Canoe Focus

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

VOL.5 No.18 1980

PRICE 40p





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Canoe Focus

SPRING, 1980

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The selection committee are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Ron Emes as permanent Director of the Union with immediate effect. Members will know of Ron's long and dedicate service to the sport at all levels and in many capacities. We now look with confidence to the Union's future in the exciting and challenging period ahead.

EDITORIAL CONSULTANT: Michael Gordon Smith.

PRINTERS:

Chameleon Press Ltd., 5–25 Burr Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18 4SG.

EDITORIAL OFFICES:

Flexel House, 45–47 High Street, Addlestone, Weybridge KT15 1JV.

EDITORIAL

The short term financial future of Canoe Focus was considered at the annual budget meeting of the Executive Committee in December, and it was reluctantly agreed that only four issues, and not five as had been proposed, would be published in the new Financial Year, i.e., from the 1st November 1979 until the 31st October 1980. Despite the loyal and continuing support of our Advertisers, and their substantial contribution to the gross cost of "Focus" the inflationary increase in the price we pay for our printing and postage, to which there appears to be no end, does not allow a more generous arrangement without seriously prejeudicing the ability of the Union to maintain its existing membership service. Though naturally disappointed, the Editorial Board of "Focus" do not despair, they believe that whilst there may be restrictions in magazine quantity, there need be no economising on quality or content. The remaining two issues of Focus will accordingly seek to provide a qualitative improvement in content.

To achieve this modest objective requires the active support of our readers, for it will be your contributions that will ultimately determine our ability to produce a successful publication. Readers please note therefore, that the arrangements for future issues of Focus by the existing Editorial Board, will be as follows:

lssue	Publication Date	Receipt of Copy Date	Theme	Focus Supplement
Summer	7 May, 1980	1st April 1980	The forthcoming canoeing season	The Year Books
Autumn	8 Sept, 1980	1st Aug, 1980	The past canoe- ing season	Results
Winter	8 Dec, 1980	1st Nov, 1980	BCU Organisa- tion & Committees	Annual General Meeting Information
Spring	9 Feb, 1981	1st Jan, 1981	Trade & Canoe Exhibition Supplement	Annual Calendar

A further factor that will obviously influence the quality of our publication is the ability of our printers to produce "Focus" to a fixed time schedule and within our specifications. The Editorial Board believe that it will be easier to attain both these objectives by retaining a printer who is readily available to Union Headquarters, and who, more importantly, understand and is sympathetic to the particular needs of our Sport. Future issues of Focus will therefore be printed by Chameleon Press Ltd., Wandsworth, and Bob Gray, their Office Manager, who is well known in the canoeing world, has agreed to join our Editorial Board. Finally by installing an Offset Litho printer at Headquarters we have expanded our printing and copying capability. This will enable us to diminish the "communication gap", which is an inevitable consequence of a quarterly publication, by developing our "Club News", and other information services, and by making use of this medium to provide "hot news" of immediate and urgent concern.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Ron Emes, Editor, Oliver Cock, Geoff Good, Mike Gordon-Smith, Bob Gray Brian James.

NORTH WEST REGION A.G.M.

The second AGM of the British Canoe Union, North-west Region, will be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19th, 1980, at Grappenhall Sports Club, Stockton Lane, Grappenhall, Warrington, Cheshire.

Individual members of the Union, who should be able to show a current membership card, are warmly invited, and affiliated clubs in the area are urged to send representatives.

Copies of the Agenda will be sent to Club Secretaries after February 15th. Individual members who want the Agenda, in advance of the meeting are asked to send a stamped, addressed envelope to the Secretary, L. Ward, B.C.U.N.W.Region, 267 Oxford Road, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 8JY.

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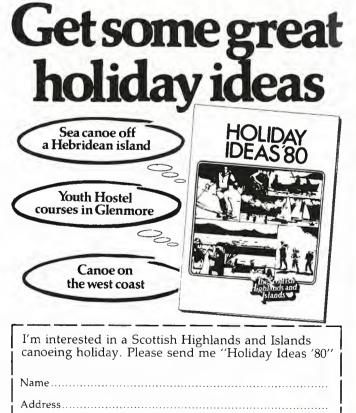
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OUR DUTY TO NEW CANOEISTS

Text of an address given at the close of the National Coaching Conference, 1979, by the Director of Coaching.

There are some who would maintain — and it seems to me a legitimate and arguable point of view — that exclusivisim is the only solution for a sport such as canoeing in this country, when our resources are so very limited.

Why persuade thousands and thousands to dabble on a few occasions — create all sorts of problems in overcrowding those resources while they dabble — and in effect spoil things for those who really do want to get the most out of the sport? Why not reserve the activity for those who respect the wilderness — and are prepared to put in the effort required to achieve the performance necessary.

There is a strong school of thought among mountaineers to this effect. And it seems to be a statement of fact that in this country, for both canoeing and mountaineering, we do have very limited resources. Certainly in so far as inland linear waterways are concerned, many of our problems would not exist if it were not for overcrowding. Sheer pressure of numbers creates the difficulties. However, this is not a point of view that is logical for members of the Coaching Scheme, who in the main are involved in a deliberate policy of introducing newcomers. But I would suggest that because of the situation, we have very definite obligations when we do introduce people to canoeing.

If we spend our whole time encouraging people to dabble, and have no thought on if and how they are going to continue the sport, then our involvement is very questionable.

The provision of opportunity splits into two factors. One is the development of facilities — that is sites: places where people can cance. The other is the provision of events: things for them to take part in — competitions, rallies, tours and so forth. Many if not most, members of the Coaching Scheme are involved very deeply in these facets. In most of the regions, for instance, it is the members of the Coaching Scheme who previously have undertaken the role now seen as essential to the continued development of the sport. Our obligation, I believe, goes even further however.

Canoeing is meaningful because it provides opportunity for adventure, excitement, challenge, athletic prowess and all the ingredients of an educational process. It does this mainly because it is structured. There is in existence a central organisation — the governing body of the sport. Without the B.C.U. we would not have an accepted, meaningful, internationally recognised sport and pastime. We would just have a few people splashing about in little boats! In 20th century terms, no way can our activity function and flourish without a central organisation. Disband the BCU horray say some! Stop sending out the bits of paper! Do away with all the committees! Horray!

It would not be very many days, I would submit, before canoeing people would be getting together and saying: "What we need is some sort of central organisation so that we all know whats going on. So we can agree on methods of instruction, and we can have competition for those who want it, and so forth."

Then it would be a matter of time before the structure that is at present in existence was replaced. It might not be identical, but it would surely not be very much different to what has evolved over the years. Now, what is important is that people have the opportunity to paddle. That they have places to paddle, and are able to take part to whatever level they can attain in the type of canoeing that is most meaningful to them. That, if you like, is another obligation for an instructor: *To assist a person to his or her maximum potential in the discipline of their choice.*

The only way this can be achieved in this day and age is through an organisation. Not 'organisation' for the sake of it! Not committees for the sake of having committees! Not bits of paper circulating for the sake of bits of paper! But because without this there is no way in present-day terms of achieving what we are after — which is more paddling and more meaningful paddling, for more people. Now if we accept this, it seems to me we have another obligation! An obligation to the organisation — the structure.

Many of our coaching scheme members I know, resent having themselves to be members of the BCU. They fail to recruit because they do not themselves believe in the necessity of membership. Now surely as coaches we have really to do two things – and if we do not do these two things we are merely making a rod for our own back. For the more people we introduce to this sport, and the less help we recruit whilst we are doing it, the more we are deliberately placing the demand upon ourselves. And this to me seems crazy.

We need to sell the BCU and the importance of belonging to a Club. If we are not selling BCU and the importance of joining a club and playing a part in that club — we are in fact offering our services for free. Rather, we are out of pocket in doing it, because we are having to pay membership so that more and more people can demand our time, take our personal paddling time away, overcrowd the resources to make it even harder for us when we want to use those important sites for our own enjoyment. And to what end? WHY? It is not helping the sport in any way at all. It is certainly not helping us — unless we are lucky enough to get paid for instructing by a local authority or similar.

Now I would guess that members of the coaching scheme alone must be involved in the introduction into canoes of something like 100,000 people a year in this country. The annual growth in membership of the BCU from all sources is less than 1,000. Our total club membership is 325 – more than 60% of these being youth groups.

So where is the future? Where is the foundation? Where is the opportunity for meaningful participation? Where is the provision for ongoing activity? It does not exist!

