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# GANO FING MAGAZINE

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#### COVER

'With Tent and Kayak' - Photo:Canoeing Magazine

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#### GRAND CANYON

At the time of writing this editorial, it is just 12 days away from the start of the greatest adventure for 29 British canoeists - The first British Expedition to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. By the time you the reader receive this magazine, your editor will be sweating it out in the Grand Canyon, no doubt hanging on for dear life to one of the three rubber rafts, wiping flying spray from his camera lens, and trying to obtain good shots from the bucking platform!

Since August 1970, Chris Hawkesworth (Expedition Leader) and myself (Assistant Leader), have been laying plans, working out costs and details, wondering if we could persuade the 35 persons who originally requested to come that the late unexpected high rise in costs still made the trip worthwhile... Well, needless to say we have the required minimum, our kayaks are on the way and the Expedition goes ahead.

Starting on the 30th June, we will fly to the U.S.A. from Dublin Airport, run a few rivers around Denver, and start the actual Grand Canyon trip on 6th July. The journey of some 300 miles will take ten days. With another two days to take in a few sights, we will return on 21st July.

This magazine has been printed while I am away, and your July issue will start to run within a week of my return. I apologise to readers who may have sent letters requiring an urgent reply, but these will be dealt with on my return.

#### ESPADA CLASS

During the last months we have been seeing the first races for the new BCUE spada Youth K1 racing kayak. The kayaks have been used in both Long Distance and Sprint Racing, the latter being the Richmond Canoe Club Sprint regatta where three youngsters raced the class. As with all new classes the start is slow and it is up to all our canoe clubs to persuade the use of this craft among their youth and local schools, really pushing it as hard as possible. On the manufacturing side the class is also going slowly, but at least the kayaks are being built to the present demand. I hear enquiries have been made about the class from Norway and this is certainly encouraging.

A few weeks back a very well produced American leaflet on Sprint Racing appeared in my post and from this it was interesting to note that in the U.S.A. they are using the Struer 'Slender' to encourage youth racing, this kayak again manufactured in glassfibre. In the Nederland the flat bottom R.I.S. is being re-placed with a glassfibre kayak similar to the Limfjorden - who knows, maybe in a few years we will see the first International Youth events in a one-design racing kayak....

# AROUND & ABOUT AROUND & ABOUT

#### **WATER SAFETY**

'IT COULD BE YOUR CHILD' ROSPA WARNS PARENTS

With hopes of warmer weather, more and more families will be taking to the water, either in boats or to bathe.

Despite the publicity for RoSPA's National Water Safety Campaign 'Water Can Be Dangerous' it is evident that parents are still ignoring or not recognising the danger of water, by the continued reports of child drowning accidents reported in the press. In one month alone the hazards are highlighted by details such as the following:

- The four year old girl whose body was found in an unfenced canal on 75 yards from her home.
- The six year old boy who drowned in the river at the bottom of his garden whilst in the charge of an adult.
- The nine year old who used the family barge to collect his dog, but drowned in only one foot of water.
- A five year old who dived into a canal while playing with his friends.
- The youngster who fell overboard from a hiredboat after his father let him remove his life-jacket between locks.

RoSPA reminds all parents of their responsibility in keeping children under strict supervision when playing near water, whether it be inland, coastal, quarry or simply the garden pond, and of the utmost necessity to teach children to swim and life save at the earliest possible age.

#### **BSCA CADET**

The British Schools Canoeing Association has finally agreed the design of the CADET.

The need was for a kayak of one-design that was not too stable, not too unstable, and having a good directional stability in which young persons can: learn a good paddling stroke; master the basic strokes; undertake journeys - carrying camping kit if they wished; enjoy paddling on calm or rough water, inland and at sea; eskimo roll; race inform-

ally against others within their own localities and groups.

The design adopted was first conceived over five years ago, and has in fact been in manufacture from Valley Canoe Products under the model code of V.C.P. Cadet. Agreement between the Association and Valley Canoe Products has been made and, subject to certain conditions, any canoe manufacturer will be able to product this craft.

#### OLYMPIC SYMBOLS

The symbols for 21 Olympic sports were recently published by the Munich Organising Committee. The one of interest to our readers is printed below, and this will be used for both the Sprint Events and the Canoe Slalom.







The official symbols may be used without special licence only by the Press and felevision in their reporting, as well as by sports plubs and sports federations.

Also on the Olympic front two new sports posters have been issued by the Committee. These depict CANOEING and basketball. Apart from the standard poster (Olympic Tower and Tent Roof), previous issues have motifs taken from Yachting, Riding Athletics, and Gymnastics. By 1972 all 21 Olympic Sports will have appeared in the poster series.

