings: By a unique



new process developed over the last few months, Valley Canoe can add recessed deck fittings, moulded into the deck during lay-up, to any of their range of canoes. Bow hook, Beam hook, Toggle park, Fairlead and Jam-cleat name the range. Vagabond a new estuary canoe, built to fill the need for a modern, lively touring single that can tackle both river and sea work will be on show. The Vagabond can be fitted with an overstern rudder if required. Kellybuoy lifeline. Always safety conscious, they have developed the Kellybuoy in collaboration with the Severn Trent Water Safety Committee. Bowled underarm from the river bank, the conical buoy streams a cricket-pitch length of 3mm diameter floating line, and floats upright in the water for easy visibility.

On Stand No. 49, Jaycee Glassfibre Products have the Flowstream paddle. This is the successor to the Slipstream paddle, with an all-polyester blade and shaft with oval loom. They will also be showing their new Lippe Nansun C2, already acclaimed by world championship paddlers. The Typhun C1 has been altered to make it faster yet keep its manoeuvrability, and the Rapido, a beautifully streamlined slalom craft, is new for the show, too.

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR TRAINING – INLAND

- February 13-15 Park End, Gloucestershire (3)
 February 20-24 Malden (15)
 March 6-7 Staunton-on-Wye (21)
 March 20-21 Bedford (13)
 March 26-28 Long Eaton (47). Wensun Lodge, Norfolk (20). East Barnby (49)
 April Benburb, N. Ireland (61)
 April 2-4 Catton, Northumberland (55)
 April 3-4 Leicester (38). Birmingham (42). East Bergholt (10)
 April 9-11 Northampton (4). Bedford (12)
 April 30-May 2 Grafham (16)
 May 7-9 Thursday evenings May 6-June 17, Nottingham (39) Carlisle (18)
 May 14-16 Longridge N.S.B.C. Marlow (1)
 May 15-16 Ross-on-Wye (23)
 June 12-13 Rugby (24)
 June 19-20 Thetford (25). Bingley (52)
 June 26-27 July 3 Glenmore Lodge (67)
 June 26-27 Bewdley (26)
 July Thursday evenings July 1-August 11 Nottingham (39)
 July 4-5 Worcester (31)
 July 10-17 Bisham Abbey (54)
 July 24-25 Stone (27)
 August 29 – September 5 Glenmore Lodge (67)
 September 4-5 Ross-on-Wye (23)
 September 10-12 Biblins-on-Wye, Monmouth (9)
 September 11-12 Great Barford, Bedford (13)
 September 18-19 Reddich (28)
 September 17-19 Askham Bryan, York (53)
 September 24-26 Longridge N.S.B.C. Marlow (1) White Hall, Derbyshire (6)
 October 2-3 Ludlow (29) Carlisle (18)
 October 8-10 Northampton (4)
 November 5-7 Catton, Northumberland (55) Benburb, N. Ireland (65)

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT – INLAND

- February 20-24 Maldon (15)
 March 6-7 Staunton-on-Wye (21)
 March 20-21 Bedford (13)
 March 26-28 Wensun Lodge, Norfolk (20) East Barnby (49)
 April Benburb, N. Ireland (61)
 April 2-4 Catton, Northumberland (55)
 April 3-4 East Bergholt (10) Birmingham (22)
 April 9-11 Northampton (4)
 April 30-May 1 Leicester (38) Grafham (16)
 May Thursday evenings May 6 – June 17 Nottingham (39)
 May 7-9 Carlisle (18)
 May 15-16 Ross-on-Wye (23)
 May 22-23 Bewdley (30)
 June 12-19 Glenmore Lodge (67)
 June 19-20 Bingley (52) Telford (25)
 July Thursday evenings July 1 – August 11 Nottingham (39)
 July 3-4 Worcester (31)
 July 10-17 Bisham Abbey (54)
 July 24-25 Stone (27)
 September 4-5 Ross-on-Wye (23)
 September 5-12 Glenmore Lodge (67)
 September 11-12 Great Barford (13)
 September 17-19 York (53) Holme Pierrepont (43)
 September 24-26 White Hall, Derbyshire (6)
 October 2-3 Ludlow (29) Carlisle (18)
 October 8-10 Northampton (4)
 November Benburb, N. Ireland (65)
 November 5-7 Catton, Northumberland (55)

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR TRAINING – SEA

- April 23-25 Beal, Northumberland (55)
 May 7-9 Calshot (36)
 May 21-23 Cumbria (19) Bradwell (17)
 May 23-25 Weymouth, Dorset (11)
 June 11-13 Cumbria (19)
 July 3-4 Felixstone (10)
 September 3-5 Bradwell, Essex (17)
 September 10-12 Longridge N.S.B.C. (1)
 September 17-19 Calshot (36)
 September 24-26 East Barnby (55)

- October 15-17 Calshot (36)
 October 29-31 Weymouth, Dorset (11)
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT – SEA
 April 23-25 Beal, Northumberland (55)
 May 7-9 Calshot (36)
 May 21-23 Cumbria (19)
 May 23-25 Weymouth, Dorset (11)
 May 29-30 Penzance (5)
 June 11-13 Cumbria (19)
 July 3-4 Felixstone (10)
 September 24-26 East Barnby (55)
 October 15-17 Calshot (36)
 October 29-31 Weymouth, Dorset (11)

COACH TRAINING – INLAND

- February 7-8 Rhyarder (29)
 April 2-4 Catton, Northumberland (55)
 May 29-June 5 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
 November 5-7 Catton, Northumberland (55)

COACH TRAINING – SEA

- April 23-25 Beal, Northumberland (55)
 September 24-26 East Barnby (55)
 October 7-9 Calshot (36)
 October 15-17 Calshot (36)

COACH ASSESSMENT – INLAND

- 2-4 Catton, Northumberland (55)
 May 29-June 5 Plas-y-Brenin (60)
 October 30-31 Staunton-on-Wye (22)
 November 5-7 Catton, Northumberland (55)

COACH ASSESSMENT – SEA

- April 23-25 Beal, Northumberland (55)
 September 24-26 East Barnby (55)
 October 7-9 Calshot (36)
 October 15-17 Calshot (36)

BATHS COURSES

September to March
 Applications for information of local indoor courses should be made to your Area Coaching Organiser accompanied by an s.a.c.