I would propose that unless we give this serious thought unless we sell the concept of BCU — of joining a club — of playing a part — then we are just dabbling at introducing people to the sport. Worse than that, we are doing damage. We are doing ourselves damage. We are creating problems unnecessarily and unjustifiably. And so I would put it to you that it is implicit in being a member of the Coaching Scheme that when we introduce people to our sport, we recognise a responsibility to be involved in promoting ongoing opportunity, and in instilling in that person a sense of responsibility to support the governing body, and to play a full and active part in a local club.

STOP PRESS

Moscow Olympic Games 1980

The Racing Committee have finally agreed the Olympic selection policy for 1980 after many months of discussion. Their desire to establish a formula that will provide an equal opportunity to achieve selection for *all* aspiring Olympic paddlers, whilst helping their most taltented performers to attain adequate support, in the pre-Moscow preparation period, has led to much burning of midnight oil. However, a compromise policy has finally emerged that seems reasonably acceptable to most, and this will be oublished in detail in the next issue of Focus. Those who are particularly and immediately concerned with the Olympic Canoeing Programme this year, should note that the preliminary selection trials will be held at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham, on Saturday and Sunday 9th/10th March, and the

final selection trials will be held on Saturday and Sunday the 4th and 25th May at the same venue.

REGIONAL NEWS

Please note that the reports from the regions which are normally in Focus are contained in the 1979 Annual Report of the Council which was enclosed with the last issue.



Sir,

STOP BEING SO BLOODY MINDED

I learn that complaints are still made about the misbehaviour of canoeists. This does nothing to help our gaining access to new waters, or even to retaining them on old ones. May I quote from a recent letter from a man who has long been a negotiator on the Welsh River Dee:--

"The situation has been aggravated by numerous parties of canoeists coming off the river and being abusive when challenged, suggesting that the land owners' cars should be moved to allow easy access for canoes coming off the water and also causing damage to a new car involving a £70 repair, according to reports from the tenants".

A further story:-

"Below Newbridge the riparian owner who owns both banks was up to his armpits in the river fishing and was told to get off by a party of canoeists. He did not, and the canoeists did not get past either. As a conclusion I understand anyone canoeing below Newbridge will be running the gauntlet of this particular gentleman and also water bailiffs for a considerable distance, as the word has been passed!"

It would seem that a lot of damage is being done by some canoeists by their uncouth behaviour. It strikes me as most peculiar that people do not realise that behaviour of this sort does nothing to help us gain more water on which we may canoe. Perhaps it has something to do with the ludicrous idea of "Freedom of Expression" which is so popular in some quarters. One can only hope that one of these days people will realise it pays to behave. Yours faithfully,

N.O.L.

DALM GLASSFIBRE MOULDINGS SLALOM, SURF & TOURING KAYAKS FOR ALL PURPOSES WE ALSO STOCK A RANGE OF ACESSORIES **1st ENGLISH NATIONAL SURF CANOE CHAMPIONSHIPS** 1st-2nd-3rd (SLALOM EVENT) **Contractors** to education authorities & outdoor centres WRITE FOR DETAILS ENCLOSING S.A.E. то – 296, STURMINSTER ROAD, STOCKWOOD, BRISTOL, BS 14 8ET

200 VOICES SWAP IDEAS

Once again members of Governing Bodies and other parties gathered in Bournemouth for the annual conference. The attendance was over 200 representing 81 different bodies, and held on 14/16 November to bring together governing bodies to advise them on recent developments and for the interchange of ideas between these bodies.

The Union was well represented by Oliver Cock, National Access Officer, who would attend parts of the conference, Brian James, the Union's Administrator, would be present throughout, as was Geoff Sanders, the Union's Chairman, who was representing the National Council for Schools' Sports.

In opening the conference, Norman Sarsfield, Deputy Chairman of the CCPR, covered the role of the Central Council of Physical Recreation to act as a voice and advisor for the Governing bodies.

The conference were honoured to receive their first address from Hector Munro, Minister for Sport. He hoped that the relationship between the CCPR and Sports Council would be more harmonious in the future. Welcome news was given by Mr. Munro that Sports Council grant would not be reduced next year and in fact next year's grant would be increased to cover inflation.

He referred to the National lottery and stated that in his opinion, sport benefited more from local lotteries, and the laws on lotteries and fund raising schemes would not be amended in the immediate future. He affirmed his belief that there was an important gap to fill between school and the clubs. Clubs should work more with schools to ensure that real talent does not disappear when leaving school. Mr. Munro referred to the Olympic Games and our hopes for success would not be hampered by lack of preparation.

FILM SHOWS

After dinner we saw two films presenting the 1980 Olympic Games and a BBC film on "Women in Sport". The Women in Sport film traced the development of womens sport back to the early 1900's to the present time and was concluded by an interview with Princess Anne.

The two Soviet films gave full coverage of the facilities which can now be seen as almost complete. A notable feature was the number of hotels being built, many of these are extremely large with up to 3000 beds. We also saw for the first time a brief outline of the public relations work being carried out in Russia.

The following morning the more routine subjects such as tax and insurance were covered and after coffee we split into two sections one to cover the 1980 Olympics whilst the other covered "Recreation in the countryside".

REPORT ON EIGHTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SPORT AND RECREATION

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EXPERTISE

The afternoon commenced with a proposal to establish a National Sports Institute. This proposal is to develop our expertise in Sports Medicine and Science together with the need for advance training of coaches. The meeting overwhelmingly supported the idea.

After tea we were confronted by a full top table of CCPR representatives on National Centre Committees. Discussions ranged around the fácilities available at centres and their suitability. As the discussion progressed, Holme Pierrepont was mentioned.

Oliver Cock, the BCU National Access Officer, drew to the attention of Buzzer Hadlington, Head of the Sports Council investigative group, that the canoe slalom did not have a national facility in England, With the low use of Holme Pierrepont, the provision of a slalom course was an ideal way to ensure that use of that centre would at least double. This was backed by David Lunn-Rockcliffe Amateur Rowing Association, who saw the provision of this facility and probably others as making it a complete centre. Norman Collins, a member of the Holme Pierrepont management committee, stated that the course could also be used for skateboarding and would act as a salmon pass around the weir.

RUGBY TOUR

At the end of the day and in response to pressure from competitive governing bodies, a question was raised to protect sports with regard to the action of the British Lions Rugby Tour. However, the handling of the proposition and the number of uninterested bodies who were able to vote, squashed any proposal even to discuss the matter. This action was deplored by many governing bodies who could be affected by the rugby tour.

To this end an impromptu meeting was called in an attempt to make their views known. At the end of this meeting, many governing bodies, including ourselves signed a resolution deploring any contravention of the Gleneagles agreement and asking the rugby authorities to reconsider their decision in light of the consequences that may occur.

The conference was concluded by a discussion on Sport at local level. This assessed the effect on local sport of Government imposed restrictions on local authority expenditure.



A Land-Rover in its Olympic livery

LAND-ROVERS A DRIVING FORCE IN MOSCOW OLYMPICS

Land-Rover Ltd, manufacturer of the world's most versatile four wheel drive vehicles, has announced a sponsorship programme which will play a significant role in the British challenge for medals in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. Land-Rovers and Range Rovers will be built to suit the specific transport needs of sports groups within the British Olympic Association. These vehicles will then be sold to the member groups at a generous discount.

The transportation of players and equipment is an important consideration for most sports — both in training and in international competition. The organisations who take up the Land Rover offer will not only be better equipped to transport their competitors to and around training sites, but the sports that involve expensive and heavy equipment will be assisted in mobilising their yachts, canoes etc., as they prepare for the ultimate sporting contest that the Olympics provide.

Outlining the proposals, Land-Rover Managing Director, Mike Hodgkinson, said: "The Olympic vehicles will free British competitors from many of the day-to-day travelling problems they encounter in getting themselves, and their often bulky equipment, to important pre-Olympic events at home and-averseas.

"The Land-Rover and Range Rover will also be good ambassadors for Britain in Moscow next year, typifying as they do rugged reliability and all out effort." He said the decision to back British Olympic sportsmen and women made good commercial sense.

"We are currently in the midst of a £250 million expansion programme aimed at nearly doubling output of Land-Rovers and Range Rovers by 1982. In the build-up to Moscow our vehicles, in their splendid Olympic livery, will be seen all over Europe and will create great interest wherever they go. Europe is becoming a very imporant market for Land-Rover and our Dealers and Distributors will be able to capitalise on this interest and use it as a selling platform," he said.

Commenting on the sponsorship, Sir Dennis Follows, Chairman of the BOA said: "Transport costs form the major proportion of most Olympic Associations' outgoings. This very generous help from Land-Rover will release funds from the stretched resources of the Olympic teams which can then be used in areas of greatest benefit."

GREAT FIRST YEAR FOR MOLD C. C.

Mold Canoe Club celebrated its first birthday recently when at the Annual General Meeting of the Club the founder members were able to describe a very successful first year.