Note: Canoeing Magazine is at present trying to get a block order of 100 Olympic Canoeing Posters for re-sale through the magazine. Watch out for an announcement as to when these will be available.

#### **SPANISH TOUR**

British Team Captain for this years! tour of the North Spanish Long Distance events is Martin Vesey. Anyone wishing to be selected for the British Team, or paddlers racing as individuals in the Sella, Nalon, Trasona, or Deva, should contact him at below address.

Martin Vesey, 88 Tor Mount Road, Plumstead, London, S.E. 18.

Dates of the Spanish Races: 7th August, Sella Descent: 10th, Nalon Race: 12th Trasona Relay: 15th Cares Deva Descent.

#### **SOUTH AFRICAN TOUR?**

Recent post brought a letter from R.A. Maynard of South Africa with an offer to accommodate free any canoeist, British or European, who would be interested in making a two month tour of South Africa.

The period is December '71 - January '72 and at this time there are two premier races - the 110ml. Umkomaos and 110ml. Pietermaritzburg - plus three or four minor events. The canoeist would be expected to pay his own airfare either way, but all accommodation in South Africa would be free, and also kayak would be supplied for racing.

The offer comes from 23-year old R.A. Maynard who is a Physical Education teacher. The only stipulation is the canoeist should be able to speak good English. Any one interested should contact: R.A. Maynard, c/o Natal Estates, Mt. Edgecombe, Natal, South Africa. The offer is a personal one and not from the Union or Committee.

#### **100-MILE TEST**

Over the Whitsun weekend the National Association of Boys Clubs run their 100-mile Canoe Test. This year the venue was on the River Wye. Despite very damp conditions, the test attracted almost 400 kayaks of every shape and size, including a very large party of canoeists from clubs in Southern Germany.

The start was just above Glasbury to finish on the Whit-Monday at Tinton Abbey with a massed paddle pass in front of many local dignitaries. This certainly caught the imagination of the National Press, with The Times carrying a front page photograph and National T.V. running a three minute news spot.



#### Canoeing Magazine June 1971

#### **USK RIVER RACE**

Owing to some mix up, the Slalom Year Book has no reference to this years Usk White Water River Race - which will be held on 6th/7th November. However the BCU Calendar does advertise the race but due to editorial error, the organising club is quoted as Leeds Canoe Club. The event, as in past years, is of course organised by the Chalfont Park Canoe Club and entries should be sent to Mike Hillyard, 29 The Drive, Potters Bar, Herts.

#### SKY HIGH CANDE CLUB

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY CANOE CLUB may not be the top canoe club in the country but can claim to be the highest club in Great Britain! One of the last-minted old pennies, gold plated and inscribed 'Bristol University Canoe Club, England 1971' was carried up Everest by Dr. Peter Steele, the expedition's doctor and honorary vice-president of the canoe club. The penny was deposited on the final approach to the summit, by the treacherous 'direct route' by one of the members of the summit team and should be at a height of just under 27,000 feet.

Peter Steele, besides being a first rate mountaineer and a surgeon in Bristol, is a newly qualified Div. 3 slalom paddler. He promises to introduce the other members of the Everest team to a 'safe sport' like white water racing!

#### OLYMPIC CAMPING

About 100 camping grounds within a radius of some 65 miles will be available for visitors to the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. 70 percent of the places can be reserved in advance. Starting in 1971 a computer will record the reservations and distribute the available places.

Munich (Olympia Press).

#### **GOLD PLATED?**

An amusing advert, brought to our notice by Dale Johnson, recently appeared in the Sevonoaks Chronicle. It read: 'Sportsman fibreglass canoe, including rudder, spray covers, padddles, roof rack carrier, Used once, bought speed boat. £375! The advert was repeated the following week with the corrected price of £37.50 ......



# BULDING IN GIASSIBIE

#### working in glassfibre

It will be assumed that the reader is to produce a kayak from an existing mould. Also the following procedure should not be used for repairs as this is somewhat different from actual production. However an article on glassfibre repairs will be run at a later date.

Before you start mixing Gel Coat resins, the mould must first be prepared. First check carefully over the mould for any damage or breaks in its gel coat and make repairs by using glassfibre putty or spotting with the smallest possible amount of gel coat. A break in the moulds! surface will cause the kayak gel coat to creep into the actual mould and

then problems will arise when the finished kayak is to be taken from the mould. When all damage has been repaired and is dry, rub it down with fine wet and drypaper. Now the mould should be washed out with warm soapy water, removing any residue from the wet and dry and taking off any old polish that the last user may have left. Using a soft rag, polish the mould two or three times (with polish that is free from silicones). Take great care with this preparation for on it depends the finish of the resulting kayak. A first class surface comes from the polishing of the mould and not from the correct application of the glassfibre and resins.