CORPS OF CANOE LIFEGUARDS

- April 16-18 National Training weekend N.C.R.T.C. (66)
 July One week training N.C.R.T.C. (66)
 July 9-11 Training conference, Henley (66)
 September 25-26 National Championships, Weymouth (66)
 October 8-10 Training, Plas-y-Brenin (66)

OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD

- February 14-15 Training weekend. Holme Pierrepont.
 March 20-21 Training weekend. Holme Pierrepont.
 April 10-25 Training Camp
 May 22-23 International Sprint Regatta. Ghent
 June 5-6 International Sprint Regatta. Vichy
 June 14-20 Training camp. Holme Pierrepont.
 July 1-14 Training camp
 July 27-31 Olympic Games. Montreal

S.R.C. and L.D.R. REGIONAL TRAINING SQUADS

- February 7-8 Nottingham, London (Richmond and Royal C.C.)
 February 8 Lichfield, East Anglia (Harlow, Chelmsford, Spring Hill)
 February 29 East Anglia
 March 6-7 Nottingham
 March 7 Lichfield
 March 13-14 London, Guildford

MISCELLANEOUS

- March 12-14 Eastern Region Coaching Panel Conference (14)
 April Introduction to slalom, Newark (38)
 April 10-11 Competition Training, Calshot (21)
 May 21-23 D of E Training, Calshot (21)
 May 22-23 Introduction of slalom, Derby (45)
 June 26-27 Introduction to Canadian canoeing, Bewdley (26)
 July Introduction to Canadian, Laneham (44)
 September Competition appreciation course, Holme Pierrepont (43)
 September 17-19 Life Saving Training and Testing (36)
 October Competition appreciation course, Holme Pierrepont (43)
 December 3-5 Northern Coaching Panel Regional Conference, Rievers of Tarset (55)

COACHING ADDRESSES

- 1 E. Wykes, The National Scout Boating Centre, Longridge, Quarry Wood Road, Marlow, Bucks. SL7 1RE
 3. R. M. A. Butling, Dean Field Studies Centre, Parkend,

- Lydney, Gloucs.
 4. J. Adams, 29 Birchfield Road, Northampton.
 5 C. Scott, Mount Green, Rose, Truro, Cornwall.

1976 CALENDAR 1976

- 6 The Principal, White Hall Centre, Long Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire.
- 7 Mrs. P. M. Edwards, White Hall Centre, Long Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire.
- 9 K. Archard, 17 Moorbarton, Neston, Corsham, Wilts.
- 10 R. N. Castle, 1 Leicester Close, Ipswich.
- 11 M. T. Hodgson, Weymouth Y. A. Centre, Knightsdale Road, Weymouth, Dorset.
- 12 The Sports Council, 26/28 Bramham Road, Bedford MK40 2QP
- 13 J. Hooker, 178 Cozen Road, Ware, Herts.
- 14 J. Ramwell, H. M. Borstal, Gaynes Hall, St. Stoughton, Huntingdon, Cambs.
- 15 D. Courtman, Newham O. A. Centre, Fairplay House, Wickham Bishops, Maldon, Essex.
- 16 D. Paynter, Grafham Residential Centre, West Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs.
- 17 T. Branchitt, Bradwell Sailing Centre, Bradwell Water Side, Nr. Southminster, Essex.
- 18 G. Fletcher, 6 Lowmoorlands, Dalston, Carlisle.
- 19 C. J. Mortlock, Old Fisherbeck, Lake Road, Ambleside.
- 20 Mrs. P. Landamore, The Grange, Salhouse, Norwich. NRI 6RW
- 21 Gcoff McGladdery, The Youth Hostel, Staunton-on-Wye, Hereford. HR4 7NF
- 22 R. Mace, 7 The Knoll, Bartley Green, Birmingham 32
- 23 P. G. L. Young Adventure Ltd., Station Street, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7AH
- 24 K. Tulley, 3 Start Corner, Barby, Rugby, Warks.
- 25 G. Lyon, 33 Forester Road, Broseley, Salop. TF12 5BS
- 26 B. Porter, 20 Flyford Close, Lodge Park, Redditch, Worcs. B68 7LU
- 27 P. Baskerville, 26 Hartlands Road, Eccleshall, Stafford. ST21 6DW
- 28 P. Calvert, The Flat, The Torres, Mount Pleasant, Redditch, Worcs.
- 29 R. Leadley, 8 Wood Lane, Handsworth, Birmingham. B20 2AP
- 30 C. Manton, 11 Stepping Stones Road, Coventry. CV5 8JT
- 31 Mick Powell, 5 Aconbury Close, Worcester. WR5 1JD
- 32 Carel Quaife, 70 Coppers Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham. B20 2JX
- 33 K. Higgs, 56 Highfield Grove, Stafford.
- 34 P. Wright, 11 Bishops Close, Alcester Road, Stratford-on-Avon, Warks.

- 35 E. Newton, 9 Rollason Road, Dudley, West Midlands. DY2 8ND
- 36 G. C. Good, Calshot Activities Centre, The Spit, Calshot, Southampton. SO5 1BR
- 37 N. Rowe, 80 Hopefield Avenue, Portrush, N. Ireland.
- 38 N. Matthews, O.P.C. Loughborough Road, Leicester.
- 39 M. Nadal, Flat 4, 24 William Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.
- 40 B. Neville, Sports Council, East Midland Regional Office, 26 Musters Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.
- 41 M. Clough, The Pavilion, Colwick Racecourse, Colwick, Nottingham.
- 42 R. Fax, City of Leicester C. of E., Scraftoft, Leicester.
- 43 M. Haslem, W.S.D., C.O.D. Chilwell, Nottingham.
- 44 B. Hutton, Senior Youth and Community Officer (Training), 2a Oxford Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham.
- 45 D. Patrick, 76 Dale Road, Spondon, Derby.
- 46 G. Edwards, White Hall Centre, Long Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire.
- 47 K. Thomas, 29 Wensley Dale Road, Long Eaton, Nottinghamshire.
- 49 R. Hellowell, East Barnby Field Centre, East Barnby, Whitby, N. Yorks.
- 50 Mrs. J. Uttley, 113 Wheatley, Road, Halifax.
- 51 K. Rooker, Gag Aye, Langnar, Buxton.
- 52 W. J. Keay, 17 Westfields Crescent, Riddlesden.
- 53 R. Rymer, The Lodge, Kirk Hammerton, York.
- 54 B.C.U. H.Q. 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT
- 55 C. Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Cleveland.
- 56 J. Lowes, 28 Bamburgh Road, Hewton Hall, Durham.
- 57 D. C. Hutchinson, 18 Marina Drive, South Shields.
- 58 D. Hellawell, 79 Greenfield Road, Eaglescliffe, Cleveland.
- 59 B. Hodgson, Rievers of Tasset, The Comb, Greenhaugh, Northumberland.
- 60 The Sports Council, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT
- 61 R. Rowe, 122 Finaghy Road South, Belfast 10, N Ireland.
- 62 J. Rodgers, Rockmount Park, Bangor, County Down, N. Ireland.
- 63 E. Officer, 31 Woodcraft Park, Holywood, N. Ireland.
- 64 J. McIntyre, 1 Delmount Road, Bangor, N. Ireland.
- 65 B. Greeves, 31 Grange Road, Dungannon, County Tyrone, N. Ireland.
- 66 B. Apps, 9 Beechwood Close, Crays Pond, Reading, Berks.
- 67 Scottish Sports Council, 1 - 3 Colme Street, Edinburgh EH3 6AA