The Club was inaugurated on the 11th October, 1978, following a public demonstration at the Mold Swimming Pool. As a result of preparation by Mr. George Austin, Headmaster of a residential special school in Brynford, near Holywell, Mr. Keith Davies, of Cymau, Physical Education Lecturer at Ribblesdale College, and Mr. Gordon Jenkins, until recently a teacher at Darland School, Rossett, the objective of the Club was to introduce canceing to youngsters and adults within the safe confines of the Mold Swimming Baths, and regular Wednesday evening canoeing sessions took place throughout the winter period until April of last year.

The Club then met regularly on a Thursday night at Chester Weir on the River Dee. During the course of the year several river trips took place on the Dee, above and below Llangollen and on the rivers Conway and Tryweryn.

The Club has also had several opportunities to participate in surf canceing at Abersoch during the summer period and in addition there have been sea trips to Anglesea for surfing and touring. Two members, George Austin and Gordon Jenkins also spent a week canceing on the major rivers of Scotland during July.

Several members have entered for slalom competitions both at Chester and at the Dysynni slalom in Tywyn near Barmouth, with a fair degree of success. In fact the Club's most competitive canoeist, Paul Wood of Shotton, who represented the Great Britain team in the New Zealand Commonwealth Games, was 15th in the Welsh Open Slalom Championship at Tryweryn last summer and he also gained respectable positions at the Serpents Tail and the Town Falls Slaloms held at Llangollen recently.

At present, the Club has over 60 members, many of whom are very competent rollers, and it is anticipated that members will be able to sit the British Canoe Union Star tests as well as the proficiency examinations as the Club develops.

Recently Club Secretary, Mr. George Austin, established a link with Mr. Klaus Beleckey, Chairman of the Menden Canoe Club in West Germany; this was arranged following a twinning meeting between Delyn Borough Council and the Officials of the town of Menden. It is hoped that Club members can take advantage of facilities in Germany who likewise wish to canoe on the Welsh rivers.

The Club is eager to attract further support and any young person or adult wishing to participate in the Club's activities should arrange to visit the Club at Mold Swimming Baths on a Wednesday evening at 8.30 p.m.

Regional Roundup

EASTERN REGION

The Eastern Region Marathon Championships were held on the River Yare on 14th October and run by courtesy of the Rockland Canoe Club with their annual race. As is now taken for granted, the organisation was flawless along the whole 12 mile course with adequate safety craft and marshalls in r.t. communication. The start, from Norwich was scheduled for 11 a.m. and although a few minutes late, all classes were away in four minutes. The Junior classes starting from Brammerton were also away smartly, just as the first senior paddlers came through.

Some consternation was felt by local K1 paddlers at the entry from Tim Cornish — no one knowing that he had recently moved into our Region. To no one's surprise he won that class by a comfortable 3% minutes.

At the prize-giving ceremony at Rockland Staithe we were pleased to have Gordon Mosely to do the honours. Gordon is the BBC TV Producer who had certain of our celebrities cavorting before the cameras whilst making a tv programme **about** a trip down the Waveney. Some of us have not forgiven him.

Anglian Water Authority Registration Bye-laws demand that all craft used on the recreational waterways in the Region (list below) are required to be registered with A.W.A. Exemptions from Registration are available to canoes owned by BCU Affiliated Clubs, bona fide Youth Clubs and organisations and for visiting competing craft, Details of the Exemption Scheme are being worked out between the A.W.A. and the Eastern Region of the BCU. It is anticipated that a special 'exemption' sticker will have to be issued. It must be understood that exemption applies to club-owned canoes, not to members canoes. The registration fee has not yet been determined, although it is already established that canoes are not subject to a licence fee.

Members are requested to take note of the new position and to contact the Secretary of the Eastern Region: D. E. Smith – "Squirrels", Cornard Tye, Sudbury, Suffolk (S.A.E. please) in the case of queries.

Recreational Waterways: River Ancholme: Ferriby Sluice, South Ferriby to Bishops Bridge, Glentham. River Nene: Coston End Lock, Northampton to Bevis Hall, Wisbech, River Welland: Hudd's Mill, Stamford to the Wash at Grid Reference TF 350345 River Stour: Brundon Mill, Sudbury to the Cattawade Barrage, Lawford. River Glen: Tongue End, Bourne to River Welland, Surfleet. River Cam: Bottisham Lock, Horningsea to River Great Ouse, Popes Corner, River Lark: Judes Ferry, Mildenhall to River Great Ouse, Pypers Hill. River Wissey: One mile upstream of Stoke Ferry Bridge, Stoke Ferry to River Great Ouse, Fordham River Little Ouse: Brandon Staunch, Wetting-with-Broomhill to River Great Ouse, Brandon Creek. River Great Ouse: Kempston Mill, Kempston Urban to Grid reference TF 6028 0712, Denver. Old Bedford River: Welches Dam Lock, Manea to Old Bedford Sluice, Denver. Hundred Foot River: River Great Ouse, Earith to Denver Sluice, Denver. Reach Lode: Reach to River Great Ouse, Wicken. Burwell Lode: Burwell to Reach Lode. Wicken Lode: Wicken Fen to Reach Lode.

YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE

The Washburn Wild Water Race on 10th November attracted a record entry. On the day over 250 paddlers turned up, demonstrating the growing popularity of this newly 'discovered' river. The organisers have been concerned with the restricted vehicular access to the valley, and in particular with the problem of collecting cances at the end of the race. Hence the bus and trailer shuttle between start and finish.

* *

On balance this worked reasonably well, bearing in mind the system was experimental. However, we do apologise for the hiccup early in the day caused by the large entry — we had planned for 150 maximum, the water being turned on an hour later than advertised, and a few canoeists who were less than co-operative. We have learned a great deal from the experience, and are sure that the problems can be solved.

Therefore, to those who may have been put off by the delays in the shuttle, we say don't let this stop you from paddling this superb river. By next time the snags will be ironed out.

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Canoe Polo is getting under way again in the region, with events at Walsall (Jan 12th), Kingstanding Baths (Jan. 19th), and the Regional Heats arranged for February 2nd at Kingstanding Baths. For further details of events contact Brian Porter.

The W.M.R.G.A.G.M was held on Wednesday 6th February at 8 pm. at King Edward VI Five Ways School, Scotland Lane, Bartley Green.

Alan Gosling, 6 Fern Dale Park, Pedmore, Stourbridge, West Midlands, has taken the vacant position of Slalom Rep. for the region. Working with David Train (Competition Officer), the region hope to publish a calendar of regional competitions for 1980.

Volunteers to help with Access problems are still urgently needed. This could become a very important feature of regional activities in the near future. Are you prepared to help? Please 'phone Brian Porter (Redditch 24988), if you are able to spare some time.

The W.M.R.G Executive Committee recently met with a representative from the Sports Council to discuss regional development. Early in the new year, there will be a conference held for clubs and individuals to hear the views of the Sports Council and the BCU on regional development. There will also be a forum at the end of the conference for questions to be asked. Further details will appear in the Club Newsletter.

SOUTH GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL STOREY ARMS ADVENTURE CENTRE COURSES 1980

CANOEING Introductory and BCU Proficiency 6/8 June & 4/6 July 28/30 March & 17/19 Oct. **BCU Trainee Instructor** BCU Senior Instructor Assessment 28/30 Mar.& 17/19 Oct. MOUNTAIN LEADER TRAINING 5/12 April & 25 Oct/1 Nov Introductory Course CLIMBING 25/27 July Introductory Climbing Course CAVING Introductory Course 3-5 Oct Details and application forms from: The Warden, Storey Arms Adventure Centre, Libanus, Brecon, Powys LD3 8NL. (Tel. 0874-3598).



XX11 Olympiad Moscow

The events of this year's VII Spartakiade are now behind us. It was thought upon very much as a general rehearsal for the Olympic Games but the requested results have not as yet arrived on the Editor's desk.

We only know that the Regatta Course at Krylatskoje with its Grandstand is now ready.

Not far from the sports complex at Krylatskoje (which is itself only 12 km from the centre of Moscow) is the track where the cycling events will take place. Apparently, when complete, it will be the most modern and largest Veldrom in Europe.

It has already been reported that the course width amounts to 175 m. Cordoned off by means of a 'half' island is a 75 m wide returning lane. The judges steps 'hang' from the Grandstand over the spectator rows.

At the finishing line there are 16 boat houses and facilities for leaving boats out-of-doors. Between them and the Moskwa is the sports accommodation, comprising 13 changing rooms (each for 35 competitors) with drying facilities, bath rooms, showers and massage rooms. Next to the boat houses there are two sports halls available for use by canoeists for ball games or other appropriate sessions.