The mould is now ready to be coated with a release agent. This is a blue liquid and a thin coat should be applied with soft rag or sponge - use of





Left: Using a soft rag, polish the mould two or three time.

Above. A thin coat of release agent being applied with soft rag rather than with a brush.

a brush should be avoided as only a smear is required. If the mould has been used a number of times and the surface in first class condition with a very high polish, the use of a release agent may not be required.

The release agent will dry almost immediately and the mould is now ready to have the gel coat applied.

If a colour pigment is being used this should be added to the resin B and thoroughly mixed. It is suggested that you only mix a small quantity at a time, either using a plastic bucket (from which hardened gel coat or lay-up resin can be easily removed) or disposable paper cups or old tins of around 2lb capacity. The hardener should now be added and stirred in. Apply the gel coat (resin B) thickly and try not to re-brush parts you have already covered but make sure that every part of the mould surface is covered. Do not worry if brush marks are visible or if gel coat begins to form runs from mould edge - this will not be seen when the kayak is finished. The Gel Coat can now be left to dry.

Drying Times:

The following are approx drying times @ 60°F.

Release Agent No. 2. 15 mins.

Gel coat Resin B

30 mins with 5cc of Cat. to 11b of Resin.

Resin A

30 mins with 5cc of Cat. to 1lb of Resin.

#### the glassfibre

The next step is now to prepare the actual glass-fibre. The material is supplied in rolls and thus you must cut it to rough shape to fit the mould. In the case of a kayak, you will see in the Espada Building feature to follow the suggested patterns and overlaps to use. If you are using mat, two of each shape should be cut. Glassfibre cloth should only be cut to length and the edges cut after it is laid-up.

#### laying-up

If you are producing a coloured kayak it will be found best to mix in the colour pigment with enough resin to complete the job. Thus for a hull about 20lb of resin A should be poured into a plastic bucket and the required colour added and well stirred in. Using paper cups small quantities of the resin should be taken off and the hardener mixed in as required.

First coat the mould to the area of the first piece of glassfibre with resin A using a brush. Be quite generous with the resin. Now lay the glassfibre material on top, leaving a small overlap on the edge of the mould, and push into position with a brush. Now coat this material with a light cover of resin and then, using the laminating roller, rub out the glassfibre, bringing through the first coat of resin, dispelling any air bubbles, and really impregnating the

Continued overleaf



Left: Gel Coat being applied to deck mould. A liberal covering without too much worry of brush marks, providing the complete area is covered.

Below: Glassfibre being cut to shapes to fit the mould.



Canoeing Magazine June 1971

# BUILDING IN GLASSFIBRE

material. It will be found best to use this roller in short strokes over a small area.

When this first piece is rolled out, lay up the next area in the same way, making a small overlap onto the first piece of glassfibre. Lay-up with this procedure until the whole mould area is covered. However if the mould is very large it may be found advisable to work only half and return to the first piece you laid for, as it starts to 'go off! (when you can touch it without the resin feeling wet - just tacky) it will be ready for the second laminate. This second glassfibre laminate should be placed over the area, pushing into place with a brush, but only coating with resin on the top and then working thorough with the roller to thoroughly impregnate.

When the whole mould is covered in this way with two laminates and before it gets really hard, take a sharp knife and trim the overlap around the edge of the mould. This trimming should be done with the knife facing to the outside of the mould. If you use it with the blade facing into the mould there is a good chance that you will pull the actual glassfibre away from the mould surface.

The moulded glassfibre can now be left to thoroughly dry.

Aperiod of 24hrs in a temp 60°F should be long enough for curing time. Before releasing make sure all parts of construction are cured. Test by tapping with coin. A sharp sound should be heard.

### taking from the mould

Probably more damage is done to a mould in the taking out stage than at any other time, thus - to save time in repairs before making another kayak - great care should be taken at this stage. Do not use any metal tools to lever your kayak hull from the mould, but insert a thin piece of wood between the mould edge and glassfibre, moving around the whole mould to release. It will be found a piece of 2mm ply-wood about an inch wide and a foot long will be most suitable for this action.

When the hull is released it only remains to wash off the release agent and give a coat of polish. The mould should be carefully washed out now ready for its next usuage.

#### care of the worker

The glassfibre material as explained is fine strands of glass. The worker with a very soft skin on the hands may find that particles of the glassfibre may penetrate the skin and cause irritation. Such particles can usually be removed with a scrubbing brush and hot soapy water.

The polyester resins and solvents used are of a nature that may cause irritation on contact with the skin and barrier creams should be applied to hands and arms before starting work. A cleansing cream should be used before washing after work.