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

The times and venues for future championships were fixed as follows:

- 1976 Olympic Games - Montreal, Canada
- 1977 Junior American Championships - November, Buenos Aires, Argentine
- Junior European Championships - July - August, Vichy, France
- Senior World Championships - 1st week August, Sofia or Plovdiv, Bulgaria
- 1978 Senior World Championships - Dartmouth, Canada
- 1979 Junior European Championships - Late July, Tampere, Finland
- Senior World Championships - July-August, Duisburg, Federal German Republic
- 1980 Olympic Games - Moscow, USSR
- 1981 Senior World Championships - July-August, Nottingham, England
- Slalom and Wild Water Racing**
- 1975 World Championships - 23-29 July Skopje, Yugoslavia
- 1977 World Championships - First half July, Landeck, Austria
- 1979 World Championships - Jonkier in Canada or Bourg St. Maurice in France
- 1981 World Championships - Nottingham, England
- 1983 World Championships - Australia

I.C.E. CANOE RACING CALENDAR FOR 1976

Open Regattas

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| May 1-2 | Belgrade/Yugoslavia - Regatta of the Balkan Countries |
| May 22-23 | Prague/Czechoslovakia - W.C. Programme |
| May 22-23 | Ghent/Belgium - W. C. Programme |
| May 22-23 | Amsterdam/Holland - Olympic Programme |
| May 29-30 | Moscow/U.S.S.R. - Olympic Programme |
| June 5-6 | Vichy/France - Olympic Programme |
| June 5-6 | Bydgoszcz/Poland - W. C. Programme |
| June 5-6 | Shagov/Rumania - Olympic Programme |
| June 19-20 | Nottingham/England - Olympic Programme |
| June 19-20 | Bochum/G.F.R. - Junior Regatta |
| June 26-27 | Belgrade/Yugoslavia - Olympic Programme |
| July 28-31 | Montreal/Canada - Olympic Games Regatta |
| August 28-29 | Holland - W. C. Programme |
| Sept. 4-5 | Plovdiv/Bulgaria - Junior Regatta |

Invitation Regattas

- May 29-30 Brandenburg/G.D.R. - Olympic Programme
 The regattas in Amsterdam (May 22-23), Sofia (May 29-30) and Snagov (June 5-6) are also invitation Regattas.

BCU DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT John Dudderidge, OBE, "Sunny Haven," East End, North Leigh, Witney. Oxfordshire (0993-882142)

CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

E. J. Owen, FVFCU, 138 Cubbington Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Works. (Leamington Spa 22954)

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Gordon Richards, M.B.E. 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT.

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Office Manager, British Canoe Union, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT (01-584-9229)

OFFICE MANAGER

J. E. D. Travers, British Canoe Union, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT (01-584-9229)

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Hon. Secretary: J. S. Ness: 11 Rutland Street, Edinburgh.
 Secretary: A. Manzie, 2 (b) High Road, Castlehead, Paisley, Renfrewshire (041-887-2401)

TREASURER

E. J. Owen, FVFCU, 138 Cubbington Road, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Works. (Leamington Spa 22954)

CANOE ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN IRELAND

49 Malane Road, Belfast BTQ 6RZ.

IRISH CANOE UNION

Derek R. Martin, Ard Brugh Lodge, Cunningham Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

B. C. U. FILMS

National Audio-Visual Aids Library, Paxton Place, Gipsy Road, London SE27 9ES.

B.C.U. CANOE INSURANCE

Mrs. Joan Baker, 63 Rupert Road, Sheffield, S7 1RP. Yorks. (Sheffield 55997)

B.C.U. CANOE SAILING

Hon. Secretary: A. Marston, 240 Franklin Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 2ES.

B.C.U. SPRINT RACING

Hon. Secretary: Rowland J. Jones, 35 Marion Way, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 0BJ (021-778-1587)

B.C.U. LONG DISTANCE RACING

Hon. Secretary: Mrs. C. M. Laws, 47 Bowgate, Gosberton, nr. Spalding, Lincs. L. D. Coach: Robin Lees, 13 Hazel Way, St. Ives, Huntingdon.

B.C.U. SLALOM & WILD WATER RACING

Hon. Secretary: Miss V. Brown, Bewerley Park Centre, Bewerley, Harrogate, HG3 5JB.

B.C.U. TOURING HOME & ABROAD

Ralph Tyas, 19 Pine Hill, Epsom, Surrey. (Epsom 21665)

B.C.U. DIRECTOR OF COACHING

Oliver J. Cock, 'Rivertrees,' Wargrave Road, Henely-on-Thames, Oxon. RG9 3JD

B.C.U. NATIONAL COACHES

Chris Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Cleveland. (Hartlepool 66339). C. A. Gray, 128 Greythorne Drive, W. Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7GA.

B.C.U. NATIONAL COMPETITION COACH

K. Langford, 38 Redwood Avenue, Stone, Staffs.

ESPAD AWARD SCHEME

Hon. Secretary: Mrs I. Weaton, 104 Norton Lanke, Great Wyrley, Walsall. West Midlands.

AREA COACHING ORGANISERS

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: W. Young, 25 Barton Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 17Q.

SOUTH: G. Good, Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot Spit, Southampton, Hants SO4 1BR.