OLYMPIC VILLAGE

The Olympic Village is to be split into two zones, the International Zone and the Living Zone.

The International Zone will contain the administration function, containing the office of the Mayor, the Post Office, Telephone Network and Banks. It will include the Olympic Mensa, with four restaurants, each for 1,000 people. It will be open for the various meals from 6.00-am. until 9.00 p.m. One restaurant will provide a 24-hour sevice. Various sports facilities will also be available in the International Zone, including a number of football pitches and gymnasia as well as a swimming complex with three pools. A cultural centre wil be next door providing, amongst other things, a concert hall for 1,200, two cinemas - each for 250 people, a library and a reading-room, amusement machines, billiard-rooms and discoteques.

THE EVENTS

It has been notified that the Canoeing events should take place from Wednesday, 30 July, to Sunday, 2 August. The Organising Committee has programmed for the Congress of the ICF to take place over 23/24 July in Moscow.

ICF News

FAIR-PLAY-TROPHY OF PIERRE DE COUBERTIN

For the first time since its creation, the Fair Play Trophy has been awarded to a canoeist, to the Hungarian Tamas Wichmann, C. I. World Champion.

The International Committee for the Fair-Play-Prize, whose motto reads' "Sport is a Game, Fair-Play is its principle", was created in 1963 by sports journalists. It came about through negotiation by the International Sports Press Union (AIPS) and in co-operation with the International Council for Physical Education and Sport (CIEPS), as well as of the Sports Council of UNESCO. Its prime exercise is to give back to sportsmen that spirit of loyalty which sometimes can go astray between them.

In order to realise this common goal, the AIPS and CIEPS decided in May 1963 to create a Fair-Play-Trophy. It is to acknowledge those sportsmen and teams who have best proved their sporting spirit.

Each year this International Committee takes on the task of bestowing the Trophy to a sportsman or to a team who or which has set a remarkable example of sportsmanship to the world.

The Committee includes the President and a Leader from CIEPS, the President and a Leader from AIPS, the President of the International Council for Health, Phsical Education and Recreation (ICHPER), the Representative from UNESCO as well as the Presidents and Representative of numerous international sports organisations.

The General Director presents the Trophy to the distinguished sportsman or team in the course of a special celebration . meeting, which takes place every year at UNESCO.

The Trophy for the year 1978 was awarded during a leisure hour on the 4th October 1979. Present were Mr. J. P. Soisson, French Minister for Youth, Sport and Recreation, Jean Borotra, President of the Fair-Play Committee as well as International Reprsentatives of the IOC, of the Sports, of the Sports Press and of the Diplomatic Corps. On this occasion the following was read aloud:

"The Trophies for 1978 are awarded as follows: One to the Hungarian Canoeing Champion, Tamas Wichmann, in recognition of an especially remarkable Act of Fair-Play, the other to the British Rugby Player, Gareth Edwards, for his brilliant career, which is always followed under the sign of Fair Play." As his keenest opponent showed ob-

As his keenest opponent showed obvious signs of being at an all-time low in his performance, Tamas Wichmann, the master of Canadian Canoeing, helped his opponent find his way back through a good physical condition, thanks to training together with him over several months. By way of his exceptional kind-heartedness, Tamas Wichmann has strengthened the sporting fellowship and at the same time has contributed to promoting international understanding.

We are happy and proud that one of us has been singled out for his sporting achievements and we send Tamas Wichmann our warmest congratulations.

CANOE SAILING

At the International Sailing Regatta at Hayling Island/Great Britain from 19–24 August 1979, the best 6 boats achieved the following results in the IC Class.

1.	Peter Hunter	K 67	GBR	9.25
2.	Tony Marston	K149	GBR	22.75
3.	Thomas Kullander	S 37	SWE	26.00
4.	Perham Harding	K135	GBR	28,50
5.	Jan-Olaf Hansson	S 60	SWE	31.00
6.	Lars-Erik Lundgren	S 35	SWE	32.75

ICF-CALENDAR FOR 1980

An appeal in Bulletin No. 7 brought alterations and further dates and we are now able to publish a final ICF Calendar for Slalom and Wild Water Racing for 1980.

March

15/16	San Vittore Terme Ancona/Sentino/ ITA	ww	SL	С
<i>April</i> 12/13		ww	-	с
	Vetto D'Enza- Emilia/Enza/ ITA	ww	_	с
27	Monschau/BRD	ww	_	С
<i>May</i> 3/4	Manashau /BBD		C1	~
3/4	Monschau/BRD Zwickau/DDR	-	SL SL	C B
	Buvec-Soca/YUG	ww	55	С
10/11	Liptovsky Mikulas/	ww	SL	c
11	Varallo Sesia/ Vercelli/ITA	ww	_	с
17/18	Kienberg/AUT	ww	_	с
	Neuss/BRD	ww	_	с
24/26	Brandenberger Ache/BRD			
05	(in Aut)	ww	-	С
25	Torre Pellice, Torino/ITA	ww	-	с
31.5/	Garmisch-			А
1.6	Partenkirchen/BRD	ww	– I. Eur	
1.6 <i>June</i> 7/8	Partenkirchen/BRD		Eur Cup SL 1.	А
June 7/8	Merano/ITA		Eur Cup SL	А
<i>June</i> 7/8 14/15	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI	ww - ww	Eur Cup SL 1. Euro	А
<i>June</i> 7/8 14/15	Merano/ITA	-	Eur Cup SL 1. Euro Cup	A
<i>June</i> 7/8 14/15	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI	-	Euro Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL	A pa A
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA Breuil sur	_ ww _	Eurr Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL SL SL	A pa A C
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22 26/29	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA	- ww - ww	Eur Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL SL	A pa C C A
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA Breuil sur	- ww - ww	Eurr Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL SL 11. Europ Cup SL 111. Europ	A pa C C A a A
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22 26/29 July 1/6	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA Breuil sur Roya/FRA Sort + Seo de	- ww - ww ww	Eurr Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL 11. Europ Cup SL 111. Europ Cup SL	A pa A C A a A a C
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22 26/29 July 1/6 12/13	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA Breuil sur Roya/FRA Sort + Seo de Urgel/ESP	 ww ww ww	Eurr Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL 11. Europ Cup SL 111. Europ Cup	A pa A C A a A a C
June 7/8 14/15 21/22 22 26/29 July 1/6 12/13 19/20	Merano/ITA Muotathal/SUI Tacen/YUG Cuneo, Maira/ ITA Breuil sur Roya/FRA Sort + Seo de Urgel/ESP Spittal /AUT	 ww ww ww	Eurr Cup SL 1. Euro Cup SL SL 11. Europ Cup SL 111. Europ Cup SL Junior	A pa A C A a A a C

(Continued on Page 17)

INTERNATIONAL CANOE EXHIBITION

Once again the world's largest gathering of Canoe Products will take place at Crystal Palace on 23/24th February. The 1980 International Canoe Exhibition will recognise the fact that Canoe Marathon has been accepted as a separate discipline by the International Canoe Federation.

There will be over 100 stands representing the BCU, its affiliated bodies, manufacturers, retailers and many other interested bodies. The BCU has extended its range of stands to include the new committee within the Union, Access.

Canoe 81 will also be in attendance with a stand which will reflect the activities of the 1981 World Championships and all the associated events, that will be taking place. The main events at Bala and Nottingham will receive extensive coverage on the stand as will the pre-world championships to be held this summer.

This year sees a new face at the Exhibition – that of Geoff Good, the BCU Director of Coaching. Geoff, who will be in full control of the pool programme next year, has this year introduced two new events to the pool programme.

The first of these on Saturday afternoon is an obstacle race when clubs will compete against each other. The five man teams are drawn from BCU affiliated clubs around the country.

The second event on Sunday afternoon is an attempt at the World hand rolling record held by Peter Turcan of Glasgow who completed 100 rolls in 3 minutes 44 seconds. Competitors have been drawn from BCU clubs and the event will be run in accordance with the Guiness Book of Records regulations,

SATURDAY



Mr. N. MacFarlane, M.P., eyeing up a Kayak with Graham Goldsmith of Gaybo. Picture by J. A. B. Photos

1980 sees the BCU Headquarters stand re-located on the concourse due to the extension of the catering facilities on the South balcony. The stand will be larger than ever and in addition to carrying an even larger stock of goods, the information section will help provide information of all types as well as accepting membership applications and renewals.