The resins, when curing, will also give off a vapour that may irritate the eyes and throat. While a respirator maybe of use to those exposed to the vapour or machining glassfibre over long periods, the amateur will find it necessary only to ensure he is working in a well ventilated area.

#### next month...

The 'building article' next month will feature the construction of the BCU Espada Youth K1.



Above: The resin being applied to mould ready for the first piece of glassfibre to be laid.



Left: The first piece of glassfibre laid in the mould and pushed down with brush. Below: Use of roller to impregnate resins through glassfibre. And trimming of waste material from mould – note cutting to outside.









Above: Placing of glassfibre patterns in mould - note overlap on centre of hull. Right: Use of ply to ease hull from mould.

# the month ahead



#### **LONG DISTANCE**

#### **AUGUST**

1st/EXETER, SAB11P2/JAB11P2. Details: C.J. Leach, Esq., 41 Old Tiverton Road, Exeter, Devon. (EXETER CC)

8th/SHEFFIELD, SB17P3/JB9P2 (non-ranking). Details: S. Lamb, 20 Becket Walk, Green Hill, Sheffield S8 7HG. (SHEFFIELD CC)

15th/WOLVERHAMPTON, SB13PO/JB10PODetails: A. Acton, 16 Wiscombe Avenue, Penkridge, Stafford. (WOLVERHAMPTON CC).

22nd/RICHMOND MARATHON, SJB21P8. Details: R. Lawler, 41 Simplemarsh Road, Addlestone, Surrey. (RICHMOND CC)

22nd/BECCLES-BUNGAY, SB10P4/JB7P2. Details: M. Foulger, 59 Staiths Road, Bungay, Suffolk. (WAVENEY VALLEY CC)

28th-30th/NATIONAL LONG DISTANCE CHAMPION-SHIPS, Worcester. Details: S. Jenkinson, 33 Victoria Avenue, Droitwich, Worcester.



15th/SWARKSTONE, O. Details: R. Miller, 71 Blake Road, Stapleford, Notts. (MIDLAND CC)

29th/GRAND TULLY 1st/National Youth Championships. Details: D. Green, 'Borsdane', Tanner Lane, Chalkhouse Green, Reading RG4 9AD. (READING CC)

#### SEPTEMBER

5th/WOMEN'S TRAINING WEEKEND (advanced). Details: Miss P. Maybard, 44 Billy Bunns Lane, Wombourne, Wolverhampton, Staffs.



7th-8th/GRAPPENHALL REGATTA Details: C.Leah, 149 Ellesmere Road, Lower Walton, Warrington, Lancs. (GRAPPENHALL CC)

30th/WORCESTER REGATTA. Details: as National L-D Championships.



#### **YOUTH EVENTS**

#### SFPTFMBER

12th /SCOUT RACE - 'Middlesex Trophy Race'. Thames, SB10P3/JB8P3. Details: R. Lawrence, 23 River Way, Twickenham, Middx. (Lower Thames Venture Scouts)

19th/AVONCRAFT YOUTH SERIES, Gailey Details: E. Cotterill, 5 Wrekin View, Shire Oak, Brownhills, Staffs. (Sponsor AVONCRAFT)

#### LIPPSTADT CANOE CLUB

The Lippstadt Canoe Club will be holding their 30th Lippsteadter Canoe Slalom over the weekend 11th/12th September and extend a welcome for any British paddlers who wish to compete. Full details can be obtained from: Lippstadt Canoe Club c/o J. Deppe, 478 Lippstadt, Schulstrasse 35, West Germany.

The course is over a weir, but as can be seen from the photograph, the water can be quite 'Hairy' ...



### DRAFT PROPOSALS FOR REGIONALISATION

report by Chris McAllister

The Regionalisation Sub-Committee met at Barnard Castle on April 24th agreed that the following proposals should be put to the full Slalom Committee at their next meeting. The essence of the system discussed was that three national slalom divisions should be retained, and that only those at present classified as Novices should compete at Regional level. In order to facilitate the passage of the draft scheme through the Slalom Committee it was resolved that the following proposals be given the widest possible publicity;

- 1. The National Slalom Ranking System shall consist of three Divisions as at present. The number of paddlers in each Division shall be restricted as follows; First Division 100 paddlers, Second Division 200 paddlers, Third Division 300 paddlers, or as decided from time to time by the Slalom Committee. It was felt (with some disagreement) that 300 was the ideal size for Third Division at present.
- 2. Competition shall be organised in each Region separate from and in addition to the National Ranking competitions at which all paddlers normally resident in the Region shall be catered for. If paddlers from the National Divisions enter these competitions, they shall compete in separate events, which may be restricted.
- 3. Regions shall be delineated as per the proposals put to the Slalom Committee last December, with provisions for minor modifications. Competition would be organised initially around five regions, the number being increased at a later date.
- 4. Regional Slalom Officers shall operate a system of registration of paddlers resident in their region. It is suggested that the registration procedure should be as follows; At the beginning of the season each paddler shall send his BCU card to the Regional Slalom Officer together with a fee of 25p. in return for which he will receive a current BCU Slalom Yearbook, a regional calendar and details of competitive.

touring and social events within the region. His name will be placed on the regional mailing list for the season. A PADDLER MAY COMPETE IN QUALIFY-ING EVENTS IN ONE REGION ONLY.