DORSET, SOMERSET AND WILTSHIRE: C. K. Woodbridge, Lyme Regis Adventure Centre, Monmouth Beach, Lyme Regis, Dorset.

DEVON AND CORNWALL: R. Moore, Millford School, Biggin Hill, Farnesettle, Plymouth, PL5 2PY.

WEST MIDLANDS: C. E. Quaife, 70 Coopers Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, B20 2JX

NORTH WEST: R. H. Nicholls, 24 Winton Road, Bowden, Cheshire.

CUMBRIA: G. Fletcher, 6 Lowmoor Lands, Dalston, Calsisle.

NORTHERN: C. H. Hare, 9 Tynebrooke Avenue, Hartlepool, Co. Durham.

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE: K. Rooker, Gag Aye, Longhor, Buxton.

EAST MIDLANDS: C. A. Gray, 128 Greythorne Drive, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7GA.

EAST: J. J. Ramwell, H. M. Borstal, Gaynes Hall, Great Stoughton, Hunts.

NORTHERN IRELAND: N. Rowe, 80 Hopesfield Avenue, Portrush, Co. Antrim.

NORTH WEST SCOTLAND: W. Bruce, 20 Weir Crescent, Milton, Wick.

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND: J. Gilchrist, Moschatel Grange, Keith, Banffshire.

EAST SCOTLAND: J. Young, 21 Craigeith Drive, Edinburgh EH3 4JT.

SOUTH WEST SCOTLAND: J. Samuel, 33 Brookfield Road, Port Glasgow, Renflewshire.

CENTRAL SCOTLAND: J. Newns, The Rowans, Roughrigg, Longriggend, Airdrie, Lanark.

SOUTH SCOTLAND: W. Geddes, Danum Cottage, Heiton, Kelso, Roxburghshire.

NORTH WALES: D. J. Mayes, Plas-y-Coad, North Wales.

SOUTH WALES: T. R. Cole, 1 Alma Street, Tynnewydd, Treorchy, Rhondda, Glam.

CHANNEL ISLANDS: D. A. Thelland, 5 St. Andrews Road, First Tower, St. Helier, Jersey, C.1.

RIVER ADVISERS

The function of the River Advisers appointed by the Touring Committee is to act as an information point to whom members can report objections to canoeing and difficulties over access that they have experienced, and to advise members thinking of taking a trip on certain 'difficult' rivers (i.e. as regards access, etc.) whether it is advisable to attempt the trip, or possibly to put them in touch with others, to avoid too frequent usage. The River Advisers' aim is to be helpful, but if they have to advise abandoning a proposed trip

their advice should be respected.

The Scottish Canoe Association has introduced a similar system for Scotland.

Don't forget to "feed back" information to the River Adviser. He needs to know whether you meet objections besides those he advised you of, and even if you met with no objection on the river on which you expected challenge. Such "feed back" enables him to be more helpful to others later on.

On some rivers agreements exist, written or understood, between canoeists on one hand, riparian owners, angling clubs, etc., on the other. These agreements refer to whether or not prior permission for a canoeing trip need be sought, and at what times of the year, or in what conditions (e.g. times of spate) canoeing will be permitted or tolerated, the size of the party, behaviour, whether several weeks' notice is required, or whether it is sufficient to telephone a few hours beforehand. It is in the best interests of our sport that all members should enquire about these details from the appropriate River Adviser.

PLEASE GIVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND WHEN WRITING, ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR THE REPLY. Telephone numbers are mostly home numbers. ENGLAND AND WALES

Lake District, Lune, Eden:
D. Rushfirth, 44 Bleasdale Avenue, Staining, nr. Blackpool, Lancs. Tel: 03912-6668

Tyne Northumberland and Wear
M. Todd, David Grieve House, Headlam Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2DS. Tel: 0632 650227

Tees:
C. Litten, 36 Mexborough Rd, Bolton Woods, Bradford, BD2 1BL. Tel: 0274 593257.

Ribble, Cheshire, North Wales incl. Dee:
C. M. Rotherwell, 21 Windsor Road, Clayton Bridge, Manchester, M10 6QQ. Tel: 061-681 1374.

Yorkshire Derwent, Swale, Ure, Nidd, Wharfe, etc.
W. J. Keay, 17 Westfield Crescent, Riddlesden, Keighley, Yorkshire. Tel: 05352-3704.

Teme:
D. Smith, 2 White Harte Park, Kinver, Stourbridge, W. Midlands. Tel: 038-483-2831.

Warwickshire Avon & Tributaries:
W. E. James, 49 Lime Avenue, Lillington, Leamington Spa. Tel 0926-28685.

Severn and tributaries, Warwickshire except Avon and Teme:
J. Woolley, 79 The Mount, Shrewsbury. 0743-62788.

Upper Wye, Monnow, Usk:
Colin Green, Woodlands Outdoor Centre, Glasbury-on-Wye, Hereford. Tel: Glasbury 272.

Lower Wye (below Glasbury):
R. Shoesmith, The Old School, Bredwardine, Hereford. Tel: Moccas 216.

Dart (above Totnes):
(Subject to confirmation after January 1976):
The Warden, Outward Bound School, Holne Park, Ashburton, Devon. Tel. 0364-52511.

Teifi, Towy:
S. Pugh-Jones, "Cregina", Meinciau, Kidwelly, Llanelli, Glamorgan.

SCOTLAND

Dee and Awe:
Andrew Manwell, 2 Kildrummy Road, Aberdeen.

Tay and Awe:
Andrew Morton, Broxburn Academy, Broxburn, West Lothian. Tel. Broxburn 2521.

Tweed:
W. Geddes, Danum Cottage, Heiton, Kelso, Roxburghshire. Tel. Kelso 2444.

John Pearson, 30 Howden Road, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire. Tel. Jedburgh 2396.

Clyde:
Dr John Fryer, 12 Balfour Avenue, Beith, Ayrshire.

Nith:
Douglas Allison, The Old Farmhouse, 58 Nunholme Road, Dumfries. Tel. Dumfries 61818.

Leny:
Miss Maureen McClure, 5 Glen Gardens, Callander, Perthshire.

Spey:
J. Gilchrist, Mochatel, Grange, Keith, Banffshire.
Stuart Armstrong, Lagganlia Outdoor Centre, Kincaig, Inverness-shire. Tel. Kincaig 265.