SWIMMING BATH MATCHES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

	SATURDAY			
	10.45-11.10 11.10-11.35	Polo	Youth semi-Finals	1
	11.35-12.00		International Match	1
	12.00-12.12		Youth semi-Finals	2
		Slalom	Pull out Course	
	12.15-12.45		1st Session	
	12.45-13.15	Demonstration	Obstacle Race	
	13.15-13.45	Slalom	2nd Session	
	13.45-14.00		Pull Course back	
	14.00-14.25	Polo	International Match	2
	14.25-14.45	Demonstration	C. o. C.L.G	
	14.45-15.10	Polo	International Match	3
	15.10-15.35		Youth Finals	
	15.35-16.00		International Match	4
	SUNDAY			
	10.45-11.10	Polo	Senior quarter-finals	1
	11.10-11.35	1010	Senior quarter-imais	
	11.35-12.00			2 3
	12.00-12.25			3 4
	12.25-12.35	Slalom	Pull out Course	4
	12.35-13.05	3181011	Final Session	
	13.05-13.15			
	13.15-13.35	Demonstration	Pull Course back	
	13.35-14.00	Polo	Treloar College	_
	13.35-14.00	Polo	International Match	5
	16.15-16.40	Polo	Senior semi-Finals	1
	16.40-17.05			2
	17.05-17.25	Competition	Hand Rolling Competition	
	17.25-17.50	Polo	Senior Finals	
	17.50-18.00		Prize-giving	
_				

Film Programme

The 1980 Show will feature a number of new films, including Salt Water Wine and Wild Water Racing Techniques. Salt Water Wine is a surfing film (not canoe surfing) and should be of special appeal to all who enjoy the excitement and pleasure of seeing skilled performers practising their sport to a level of near perfection. Filmed at some of the best surf beaches in the world, this is not just a film, it is an experience that you shouldn't miss.

Wild Water Racing Techniques presents a return to canoeing, but again it shows paddlers operating at their peak with maximum efficiency. This film has been produced for the BCU Wild Water Racing Committee – arranged by Martin Bosher and John Handyside – and is a must for all devotees of the sport.

An old favourite will be Paddlers Must Wear Life Jackets a film depicting the intrepid John Noakes undertaking the Liffey Descent. Popular amongst the young and not so young, John Noakes demonstrates that, although not as easy as one might think at first, canoeing can prove to be one of the most exciting water sports providing great enjoyment and tremendous satisfaction. Other films will, of course, be shown, and the complete programme will be available on the day printed in the Exhibition Brochure.

THRILLING SURF CHAMPIONSHIPS



When Aidan Kelly, of Marine Sales International, the Irish agent of McNulty Seaglass, suggested that we go over there for a weekend and do a little surfing I had great visions of emerald green fields and blue skies, but on a rainy, cold, windswept Dublin dockside my illusions were quickly fading.

The crossing had been very smooth, which was just as well when you consider the amount of Irish whiskey and draft Guinness consumed by my companions, Derek Rosenberg, Alan Wearmouth and Peter McNulty. All this coupled with that early morning feeling had the inner spirit at a low ebb. Then Aiden Kelly arrived and the warmth of Irish hospitality dispelled the all-prevading weather.

After a tour of Dublin and a magnificent meal we were raring to get to the surf, which was "only three hours away" on the west coast at Kilkee.

Ten hours later, after experiencing a traffic jam that would have made Central London envious, and thick fog, we arrived at Kilkee and I began to feel that perhaps Ireland's blue skies and green fields were just another fairy story.

Saturday morning saw no change as we drove through the fog, to Dugmore Beach, County Clare, and hope was ebbing fast that I would ever see Ireland! Then with the perverseness that attends all canoeing events, the fog cleared and blue skies with beautiful scenery were the order of the day.

Dugmore Beach was to me all that I had heard about surf on the west coast of Ireland, about three miles long and deserted, except for the 200 or so enthusiasts, with mountainous surf running for the whole weekend.

The championships were run very efficiently by Ernie Lawrence and his willing team, but with that little touch of Irish-ism ... for instance. The semi-finals were scheduled for 10.30 a.m. on Sunday, "but if I don't get here until 11 a.m. they will start then!" and "if the disco tonight is very good then we will wait for you." This attitude of life makes for relaxed competitors and is reminiscent of the old style Bude surfing week, alas now gone.

In the first heats on Saturday many paddlers could not get out through the break line, and when they did the size of the wave, about 15 ft plus, made them want to get back!



Alan Wearmouth competing in the Irish Open Surf Championships in County Clare.

Alan Wearmouth says: "It took me about five minutes to get up enough nerve to run one, but when I was on it, it was fantastic." Our British contingents were safely through to the semis and had been reinforced by Tim Rule, Tony Blackwell and Knight all on 10 days training for the British Open Surf Championships and were just passing!

Sunday saw the semi-finals of the slalom kayak and the team event; the surf being wilder if anything, with a strong onshore wind making life uncomfortable. At this stage, in a moment of rashness I took part in the team event, or perhaps it should be called synchronised surfing. Three competitors on the same wave doing the same thing! A surfer's nightmare and a manufacturer's dream.

The problems of trying to get it together became apparent when "Rosie" was swept over Allan, who rolled up spitting, and a triple reverse loop finished as a triple capsize. "Get it together" the man said.

Eventually conditions became so bad that the day's proceedings were abandoned, but I would applaud the attempt by the organizers to expand the programme and make it more attractive to everyone. Synchronized surfing has got to come.

Monday saw the final, with a very strong onshore wind and cold conditions. Once again the paddlers who got out through the break got the really exciting runs.

Derek Rosenberg, surfing a Harrier, took first in the slalom kayak handling with two magnificant runs on enormous waves before being dropped in a big one and getting wiped out.

Alan Wearmouth, also in a Harrier, did well to stay ahead, in the scoring, of Knight, with the strong Irish paddlers in hot contention. The surf kayak event once again went to the paddler who got through the break and rode the big ones. Derek Rosenberg, in a Hurricane, making it two in a row, with Blackwell second and Larry Ward of the Salmon Leap C.C. in third place.

After the prizegiving by Mr McCoy, President of the Irish Canoe Union, we once again joined the traffic jam and headed for Dublin and the ferry.

Next year? Certainly, I wouldn't miss an Irish disco for all the whiskey in Ireland and the hospitality cannot be bettered, but beware of the Irish sense of distance and time. It took us 7 hours to get back to Dublin from Kilkee!!!

Results: Slalom kayak handling: 1st, D. Rosenberg (Harrier); 2nd, A. Wearmouth (Harrier); 3rd, Knight.

Surf Kayak: 1st, D. Rosenberg (Hurricane); 2nd, T. Blackwell; 3rd, L. Ward (Surfer).

Surf Race: 1st, Knight.

CHRIS HARE

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An informative booklet for sea canoeists. Written by John J. Ramwell, B.C.U. Coach.

Over 100 packed pages on equipment, survival, safety, navigation, the sea, charts, buoyage, the weather, expedition planning, use of pool, etc.

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Telephone: 021-454 7881/8881. Telex: 336534.



All the thrills and skills of the sport are captured in this picture by Mike Harrison, taken on the Upper River Neath, with Steve Reece

NEW STRUCTURE

Immediately following last year's AGM, at which it was agreed to examine the structure of the Union, the Council at its first meeting approved the establishment of a new Committee structure for the overseeing and conduct of the day-to-day affairs of the Union. Three new standing committees were created – the Executive Committee, the Sports Management Committee, and the Access, Coaching and Recreation Management Committee, each with responsibility within the terms of their delegation, for taking decisions on behalf of the Council. Thus, releasing the Council from their detailed day to day Executive responsibilities, and in so doing, providing greater opportunities for discussions regarding policy, and for planning the future activities of the Union.

It has been agreed that the new structure should operate for an experimental period and that it will be reviewed after two years' practical experience. The Council have met on four occasions, the Executive Committee on nine occasions, the Sports Management Committee and the Access, Coaching and Recreation Management Committee on two occasions.

The Membership have consistently requested that the activities of the Council and its Committees should be reported, for their information, through the pages of Canoe Focus. Regrettably, for various reasons, this understandable desire to be better informed has never been adequately satisfied. However, it is anticipated that with the introduction of the new Union management committee structure, and the change of emphasis in the content of Focus, it will be possible to provide regular reports concerning the proceedings of the Council, the Executive Committee, the Sports Management Committee, and the Access Coaching and Recreation Management Committee.

Space does not permit a detailed commentary on the structure and functions of these Committees, but the respective Chairmen thereof will each contribute a short article in future issues of Focus on the work that their Committees are undertaking.

The Council, acting in its new role as the parliament of the Union, met in July and December, 1979, and on both occasions devoted a major proportion of their time to debating important issues of current concern. Access was selected for discussion at the July meeting, and this subject has been fully reported in the last two issues of Focus. At the December meeting, a long and interesting debate on the finances of the Union took place, and many of the recommendations that emerged during these discussions will be implemented in the coming year.