- 5. Each Region shall appoint annually a Regional Slalom Officer at a meeting at which all BCU Clubs in the region are entitled to be represented. He shall be responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the region and for this purpose he will liaise with the clubs and the National Slalom Committee.
- 6. Competitors shall be promoted from each region to the National Third Division by a system of accumulating points. The following system is suggested. For each competition the winner shall receive 10 points, second 9 etc.... 1 for 10th. place. To qualify for transfer to Third Division a competitor must accumulate 20 points from not more than 3 events.
- 7. At the end of the season a corresponding number of 3rd Division paddlers will be relegated.

Members of the Regionalisation Sub-Committee are prepared to visit clubs in different parts of the country to explain how the system will work in practice. Requests for such visits should be addressed to the BCU Slalom Secretary, C.E. McAllister, The Flat, Mere Bank, Sandy Lane, Weaverham, Cheshire CW8 3PX.



# Sport on R.NADIN February account by E.J.WYNTER March account and photos by R.NADIN March account and photos by R.NADIN The Severn

The moody River Severn looked dull that Saturday morning, sulking along under its twenty-foot banks and reflecting a dead sky. It was cold and waiting for snow. The banks carried a mud polish from the night's great tide which had drained off in darkness. A line of debris wound its slow way downstream on the ebb and out into the wide estuary. Yet people were streaming in from all sides, leaving their cars jammed into any space they could find, while police patrolled the miles between Newnham and Gloucester keeping them clear with difficulty. Carloads of families, cameras, binoculars, heaving nests of schoolchildren, all crowded in along the river's edge, and stood looking downstream at the next bend where the river went out of sight.

Their main centres of interest were the groups of wet-suited helmeted young contenders who had arrived from all parts of the country to ride the Severn Bore.

The riders would mount that mound of water as it swept past them up the river and they would contrive by various skills to hold on to it as far as they could until it shrugged them off its back or pitched them into the bankside willows. These riders were of three kinds - Cornish surfers, with malibu boards (looking like sharks - flattened through mother's mangle), canoeists from all England and Wales (whose fibreglass slalom Kayaks are date-shaped little craft of bright colours), and lastly two men from Nottinghamheaded by Frank Goodman bringing surf-shoes, a kind of hydrid between the other two, flatter in cross-section than Kayaks but hollowed enough to thread the legs inside, and controlled like the Kayak with double paddle.

Sohere was the scene; the river saying nothing, the crowds straining with anticipation, the riders standing by to launch. Old Severnsiders know that too often the bore when it appears and is expected to perform in public fails to live up to its reputation and passes upstream with a heave and a sigh, marvellous but unspectactular and quite inadequate to set any vessel planing on its frontal gradient, let alone set the less imaginative watchers at anything brighter than a grumble. But the signs were good today, especially the fact that the tide was predicted to be the highest for eight years.

The first group to launch were the Midland Canoe Club, right down on the estuary at Newnham where the river is half a mile wide and largely spread with sandbars at low tide. We watched them snake across the channel and hold their stations. From two miles away already the air slowly loaded with noise and white plumes leaping up the bank showed the beast was a strong one. It rounded the great horseshoe bend as a broken line of surf from bank to bank fed by the tidal rush from behind stepping straight up three feet from ebb to flood, a tumultuous heap of brown turbulence steadily coming upstream and overrunning the quiet ebb on its way out to sea. The Kayaks faced it, headed into it, were consumed by the body of the tide and thrown up to the higher level and carried backwards. They then swung round to follow and were last seen chasing the flood upriver and surfing in the running troughs behind the bore. They rode the tidehead rather than the actual bore, nine miles up to Minsterworth, negotiating whirlpools, floating trees, waves re-bounding from the shores, brown swift rips of tidal current flooding across the sandbars as though all the tea in China had been spilt there, when they could they moved over in the course of the run to surf the following troughs of the tidehead, and from time to time one would quarter the front of the bore itself, traversing the river's breadth.

But this needs care. A coastal wave ends on the beach after it has broken. A bore goes for miles, and grows and shrinks, and if it is growing as the kayak runs its front the canoeist can find himself trapped broadside under the rising surf and unable to hook his way out. The only way out then is to capsize the boat and hope the drag of his body underwater will bring him back of the wave before he rolls again. It has taken up to five rolls to find release from a heavy bore.