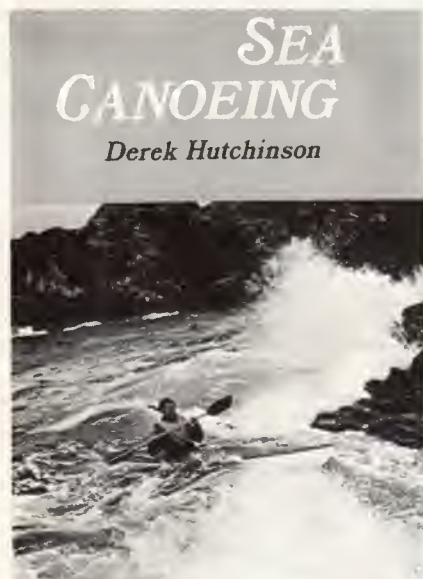
Southampton and Solent area:
G. C. Good, Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Southampton. Tel: 042-134-477.

Exe:
C. J. Leach, 110 Mount Pleasant, Exeter.
Trent, Derbyshire Derwent, Dove, Soar:
F. R. Goodman, 72 Whittingham Road, Mapperley, Nottingham. Tel: 0602-69931.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

SEA CANOEING

By Derek C. Hutchinson,
published by
A & C Black. Price £4.75.



The author of this book has been featured elsewhere in the magazine so his chatty and enjoyable style can be seen for itself. However, one is given no indication of his illustrative ability. The book demonstrates that to such an extent that you are inclined to look at the pictures rather than

read it. Be warned, do not do so, for this is the first major work on sea canoeing and will be used as a text book and reference work for a decade to come. As you will see from the chapter headings — equipment; technique; surfing; rescues; waves; wind and weather; tides and tidal streams; navigation; arctic origins of the sea canoe — a more comprehensive guide to the last area of freedom for the touring canoeist could not be devised. The style of the author changes from the light to, at times, very solid technical detail and I feel that the reader would be more inclined to read and come again rather than go straight through. Definitely one for your bookshelf, be you pundit or pontificator, senior instructor or senior coach, cruiser or competitor, there is something for everyone here, and worth having. — C.H.

CANOE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

By Alan Bye published by
Pelham Books, price £4.35

An interesting book, well worth reading by any canoeist, although the price seems somewhat steep. Some of the topics have been touched on by Bye in other articles or books by him, but this is the first book I have found that dealt comprehensively with all aspects of design and construction of GRP canoes and kayaks, and this alone makes the book worth buying.

The author's writing style has a curiously conversational nature which makes his work pleasant to read and also conveys to the reader his obvious enthusiasm for canoeing. The section

dealing with building of canoes contains an item on freeing the craft from the hull mould in which the author advocates what could be claimed as "clog dancing" on the flange from a stance in the cockpit is an example of this. However the good points of the book outweigh the bad and even though I do not agree with some of the advice and opinions expressed, I feel that it is one for your bookshelf. — P.W.

SCOUTS ON THE WATER

A Handbook for Leaders by
P. W. Blandford, published by
The Scout Association
Price £1.50

The book is written as a guide to boat handling in general. As a guide to leaders I have applied the same criteria as I would use to Senior Instructor "would I trust my children with you?" and if the leader followed this book, frankly "no".

First aid seems to have gone by the board, one of the methods of rescue illustrated could be lethal. The draw stroke is a certain failure, but enough of the negative side of the book. Much of the rest of it is sound, practical advice which will give the reader much enjoyment. — C.H.

WEATHER FORECASTS

Published by the RYA 25p.

A very small book almost like a BCU booklet in fact, yet the RYA has managed to squeeze in full details of how to get weather forecasts and what they mean when you do get them. If you want to know about weather, this is the book for you. — O.J.C.