The Management Committees have been mainly concerned with executing the existing polices of the Union, and in dealing with day to day matters requiring their attention. It would be impossible to produce a detailed account of their proceedings, but some of the more interesting items include consideration of the organisation of the World Racing, Slalom and Wild Water Racing Championships, and the Commonwealth Racing, Slalom and Wild Water Racing Championships in 1981; the Sports Aid Foundation; Sponsorship; Amateurism; International Competition and National Training Squads; Membership of the Union; Medals and Awards; Tracksuits; the International Canoe Federation Congress in 1980; Sports Centres and Canoeing Facilities; Drugs; South Africa; Staff Matters; Headquarters Organisation; Business Arising from the Regions and National Governing Bodies; Access Matters; Expeditions and many other items too numerous to mention.

BRITISH Columbia Kayak Expedition

An expedition of British Paddlers, organised by Pete Knowles, successfully paddled most of the Grand Canyon of the Stikine in September.

Members of the Team were Dave Manby, Barry Goddard, Jeff Gill, Dr. Ian Winson, Pete Montgomery, Mike Sunderland and Richard Dixon. They were joined in Vancouver by Klaus Strechman, Manager of the Canadian White Water team and an experienced wilderness paddler.

After warming up on the more accessible rivers in southern British Columbia the team drove north to the isolated wilderness area of North West British Columbia. Their destination was the Grand Canyon of the River Stikine.

Described by all authorities as "horrendous", the Grand Canyon has never been attempted. It is 4,000 ft. deep and has sheer cliffs dropping 2,000 ft. into the river. The volume is twice that of the Colorado and for the majority of its length it is only half the width. The gradient reaches 400 ft. per mile in parts and the vertical walls make access impossible for the majority of its 60 mile length.

Five members of the team flew a reconnaissance trip in a light local charter aircraft. As a result the team lowered their boats into the Canyon at a point above the mid-section and paddled the lower part of the Canyon successfully. This was a total commitment run with big water, superb scenery and complete isolation. Only the upper 20 miles of the Canyon now remain to be run and the volume of water squeezed through narrow gaps with steep gradiants makes the possibility of a successful run very difficult.

To complete the trip the team took on the 180 miles of the River Iskut, which flows through the Coastal Mountain Range and down to Wrangell in Alaska.

Carrying their gear with them the party hit big water early on in the previously shot upper Canyon. All the paddlers looped unintentionally at least once on this section. Boats were difficult to handle with the weight of equipment and in one incident four members of the trip came close to drowning in a syphon.

A portage around some unshootable waterfalls committed the party to a 4 day trip, covering a mere 6½ miles through dense forest. The weather was now cold and wet, food becoming increasingly short and grizzly bears roamed the team's campsites at night. A memorable expedition.

The team will be showing an excellent 8mm film and slides at the Crystal Palace Exhibition and the Mike Jones Memorial Weekend (January 26th & 27th). Contact Jeff Gill 0462 731870 or Pete Montgomery 0533 414907 for lecture details.

CANOEING

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INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

Bredwardine Lodge, situated in Herefordshire and adjacent to River Wye, require seasonal instructors for its fourth summer season.

The lodge provides adventure holidays and canoe training courses for boys and girls between 12-17 age ranges.

Instructors should be experienced in hill walking and/or canoeing. Remuneration will be scaled in line with relevant B.C.U. and/or M.L.C. qualifications.

The position of Senior Instructor is available for a person with both S.I. and M.L.C. from June 1st to August 30th. Salary to teachers scale, plus bed and board.

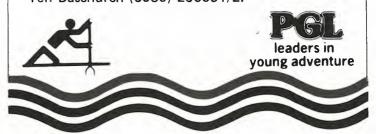
Further details: – The Manager, Bredwardine Lodge, The Old School, Bredwardine, Herefordshire.



CANOEING INSTRUCTORS

needed to work in Children's Outdoor Adventure Centres in Ross on Wye. PGL is the market leader in the UK organising children's activity holidays. Each year we employ a large number of qualified instructors who are responsible for leading groups of youngsters on holiday and giving basic instruction in canoeing. To work for us you should be over 18, have experience of working with children and preferably a BCU qualification. Long and short periods of employment. Pocket money. Free board and accommodation. Great social life.

Write now to Jane Brimble at: - Young Adventure Ltd., Boreatton Park, Baschurch, Nr. Shrewsbury, Salop. Tel: Baschurch (0939) 260551/2.





(Continued from Page 9)

Augus	t			
	Lofer/AUT	WW	SL	С
	Skopje/YUG	ww	SL Jur	C lior
9/10	Lipno/TCH	_	SL	А
30/31	Bala/GBR	WW Pre-W	SL Iorid	А
			pionsl	nips
	Nowy Sacz/ POL			nips C
Sep ter	POL		pionsl	
•	POL		pionsl	c c

CATEGORIES

- A = International Event for National Teams open to all member Unions, maximum 6 boats per Category and Union.
- B = International Event for National Teams on invitation, maximum 6 boats per Category and Union.
- C = International Event, open for all member Unions. The Organiser can restrict the number of entries.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ICF

It was unanimously agreed that it be recommended to the ICF Presidencey to establish a Marathon Racing Committee as a Standing Committee of the ICF in accordance with Article 32 of the ICF Statutes, and to submit an appropriate proposal to the Congress.

SUGGESTION FOR A DESIGN FOR A C.2 FOR MARATHON RACING

In accordance with an instruction from the last Meeting, Andras I. Toro submitted details and drawings of a C.2 design within the present dimensions and considered likely to be more suitable for the conditions that may be encountered in Marathon Racing. The Committee listened to the presentation by Andras I, Toro and examined with interest the drawings and details that he put forward. A lively discussion ensued and it was agreed that this information should be made available to all interested Unions on demand. Andras I. Torthad drawn the designs himself and had produced a number of sets of documents which were at present with the Chairman. Mr. Toro hopes to have a prototype available next year. The Chairman thanked him for his speedy and effective response to the suggestions of the Committee in February,

At the end of the Meeting, which was seen as very successful and fruitful, Frank Whitebrook spoke highly of the excellent leadership of the Chair and proposed a hearty and sincere vote of thanks to John Dudderidge. These thanks were suitably applauded.

The next Meeting of the Committee is to take place in Moscow during the Olympic Games and Congress. If it is necessary, an interim meeting will take place in Poznan in May.

1980 CALENDAR FOR MARATHON RACING

RACING The Ad heal CE Committee for				
The Ad hoc ICF Committee for Marathon Racing has drawn up the follow- ing Calendar for 1980:				
<i>March</i> 28—30	Florida/USA	20 km		
	Devizes/Westminster ice, GBR, for K2 only, 1 portages.	200 km		
19—20	"Waterland" Race in Amsterdam/HOL, K1 & K2	28 km		
May 4	Poznan/POL [®]	20 km ++		
June 14	Shannon Race/IRL	27 km +		
July 5	Marathon Race in Notteroy Rundt/NOR	32 km		
19	Marthon Race on the Thames, Richmond/ GBR, all classes.	43 km		
25	Principe de Asturias, Pontevedra/ESP, only K4.	25 km		
August 9	The Down-River Race on the Sella/ESP.	20 km		
12	Race on the Nalon/ ESP.	20 km +		
17—18	Down-River Race on the Cares-Deva/ESP.	25 km		
24	Down-River Race on the Upper Ebro/ESP.	25 km		
30—31	Marathon Race in Zaandam/HOL, K1 & K2.	45 km		
Septembe 6	er Liffey Race/IRL	27 km		
8 20–21	Tour de Gudenaa/ DEN.	120 km and 57 km +		
<i>October</i> 13–14	Marathon Race on the			

13–14 Marathon Race on the Save/Yugoslavia from Brezice to Zagreb.

December 26–30 Marathon Race on the 400 km

Murray/AUS.

+ = European Grand Prix Event

++ = European Grand Priz Event - must be one of two Events.

TOURING

The Touring Committee of the ICF held this year's Working Meeting from the 1--4 November 1979 under the Presidency of Caslav Veljic in Cracow and Nowy Sacz/Poland.

Circulars regarding notification of international trips have already been sent out to all nations by Tadeuz Pilarski, leader of the Development Sub-Committee, on the 21.9.1979. As a result of this, it is hoped that the required calendar can be presented to the meeting in Poland and can be published at the end of November or at the latest at the beginning of December in the last bulletin of this year.

INTERNATIONAL WILD WATER WEEK IN SWITZERLAND

The Swedish Canoe Union is running a VII International Wild Water Week from 13–19 July 1980 in Trun.