It may be as well here to clarify the difference between sporting on the estuary bore and running it later on up the narrow reaches from Minsterworth to Gloucester. On the estuary the canoeist can surf the bore, but not for long. The main interest lies in observing the evolution of currents and patterns of wave which surge around the threshold of the tidehead and in manipulating them so that the kayak is borneup on the very top of the tide. It resembles a glider pilot stactics in thermal soaring, (only on a horizontal lift) and one mistaken move can leave

the paddler half a mile behind the tidehead in a matter of minutes. If he is caught in a 'downdraft' of current or eddy no amount of muscle and paddle is strong enough to oppose the flow. But a whitewater canoeist in a nimble boat will use the currents to carry him where he wants to go.

In contrast to this, running the tide in the upper reaches is all a question of surfing the front of the bore wave itself, (or to extend the parallel with gliding, wave soaring on a horizontal plane). Here over the deep narrow riverbed where the wave tends to be much bigger and the flood tide behind it much slower to get going, malibu boards come into their own.

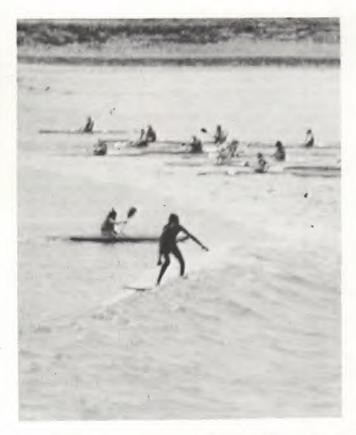
On this occasion, as the kayaks from Nwenham approached Minsterworth, floating on the tide race and now several minutes behind the bore, a party of five surfers from Cornwall launched their malibu boards from Minsterworth bank to take the bore as it passed. They were ambitious. They aimed to beat the only approved record, set up last September, of two miles between Upper Rea and Lower Parting. This September effort had been sponsored by the A.A. Magazine 'Drive' and accepted for publication by the Guiness Book of Records. It was given a good deal of challenging publicity. So the Cornishmen had come further down to launch themselves for a potential run of 62 miles including last year's stretch for the finish. Rescue boats were laid on: cameras and all sorts of lenses and blondes were there to record the deed. Alas! Some of them did get away on the

wave and rode it for about half a mile, but then the bore lapsed and left them behind. My guess is that no unpowered or hull yet designed is capable of holding the bore through its many changes of form. Running in from the sea, the river first narrows and deepens, then meanders, the bore waxes and wains, is built up from behind or starved of impetus, swings to high to one bank outside a bend and then swings across to the other. At every adaptation in shape surfers may find themselves run out of gradient and jettisoned.

However, further still up the river more surfers were waiting at Upper Rea near Gloucester to set off where last year's Guiness and Drive boys made their big splash. Only this time it was a really mixed bag of craft - three malibu boards, three Kayaks, and two surfshoes ranged out across the hundred yards of river just above Upper Rea bend - that waited to see how great a wave would come round it, and whether or not it would still be accompanied by the surfers from Minsterworth. After ten minutes the bore showed up without company, big and steep, five to six feet high. Ahead lay the only straight mile in the whole of its course, where its form could settle down en route and therefore provide a better chance for surfers to hang on to it. But there it could grow disturbingly tall in its passage. You could almost smell the adrenalin exhaled from those little craft set out and paddling feebly forwards as the wave drove up the rear. Would it break and bury them. or sag and leave them behind?

Continued overleaf





It rose in its own power: its fringes boomed and tore at the banks, but it stayed all of a piece in the middle. One board and one kayak were immediately swamped, their ends cartwheeling helplessly in the rust. But two boards, two kayaks, and the two surfshoes, were justly gathered up on the dark polished face of the wave, and carving their courses down its gradient, found those unstable unfolding points of equilibrium at which they rushed downwards perpetually yet were conveyed up the river. It was splendid to watch. Here was the power of a tide which in its time had smashed pontoon bridges and vibrated two inch steel grouts to the point of fracture, and which would certainly have washed up Pharoahis hosts of chariots if they had decided to come that way instead of through the Red Sea, now bearing little craft as frail as leaves at great speed up the river under control of human skill alone.

They passed. A mile further on at Manor Ditch bend the boards lost the gradient as the wave changed

form, followed by one kayak and the two surf-shoes until finally only a single kayak skillfully steered by Tony Scott from Bangor, made the last stretch before dropping out.