Sea Canoeing

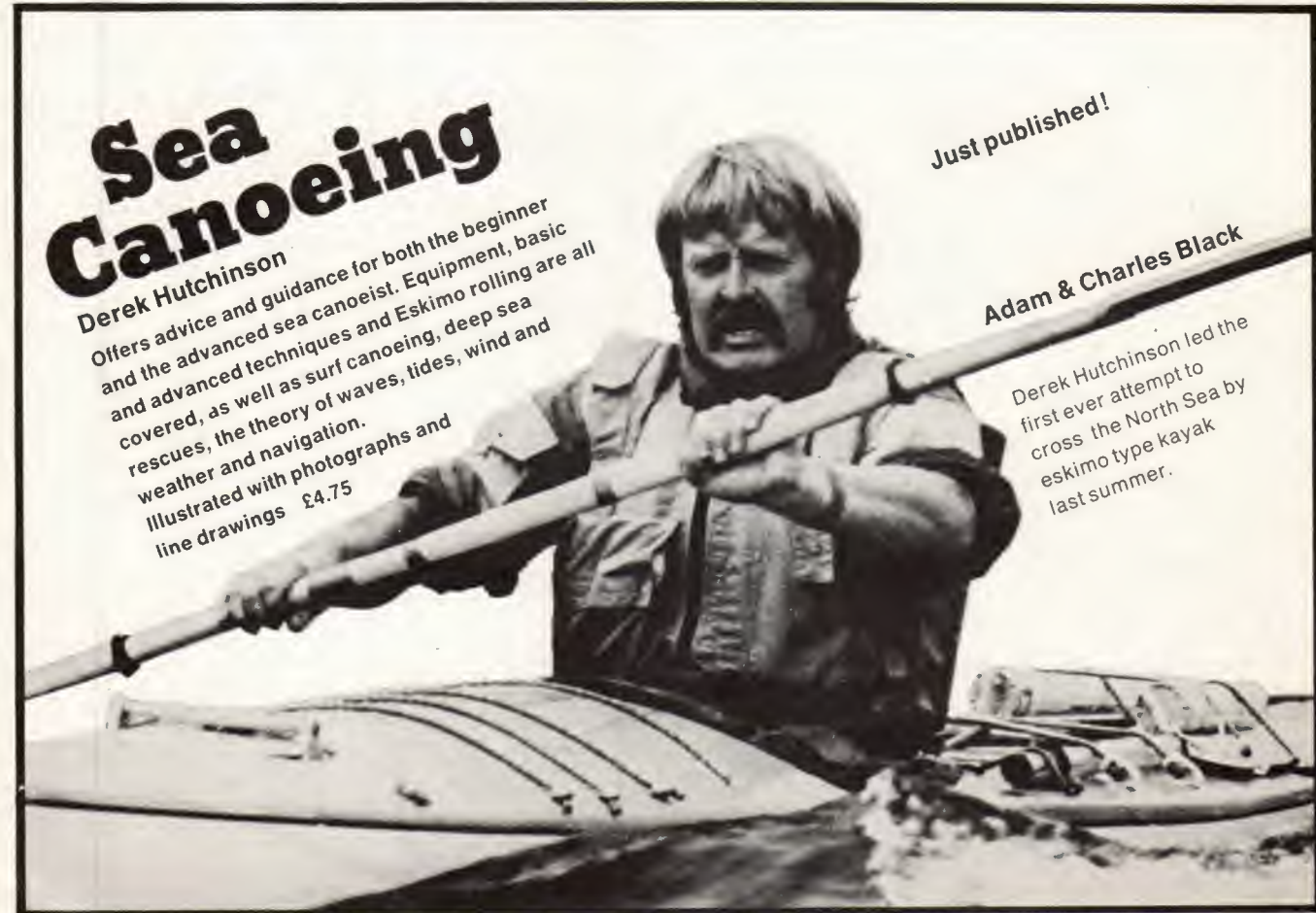
Derek Hutchinson

Offers advice and guidance for both the beginner and the advanced sea canoeist. Equipment, basic and advanced techniques and Eskimo rolling are all covered, as well as surf canoeing, deep sea rescues, the theory of waves, tides, wind and weather and navigation.
Illustrated with photographs and line drawings £4.75

Just published!

Adam & Charles Black

Derek Hutchinson led the first ever attempt to cross the North Sea by eskimo type kayak last summer.



NORTH SEA DIARY

by Derek C. Hutchinson

— continued from last issue

After we'd paddled round for several minutes, I eventually found Robin's paddle about 100 yds. upwind and took it to him as the rest started to paddle on.

We had heard some engines for some time off to the left and now a large ship came from over that way and crossed our sterns about one mile behind. The mist was beginning to clear now. Suddenly a yacht was heading towards us directly on our course. The man on board could speak English but had no radio aboard. He told us we were 33 miles from Ostend — a bitter, depressing blow!

Tom decided it might be as well to assess the stock of liquids. We had had many hours of sun and were likely to be having a great deal more. It was judged best to be a little careful now and not be foolishly extravagant as Tom now realised he had been, when he's slung his water because he didn't like the taste.

Soon after this a ship approached quite close from the south. I waved my paddle, thinking he might radio our position. He looked at us through his binoculars so I mimed using a telephone, but all we got was a bounce on his wash. He didn't radio. Tom and Gordon were paddling very strongly now. As the morning wore on I tried to stay in the middle of the group, every now and again re-calling Tom and Gordon because John was rather tired. Although he was managing to keep up, much of the power seemed to have gone out of his stroke. One last ship of the main shipping lane came heading directly towards us from the right, then at the last minute it seemed to change course and passed close astern. We could see the sailors watching us inquisitively.

10.30 a.m. — 24 hours of paddling. The wind had freshened now. Although we still travelled in the same direction, we were all suddenly aware of feeling as though we had turned a corner. At times the seas seemed quite steep and close together, coming from the right. It gave the impression of being very shallow. On and on and on! There seemed no end to it. John seemed fine again now, thank goodness. Tom was back to normal. Robin's paddle stroke seemed a little laboured. Gordon still seemed to show no signs of strain and nor did Keith. Around this time we paddled through a vast expanse of white cuttle-fish bone floating on the water.

Eventually a glimpse of a yacht several miles away to the right. Then Gordon spotted something. "What colour are lightships?" he asked. "Red," I told him. "Then that's a lightship." Keith identified it immediately as the West Hinder lightship. Although it was many miles away on the horizon, the crew had also seen us and radioed our position to Thames Coast Guard as "30 miles from Ostend, travelling at a speed of 3.7 knots." The Coast Guard naturally gave us a new Estimated Time of Arrival of 17.00 hours but, of course, we knew nothing of this at the time.

The wind had freshened now from the N.E. I estimated it as Force 4 to 5. Half past 12 — 26 hours paddling — on and on. It was still a bit hazy. No-one seemed to have eaten for ages. Someone spotted a boat on the horizon ahead four or five miles away in the haze. It must have been the shipping lane about 12 miles off Ostend. As we got nearer we heard whistles. The nearest, off to the front and



Ready to go — Derek Hutchinson.

to the right would be the Oost-Dyck buoy. The seas were really steep now and breaking, seemed to be paddling into a head sea. Gordon and Tom said they were concerned about John — he was falling asleep over his canoe. I paddled over to him "We cracked it, son," I said. He seemed unsure of what I'd said so I repeated, "We've cracked it, John. It's all over bar the shouting." He didn't say anything so I offered a tow but he said no, he'd be O.K.

As we paddled nearer to the Oost-Dyck buoy a ship passed at full speed with an absolutely huge and horrific bow wave. We cut across behind it and soon passed the buoy, paddling on into the haze towards Ostend.

3.00 p.m. — 29 hours paddling. The wind had increased to a steady 5. I was worried in case half of N.A.T.O. was out looking for us. I decided to try to attract a ship's attention and get a message radioed ashore to stop any rescue operations being mounted. So when the next ship thundered past shorewards, I fired a parachute rocket. The ship never stopped. For the next ship we tried a smoke flare. Billows of orange smoke belched out but that ship, too, ploughed on. At this point, on checking what we had left in the way of flares, I realised that this was something I had unfortunately overlooked at the outset of the trip. It was a little disconcerting to discover that some members of the group were woefully ill-equipped. There were only 6 Rocket Flares altogether where there should have been at least 12.

About 5.30 p.m. — 31 hours paddling. John had been slowing down for some time and I was worried about him. The sky was beginning to darken with storm clouds. We had passed over some shallows — presumably the Nord Buitenratel sandbanks. The seas were very steep now and the wind was blowing a Force 6. When we rose on the tops of the wave crests we could look into the wind and see spindrift streaking the sea towards us from waves that were breaking.