It is planned to lead expeditions on: The Upper Rhine, Albula, Glenner, Moesa, Ticino, Furkareuss – Wild Water Grade II–V.

Information and Application: Hans Bohnenblust, Kloosmatt 27, CH-4663 AARBURG.



RACING TRAINER COURSE

A 1-day course for competitors, parents, existing instructors, giving a basic grounding in the technique and fitness subjects necessary for those wanting to help racing paddlers at the lower levels of competition.

Open to all individual BCU members who are aged 18 or over.

Full details from Mr D. Smith, Squirrels, Cornard Tye, Sudbury, Suffolk.

CORNWALL CANOEING EXHIBITION

Cornwall Canoeing Association is staging an exhibition on Saturday 19 April, 50% of the profit going to the Mike Jones Memorial Appeal.

Manufacturers will be displaying their wares, free films showing, illustrated talks on all aspects of the sport, displays, canoe polo, a flat water slalom, are some of the attractions.

The Exhibition is aimed at newcomers - there will be a 'come and try it' section, Admission 50p. Full details: Mr M. . Gibbs, Tehidy Hospital, Nurses Home, Cambourne, Cornwall.

PYRENEAN CANOE EXPEDITION

County Mountain Centre, Caudies, French Pyrenees.

Exciting white water rivers of the Pyrenees. Accommodation in converted watermill. Cost: £100. 28th March 1980 to 10 April 1980.

Details: Neil Colbeck, Thurrock Youth Office, Grays Hall, Grays, Thurrock 76007.

ANNOUNCEMENT

As a result of complaints received from members over the past year, the Executive Committee of the British Canoe Union wish to make it clear to all its Members, that the Union is not connected with any trade or business carried out by Mike Clark, formerly of Canoeing Press, or any commercial enterprise with which he is or may be associated.

Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Hants have a vacancy for a permanent member of the canoeing staff. Burnham Scale II plus £950. Senior Instructor (minimum) preferably qualified teacher required.

Urgently required. Transparencies of handicapped people canoeing. Great care taken and return assured. Please contact Mr Oliver Cock at BCU.

We hear that Gaybo Ltd, the Brighton boat manufacturer, will be moving to a new factory in Uckfield, Sussex, this summer.

Regionalisation — London & South East.

by Gordon Ray, Regional Coaching Organiser (National Coaching and Development Officer).

A meeting is to be held at Crystal Palace Exhibition in Room G.55 at 3.45 p.m. on Sunday 24th February to discuss and hopefully agree in principal that London and the South East should formally become a region of the B.C.U.

It is suggested that a steering committee be appointed to guide us through the initial stages and forge a constitution and rules in accordance with B.C.U. policy.

In order to obtain a fair cross-section of opinion of the region, I see the way ahead as each of the counties — London, Surrey, Kent, Sussex and the area of Middlesex, forming County Associations. There would then be a body with the all-important knowledge of local affairs. Each county could appoint a delegate to the Regional Committee. That body would then have knowledge of each county, its facilities and needs, be able to justify the regional potential and its requirements, and have the ability to plan and act for the good of all canoeists present and future.

I say "all canoeists" as there are far too many people who paddle canoes and who are not members of the B.C.U. If we have something practical to offer these fellow canoeists they will wish to join us. For my part I solicit their help also and say "welcome".

To all canoeists of London and the South East please make a special effort to attend this meeting. Your opinions are required and needed for help, and so are you.



Glenmore Lodge, National Outdoor Training Centre, Aviemore is near some of the best white water in Britain. So, the Lodge Kayaking and Canoeing courses are that extra bit special.

> To find out more about them write to The Scottish Sports Council.

The Scottish Sports Council 1 St Colme Street Edinburgh EH3 6AA / 031-225 8411

ACTION ON ACCESS

A CORRECTION BY OLIVER COCK, National Access Officer

I appear to have been clumsy in the wording of my article in the August-September issue of "Canoe Focus" No. 16. I expostulated against the NFA and their president's apparently declared intention of setting up a legal fund which the journalist, who wrote the article in the Daily Mirror suggested the anglers could use in "a possible battle with the canoeists on the Upper Ouse above Bedford".

My article gives the impression that the Sports Council were also to blame. Let me make it quite clear that that is not so, and that I did not intend my article to say so. Whilst I am grateful that so many people have written following my article, I am extremely sorry that it has caused the Sports Council unjust criticism.

To bring the story up to date, I understand that the National Federation of Anglers have now apologised to the Sports Council for the trouble which the article of the 16th May this year has caused, and they deny that their President said that the Sports Council grant or any part of it would be used for a legal fund.

But it needs to be emphasised that the Sports Council cannot grant to a national governing body of sport public money which could in any way be used to do battle against anybody, let alone another national governing body. In my conversations with the Sports Council on this matter it was pointed out that if it were so allowed, political battle could be started up, one governing body versus another governing department, or even ourselves against the Sports Council, which would be utterly absurd. In our struggles to gain a more equitable share of the use of water in this country, the Sports Council is doing its best to back us in the Sport for All campaign and many other ways. Indeed, I must make it clear that the Sports Council is able to keep a careful check on how its money is spent. It grants money in aid of certain very clearly laid down expenditures, such as the cost of running an office, the training of teams for World and Olympic Championships and certain travelling facilities for those teams. In applying for these grants the applicant has to support the application with very full and audited accounts. If the Sports Council believes that a recipient governing body is using the money for some other purpose than that for which it was granted, it can stop all further grant and even ask for repayment.

However, perhaps an occurrence some few years ago in Wales caused me to over-react. An angling club asked for a grant to buy the fishing rights on a certain stretch of river much loved by our rapid river people. During the negotiations the club gave a verbal promise to allow canceing to continue along this stretch, albeit under fairly strict control. However, when they had got the money and completed the purchase they banned all canceing! Perhaps it was the memory of this which made me jump when I was shown the Daily Mirror article. What I do not know is whether the club had any right to ban all navigation. To do this they would have had to buy the land and not just the right to fish.

I do know that an interesting situation has arisen on another stretch of their water, where a limited amount of canoeing is allowed. The club has tried to restrict canoeing even more, but the local townspeople have been fighting strongly on our behalf, even saying they want to see more of us. They find us reasonably well behaved, and what is more, we help trade!

RULES TO REDUCE FRICTION

JOHN HOPKINS ON A SPORTS COUNCIL STUDY

Differences of opinion between boaters and anglers give rise to the question: "How wide is the gap?"

A recent survey published by the Sports Council* attempts to quantify attitudes between the two factions, and gives rise to some unexpected results. The survey was carried out in 1976 in four differing areas:- the River Wye between Ross and Monmouth (all boat traffic unpowered); the River Great Ouse between St. Neots and St. Ives (river navigation with long boating tradition, both powered and sail); the Lower Avon between Evesham and Tewkesbury (a restored navigation with most powered boats); and the Grand Union Canal between Leighton Buzzard and Blisworth (typical canal with large increase in traffic over the past few years).

It was unfortunate the survey took place in 1976 as the drought severely reduced the sample size, particularly on the canal. A sample questionnaire was distributed to boaters and anglers in each location. No attempt was made to ask for opinions other than the seven grades of answer to each prepared question, ranging from very strongly agree to very strong disagree or don't know.

Comparing the answers of the two groups is interesting, not because of the conflict, but because of the degree of agreement. No one would expect both sides would agree completely, but it seems the gap is not as wide as you might think.

One of the surprising answers from anglers was that nearly 50% feel it is not

important to catch fish! Apparently, the challenge of luring the fish to the hook is sufficient. Another unexpected feature was the almost identical answers of match and pleasure anglers to the questions.

However, it is not surprising to learn that anglers and boaters both agree they don't understand each other. I know that when I'm boating in winter, I look at anglers with a total lack of appreciation of the attraction of their sport, and angling friends tell me they feel exactly the same way about boaters! The first sign of agreement is that over 75% of both groups concur that a few black sheep on both sides give everybody a bad name and cause problems out of all proportion of the numbers involved. Over 90% agree that anglers and boaters can use the same waterway quite happily, given that commonsense prevails.

Anglers seem to be divided quite evenly on specific questions about the effect of passing boats on fishing, whether it is a case of boats passing slowly helping to stir up fish, boats stirring up ground bait with silt thus reducing its effect, or increased boating definitely reducing fish catches. Even the emotive issue of pollution is not seen as a major problem perhaps the statement by an Anglian Water Authority scientist that "discharges from boats have caused no significant pollution of water quality on any watercourse" has sunk in. Unfortunately, the question of pollution by anglers was not raised and this is also an emotive subject.