I spoke to Scott at the end. No, he hadn't been on or even seen the bore before. Beginner's luck perhaps, coupled with a cool head and a lot of surfing skill had made him unsung King of a single big tide. On this fair trial a Kayak had outstayed the more specialised surf boards and surf-shoes.

This account has covered the tide of Saturday, February 27, 1971.

#### BORE RACE - 28th March

In the Spring of 1969 Worcester Canoe Club organised the first Severn Bore Canoe Race. During this race there was so many capsizes that the Worcester CC decided not to hold a race in 1970 and instead held a Frostbite Tour on the Bore. At the end of 1970 Worcester Canoe Club kindly handed over responsibility for the organisation of the Bore Race to the recently formed Gloucester Canoe Club.

The main problem facing the Gloucester CC was that of providing adequate safety facilities: the Bore leaves in its wake a mass of fast flowing water, cross currents, whirlpools and large standing waves; a capsized canoeist can expect to spend a long time in the water in pretty rough conditions. Fortunately a local water-ski club and a boatyard agreed to provide a number of "inflateables" and these together with a group of experienced canoeists formed the safety team.

The Race was held on March 28th when a Bore larger than any for the last three years was expected The day dawned cool and grey but by 8.30 am the canoeists were ready to go, the television cameramen were in position, and the bank was lined with spectators. As "Bore time" approached the last few canoeists got on to the water and joined the others jostling for a clear stretch of water on which to meet the frontal wave.

"Its coming".

A thin white line can be seen coming round the distant bend in the river – then the wave crashes against an outcrop of rock on the bend. The canoeists turn to face the oncoming wave which is 3-4 ft high as it passes the race start point. Having turned once again the canoeists now form an arrow head sitting just behind the front wave and the race is on.





The first "obstacle" in the race is a bend in the river at a point called Garden Cliff - here large standing waves are broken up by a strong cross wind. The Bore breaks out from under the cliff and the canoeists have a fast run as far as the next sand bank at Rodley Sands - more standing waves and the Bore is split in two by the sands. And so on to the most difficult section of Longley Point where a sand bank sits in the middle of a sharp right-hand bend - the Bore rushes into this area and turns back on itself before gaining enough height to push its way into the now narrower river channel. The canoeists face standing waves 8ft high or more until they fight their way round the bend to race up river for the last mile.

At the finish the spectators saw the big front wave loom into view and only two minutes behind it the race winner-Chris Skellern could be seen going strong after managing to stay with the front wave almost to the end.

The Gloucester Canoe Club hopes that this exciting "river ascent" will become an annual event.



## COMMENT

I amvery glad to see in the latest issue of 'Canoeing Magazine' (March Issue) that you are running
a series of articles on Canoe Camping. This way of
canoeing is gradually being lost nowadays and the
author of the article is quite right in suggesting that
it is one of the most wonderful ways to canoe.

However, you do not mention the author, which is disappointing. He makes very interesting comment concerning the paddle, which he describes as 'should be square ended with slight spooning but no centre rib'. Why no centre rib? this is a vital part of the design of any blade as it stops 'flutter' when pulling back in the water. All the racing boys know this, and I am surprised the slalom boys have not found it out also. Certainly all oarsmen know it too.

I think the idea that the centre rib is not necessary has come up as a result of the difficulty in manufacture, manufacturers naturally, try to keep their prices down. Nevertheless, it is a sad loss, and I hope it won't be too long before we see it back again.

Yours Sincerely. Oliver Cock.

First the author of the Canoe Camping articles – this of course is none other than your editor (I am surprised the writing style does not show through by now!) and is the result of the postal strike when I was able to get down and write a number of articles I have had in mind for some time. However some of the future 'With Tent and Kayak' are from outside sources.

As for the 'no centre rib', well this raises a number of interesting points. For the manufacturer the criteria is certainly cost. Most touring blades retail at up to £4.00 and a centre rib just cannot be incorporated at this price, while to go higher

would be to price it out of the touring market. However for touring a centre rib is just not necessary. The only time a blade is going to 'flutter' in the water is when extreme pressure is being placed on it. Surely touring is the gentle side of the sport and not one when the paddler is likely to go hairing off at full speed?

Centre rib for slalom? A few years back there was the Klepper slalom blade that had a centre rib, but this was a flat blade and had the centre rib on both sides thus giving the blade balance. The trend now in slalom is totally for the curved blade and here certainly a centre rib could be added but, the paddle in slalom is used for very many strokes where the blade is not pulled straight through the water and I would suggest the centre rib would be more or a hinderance than of use. Study the way the blade is sliced through the water between kayak and gates — certainly the blade would be harder to control with a centre rib than without......