Suddenly some of us saw a pole sticking up out of the sea with a diamond shape on top. It was perhaps a mile and a half away and was presumably some sort of groyne marker. This was our first real sighting of some indication of land and, since I was still worried about what mammoth rescue operations might at this very moment be getting off the ground, I thought it might

be wise if Tom, Gordon and I pressed on quickly for the last little stretch to try to forestall the action. Keith and Robin would follow behind with John, who plodded manfully on. I told John of this "O.K.," he said, "see you there!"

Then Tom, Gordon and I battled on even faster. It seemed as if we were destined to paddle on for ever. The tide was running to the S.W. with what was now certainly a Force 7 blowing in the same direction. We desperately tried to Ferry Glide towards that marker but after about ½ hr. it was obvious we were making no headway. Just here, off the southern end of the Oostende Bank the water is about 12 feet deep and waves about four feet high were now breaking over our canoes. Conditions were worsening all the time and at the rate we were being swept sideways it was likely that we were going to lose sight completely of the other three. So Tom, Gordon and I stopped. It was one thing to travel a little ahead, quite another to become completely separated. We made use of the pause to wrap up and put our anoraks on against the wind, although we were by now pretty wet. Then we saw the others approaching from behind and we all agreed that since the weather had deteriorated so much we should all now stick closely together.

When the others had also dressed up, Keith reckoned that if we paddled on 150 we would run at an angle with the seas. By now we were no longer aiming specifically for Ostend but for land anywhere. The marker pole had disappeared completely. The speed we were being swept S.W. I realised it must be France ahead, not Belgium, as it had been an hour before.

7.00 p.m. — 33 hours — still no further sign of land. We didn't know how far we'd been blown but we knew we must be heading sideways for the English Channel. Everyone's thoughts recognised the very real and appalling prospect of another right at sea. The seas were now breaking at about 9 or 10 feet. Gordon was still paddling strongly but his face was tense and he looked very unhappy. I tried to visualise the night ahead.

We would have to tie up together in pairs to try to get what little rest we could with waves breaking over our heads in the dark. We would surely be blown into the Channel where the seas could only get worse. It was almost certain that one or

continued from page 23

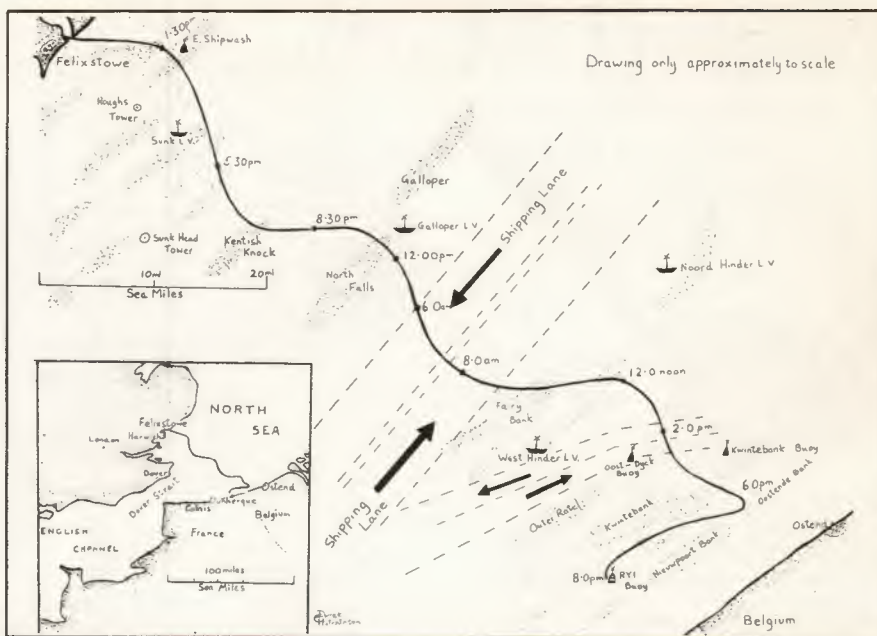
more might die in the night, especially since we were bound to get separated. It was obvious that each man was becoming increasingly aware of the same possibilities.

There seemed no end to the wind and breaking seas. It was like Whirl Race off the Farne Islands, except this seemed to stretch for ever. Suddenly — "Is that a block of flats on the horizon?" called Keith. "It looks like it," I shouted back. "It's got a chimney," yelled someone. Tom remembered reading about some hospital or some big building on the continent being built like a ship to merge with the coastline. We battled on towards it. Then, "It's a bloody ship!" shouted someone else. All I could think was, what the hell was a ship doing where land should be? Keith reckoned it was a shipping lane.

As we got near to the point where we'd seen the ship, which had now vanished to the South, Keith said, "There's a buoy ahead, can you see it?" I couldn't but Tom and John could. We paddled for what seemed ages, and there it was about ½ mile ahead, a black and white conical buoy.

We were about 300 yards away from the buoy, as the ship drew level with it. Tom conducted a rapid opinion poll on the merits of stopping her for some assistance — all in favour. I tried to send off a rocket, pulled the striker — nothing happened — a dud! Not a nice feeling. Keith set off his and it whooshed high into the air as the ship sped on its course N.E. Robin handed me a hand flare. The striker turned out to be rotten and pulled away in my hand. Tom's however lit up the grey sea and seemed to burn for a long time. The ship was almost vanishing in the murk about 2 miles away. Then it seemed to be broadside on to us. Thank God! it was turning, and heading slowly towards us. When it came to where we were it towered above us, its decks lined with camera-laden passengers staring curiously down at us. Someone from the bridge started shouting something down to me. The voice was cheery but unfortunately the words were Belgian. "Oh Christ!" I exclaimed, "does no-one speak English?"

I dropped my head into my hands. How to cope with this, I thought, when the same cheery voice was heard to say, "Can we be of assistance to you?" What a sense of relief! The ship was the Reine Astrid bound for Ostend from Dover. Although the original idea may have been to get



information and perhaps make arrangements for a boat to come from shore to escort us in, when the offer came to take us aboard, not one found the idea an unwelcome one.

A large steel door opened amidships about 4 feet above the water and several crew members appeared, ready to lift us on board. The system was — spray off, get as near the hull of the ship as possible, hold a canoe line with one hand, hold the other hand high in the air. Then 4 or 5 strong hands grasped the extended arm and the canoeist was snatched skywards. Transferring the canoe line to the assisting hands, the canoeist stumbled aboard while the canoe was being hauled up. In at least one instance, Gordon, I think, the well-jammed canoe went up with the man amid shouts of "Whoa! Stop! Down again!"