The report does not seek to give recommendations to close the gap, but it is suggested that sincere attempts should be made to bring representatives of user groups together in a series of local meetings (only once or twice a year) so that mutual interests in the waterways could be fostered. *Perhaps this is an area where the IWA Branches should lead the way?*

In my view, an agreed code for both sides is needed, which would reduce the friction further. Perhaps the following suggestions might form a basis for such a code:--

For boats

- Keep to the middle of the channel where possible;
- Slow down until keep nets are not moved by the wash of the craft;
- Refrain from pumping bilges or throwing tea leaves, etc., over the side while passing anglers;

For anglers

- Do not fish within 100ft of locks or bridges with access to shops or pubs;
- Post a sign at each end of a match, showing length of canal concerned and time of finish (BWB already have these signs available, but I've yet to see one);

Both sides

Be courteous and respect each other's interests.

No-one can afford to let the situation deteriorate, and perhaps small concessions from everybody will improve it.

*Sports Council Study 16 – Sharing Rivers and Canals.



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PHOTOGRAPHIC

Canoeing seems to attract large numbers of photographers who regularly produce unusual photographs. In the constant search for photographs for Canoe Focus it has been decided that a photographic competition would give members the opportunity to show off their talents. Members are invited to submit black and white prints (minimum 8" x 5") or colour slides on any subject covering canoeing. Prizes will be awarded to the most original and imaginative photographs and not necessarily to the most spectacular shots. The prizes will include a S.L.R. Camera. BCMA Gift Voucher and miscellaneous prizes donated by both photographic and canoeing companies.

Entries will be judged by Jim Bright, Chairman, International Exhibition Committee, Brin Hughes, L.C.O. North West London and Brian James BCU Administrator in early April and results will appear in the first edition of Canoe Focus thereafter. So get your cameras clicking and let us 'have your shots, by 31st March, 1980.

COMPETITION





ENTRY FORM

I would like to enterslide andslide andblack models white photograph(s) in the Canoe Focus Photographic Competition and agree to abide to the rules and conditions.

Name:	
Address:	
Signature	: Tel No;
Date:	BCU No:
Canoe Britisl Flexe 45/47	be sent to: Focus Photographic Competition Canoe Union House, High Street, stone, Surrey KT15 1JV.
To arrive	not later than 31st March, 1980.

RULES AND CONDITIONS

- 1. I am an amateur photographer and do not in any way, earn a living from photography.
- 2. I agree to abide by the rules of the judges, without recourse.
- 3. I agree that my photograph can be reproduced by the British Canoe Union in any publication on canoeing.
- 4. I am over 16 years of age.
- 5. I accept responsibility for any loss of materials which may occur.
- 7. I am not related to any member of the judging panel.

Closing date for entries is 31st March, 1980. All entries to be marked "Photographic Competition" and sent to British Canoe Union, Flexel House, 45/47 High Street, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey.

Note: To ensure return of your photograph you should enclose a stamped addressed envelope and your name and address should be shown on the rear of the print together with details of the picture or slide.



THE LAKE DISTRICT OUTDOOR PURSUITS CENTRE

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Periods of employment range from 2 to 35 weeks.

Please write giving *brief* details of experience/ qualifications and possible dates available.

Roger Whiteley, Personnel Office, Lake District Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Fallbarrow Hall, Windermere, LA23 3DX.



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Going for gold...

Tribute has been paid to the achievements of our paddlers in all disciplines this past season. Certainly the talent is there, and so is the coaching talent beavering away behind the scenes. Richard Fox, slalom team gold medallist at Jonquiere, has stated the need for the coaches to be given more recognition and support.

It would be possible, but not practical nor fair, to list those coaches who have helped our paddlers to success, and who are working for a successful future at county squad level, in centres of excellence, or at national team standard. And this is the problem – there are too few. Those we have are excellent, and their knowledge is willingly shared. But with everyone totally committed, there is not sufficient time to get the expertise we have, properly documented.

This is the task before the Coaching Committee, in partnership with the technical committees, in implementing the new competition coach awards. Our National Competition Coaches have courses planned for which they will be personally responsible, for Racing, Slalom and Wild Water Racing during this coming season. The full list appears in the Calendar. If you are interested in helping others to succeed, then read on.

QUALIFICATIONS

TRAINER level is aimed at those introducing paddlers to the lower levels of competition. It is designed for competitors and noncompetitors, also non-canoeists such as parents of paddlers. Entry qualifications: 1. Be at least 18 years of age. 2. Be an individual member of the BCU. In other words, these courses are open to ALL who wish to obtain some basic knowledge to help them help novice paddlers to improve.

COACH level is aimed at those regularly involved in competition coaching within clubs with a serious competition interest. Entry qualifications: 1. Be at least 18 years of age. 2. Be an individual member of the BCU. 3. Be a Senior Instructor OR have the recommendation of your technical committee.

PLEASE NOTE: You do not have to attend a Trainer level course first in order to become a Competition Coach. If you are, or have previously achieved a high standard of paddling, or are involved in coaching, there is a direct entry system as shown. Full details are available from Headquarters or from the course organisers listed.

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- TEE AND SWEATSHIRTS Printed for Clubs Schools etc. Details S.A.E. Clare Allan, The Craggs, Low Beck, Coniston, Cumbria. Coniston 586 Evenings.
- C1 WHITEWATER RIDER for sale Gaybo Star. Good Condition. Keular Hull, Green Metallic deck. Telephone: 01 445 5420 Delivery arranged. £75.

To help beat inflation we are stockpiling snipes, KW4's and apaches to hold the price at £65 – and KW9's at £75. Order now for forward delivery and we guarantee these prices until Easter. Stan Holtorp (Senior Instructor) 01.398.3118 (Evenings). For sale. 8 Gaybo Olymp IV Kayaks and two or three other slalom boats together with two Puffin Pacer GRP sailing dinghies and 17ft Dory with 40hp Mercury, all will be offered for sale on Saturday 8th March at 11.00 a.m. at Raven Ait, Portsmouth Road, Surbiton. Ring 01 390 3554 for appointment to view.

COURSES

Canoe Rolling Instruction Re-commencing January 1980 Wednesday Evenings 8–9 p.m. Central London. Details from Stan Holtorp (Senior Instructor) 01 398 3118 (Evenings)

Trainee Instructor residential week-end will be held at Ravens Ait on 19th-21st April, also a Senior Instructor Assessment week-end in October.

week-end in October. Various "Star" courses and Canoeing. Sailing and Childrens Holidays feature in our 1980 Programme. Write for further information to the Deputy Warden, Ravens Ait, Portsmouth Road, Surbiton or ring 01 390 3554.

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Copies of '1000 Miles Rob Roy Canoes' or any other Magregor books or article of early canoe trips in the U.K. Box 7166 Canoe Focus. Second hand K1's, K2's and Espadas in reasonable condition for reasonable prices for a thriving canoe club. Contact Kevin Coleman at Sevenoaks 52472.

SITUATIONS VACANT CANOEISTS – SOUTH OF FRANCE

Energetic and enthusiastic instructors required on the exciting Ardeche river for long and short periods from April to September. (Note staff are taken out for 1 week at the Spring Bank Holiday). Qualified BCU Instructors and/or experience preferably over the age of 21. Further details and application forms from Gill Hinton, PGL Sunsport Holidays, 896 Station Street, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7AH. Telephone: 0989 4213

TEMPORARY INSTRUCTOR

(Not Seasonal) required for Residential Training Centre developing outdoor pursuits. Salary negotiable dependent upon experience and/or qualifications, Further details from David Judd, Dalguise Centre, Dunkeld, Perthshire,

LAKE DISTRICT

Instructors required for season March to November at centre offering outdoor activities for handicapped people. Qualifications or experience required in sailing, canoeing, hill walking. Salary £20.00 per week plus board and single accommodation. Please send full details to Warden, Calvert Trust Adventure Centre, Little Crosthwaite, Underskiddaw, Keswick, CA12 40D.

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INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

Ravens Ait require two well qualified Instructors Canoe or Canoe/Sail to act as Chief Instructors during the summer season. They will receive high remuneration for long and flexible hours at weekends as well as full time during school/ college holidays. Other Instructors less qualified are invited to offer their services for irregular engagements. Write to the Warden, Ravens Ait, Portsmouth Road, Surbiton.

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CALSHOT ACTIVITIES CENTRE

CANOEING INSTRUCTORS

Instructors in Canoeing required from April to October 1980. BCU Senior Instructor (Sea) preferably, but Senior Instruction Inland or Trainee Instructor (Sea) considered.

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The posts are residential. The rate of pay is from £4.95 per day according to qualifications. Accommodation and meals provided free of charge.

Applications giving details of experience should be made direct to: The Director, Calshot Activities Centre, The Spit, Calshot, Southampton, Hants.



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