While this air-lift was in operation, I decided to loosen my anorak and took off my neoprene helmet. Then, finding my tow-line, which I had loosed in readiness, had tangled at the back. I twisted round as far as possible, leaning backwards and to the side to try to free the line and — sploosh! over I went, straight into the turbulence near the side of the ship. I

rolled up fast, water gushing out of my neck, my sleeves my ears, eyes, nose and mouth.

Finally it was my turn. I kept looking round, thinking there were more of us. Jelly legs were guided along a passage, past the piled-up canoes, to a room full of smiling seamen. About ½ pt. whisky was thrust into my hand. It seared my throat. I thanked everyone in sight. John grasped my hand. "We did it, you know, son," he said.

The captain had already radioed news of us to Thames Coast Guard and, as I dripped all over the bridge, he showed me on a wall chart the position of our pick-up — about 20 miles South of Ostend, about 8 miles off Dunkirk. One hundred miles of the North Sea behind us. 34 long, long hours. The captain, an incredibly young man, smiled as I thanked him again for picking us up. Extending his hands with a shrug he merely replied, "You would do the same for me, yes?"

Derek Hutchinson — Baidarka, Tom Caskey — Baidarka, Gordon Henderson — Baidarka, Robin Catchlove — Baidarka, John Ramwell — Esky, Keith Maslen — Nordcap.

THE THREE LOCHS CANOE MARATHON — 50 miles

Canoeists from the Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club brought success to the club when they won the Three Lochs Canoe Marathon. The Three Lochs race, (the fifty miles route is a combination of sea, loch and river presenting participants with a unique opportunity of testing their skills in different conditions), is one of the oldest canoeing events in Britain.

Starting on Saturday morning at Duck Bay Marina on Loch Lomond the Royal West team, comprising of Colin Campbell, John Cameron and Robert Todd, proceeded down the River Leven, portaging round the sluice gates which control the level of water in the loch, through Dumbarton, then down the Clyde to Helensburgh.

Then it was up through the Rhu Narrows to Garlochhead where the canoes and equipment were transported 1½ miles overland to Loch Long using trolleys carried by each team member.

No outside assistance was allowed once the race was underway and all camping gear required by the overnight stop at the

head of Loch Long plus all other necessary items for the weekend had to be carried in the three canoes. Each team also had to remain as a complete group during the race.

After paddling and portaging for a total of seven hours the Royal West group finally reached the Ardgartan campsite near Arrochar at 4 o'clock. As each group had been allowed to select their own departure time from Loch Lomond it was not until almost three hours later that the Royal West team learned they had established a six minute lead over Irvine Canoe Club, the holders of the race shield.

Sunday morning saw the start of the second leg with a canoe trip to Arrochar, portage two miles to Tarbet, then a further paddle sixteen miles down Loch Lomond to Duck Bay Marina.

The Royal West team were running for most of the portage between Arrochar and Tarbet even though one of their canoes plus equipment weighed over 100 lbs.

At the end of the race a further 8 minute gap had been established between the Greenock and Irvine teams. The final time for the Royal West for the two days paddling was 10 hours 40 minutes, a full

14 minutes ahead of the next group.

Teams completing the course received a certificate for each team member and an inscribed prize was presented to each member of the Royal West Team.



Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club — Colin Campbell, Robert Todd and John Cameron.

SMALLS

EXPERIENCED CANOEISTS required as full time Instructors for the period 21st April to 22nd October 1976. S.I. or A.I. an advantage. £3.65 per day (£25.55 for a 6-day week). Full board and lodging included. Minimum age 18. Apply to: The Warden, Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Hants.

(1) Wey Kayak Club Announce a course for Senior Instructors only in Examination Techniques, course organisation, improvement of Personal performance. On 9-10-11th April, 1976 at Guildford £10. Details from Simon Maskell, 'Holmans', Haslemere Road, Brook, Nr Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5LB.

(2) Senior Instructor Assessment and Training Weekend on 9-10-11th April at Guildford £10. Details from Simon Maskell, 'Holmans', Haslemere Road, Brook, Nr Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5LB.

CANOEING INSTRUCTORS (Kayak in Britain, Canadian in France) required for season, short or long periods. March-September. 6½p stamp to Personnel Manager, P.G.L. Adventure Centres, 527 Station Street, Ross-on-Wye HR9 7AH. Tel (0989) 4211.

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Other names Block Letters

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Declaration by Youth members only: I will be under 18 on 1.1.76 and my date of birth is

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(i) (iii)
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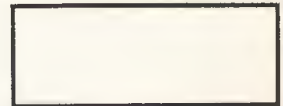
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Block Letters Please

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Family 2. (Mr./Miss)

Members 3. (Mr./Miss)

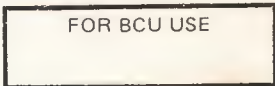
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Signature:

Date:



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CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Grafham Water Residential Centre

CANOEING INSTRUCTOR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for this post. The appointment is from 1st April, 1976 until 31st October, 1976. B.C.U. Senior Instructor Award (Inland) or equivalent experience is desirable.

The successful applicant will not only be required to instruct canoeing but also to help with maintenance of canoes, sailing dinghies and associated equipment.

Salary — £21.00 per week (free board and lodging.)

Application forms and further particulars available from The Warden, Grafham Water Residential Centre, West Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE 18 OBX. Closing date: Friday 12th March, 1976.

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Applications giving details of experience should be made direct to: **THE WARDEN, CALSHOT ACTIVITIES CENTRE, CALSHOT, SOUTHAMPTON SO4 1BR.**

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Such a National Coach would be expected to attend conferences held in connection with the work. (At present they are held annually).

The methods by which the National Coach carries out the above policies will be left very much in his hands, although he will be responsible to the B.C.U. Council, through the Director of Coaching and the National Coaching Committee. It is hoped very much that a candidate will come forward in one of those areas where the Coaching Scheme needs developing.

The successful candidate will be employed part-time at a remuneration of £400 per annum, against which he may place his expenses from the point of view of Income Tax. Any further emoluments which he may earn as a result of the appointment will in no way affect the above arrangements.

APPLICATIONS: Letters of application, which should include a summary of relevant experience and qualifications, together with the names and addresses of two persons to whom reference may be made should be sent to:

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