Centre rib at all? Therorically the canoeist should not have a centre rib on his blade whatever side of the sport he participates in. What is the cause of 'fluttering'? The action of the blade in 'fluttering is the release of water from the sides. Such an action is caused by the paddler being too strong for the blade - the blade being too small for the speed at which it is moving water. A blade that is too wide for the paddlers strength will give a straight pull through the water but at slow revvs. Therefore at a certain point in blade width, depth, spooning, length of loom, and maximum capable speed of strokes, there should be the perfect blade for each canoeist that when used at full pressure does not 'flutter'.... but you would need a computor and thousands of diff erent moulds to make blades to suit all - thus the racing blade for the seeable future will have a centre rib!

As an interesting side note, I would comment that a number of World Class paddlers - particularly from East Europe - still use square ended spooned blades - WITHOUT CENTRE RIB.....!

# AUSTRALIAN CANOE SPORT

#### JUNIOR CHAMPS

One hundred and wtenty six entries were received for the Australian Junior Racing Championships held at Footscray on the 7th March 1971. The course was situated on the Maribynong River and all events were held over 500 metres.

The regatta was most efficiively conducted by the Victorian Amateur Canoe Association's Racing Committee and the persons concerned are to be congratulated on the smooth running of the races and the sportsmanship which prevailed.

Trinty Canoe Club was well to the fore and in the 15 years event, took the first three places. Phil Coles, who has represented Australia three times at the Olympic Games was the Chief Official. He awarded the 'best junior for 1971' trophies, to Laurie Chenoweth of Victoria and Susan Whitebrook of New South Wales.

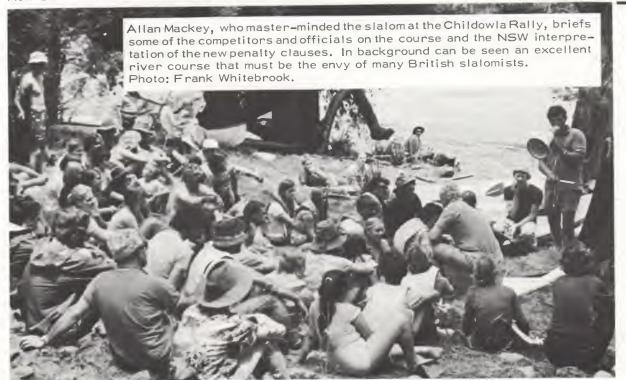
#### TASMANIAN GROWTH

Interest in Tasmania is quickening through contact which the State has had with canoeing in New South Wales, especially the Illawarra Club.

E. Carl Clayton, who is quite energetic in his attempts to develop boat building in the island state, has already reconnoitred by air, the Arthur River which flows into the sea along the boisterous west coast of Tasmania. This river passes through some rugged country and has limited access, it twists and turns for at least 100 miles and is fed by a multitude of small rivers and creeks which have not been pirated by the Hydro Electric Scheme (all power in Tasmania comes from Hydro Electric Schemes). The members of the Tasmanian Canoe Club have commenced planning by using the limited maps available and have chartered a small aircraft to fly over the whole river. During this flight additional access roads were discovered and many exciting rapids observed.

The Tasmanian Canoe Club has also invited the Illawarra Canoe Club to consider a club trip to Tasmania for the Christmas/New Year period 1971/72. The Tasmanians have offered to supply guides, arrange camp sites and generally assist in all aspects of hospitality during the visit.

Tasmania is probably the envy of all canoeists in other states. Somehow or other they managed to convert the summer time which give them an additional hour of daylight during the summer. Other states seem to find it impossible politically to make the conversion.







#### INTER-DOMINION CHAMPS

Beautiful weather accompanied the Inter-dominion Slalom Championships held at Uriarra Crossing over the Easter. Events were excellently organised and adminstered by the Lilli Pilli Kayak Club with the Freeman family playing a major role in the success.

Features of the contest were the outstanding performances by the Juniors, John Sumegi undercutting the score of the Open winner by two points! Young Sumegi is still attending Canobalas High School and competes in the under 17-years class. He is also Australian under 17 flat water racing champion, however the rapids were down to about Grade II and no doubt it was this that allowed the speedsters to shine through!

Also of note was the 7th placing of the New Zealand paddler Fletcher, for while travelling around Australia he has had little time to train or become acquainted with our conditions.

Another feature of the Championships were the large numbers of parents who attended with families. The quiet pool near the site was always covered with juveniles from 6-years and upwards, cavorting with slalom kayaks, practising braces out of the friendly sluices running into the pool - many complete with crash hats and lifejackets....

Winner of the Open event was Peter Egger, while in C2 the Egger brothers took top honours but were the first to note the magnificent progress of the Mackey/Lyell teaming in second place.

# MIKE CLARK on competitive CANOEING

#### **FIRST SPRINTS**

The Whitsun weekend, the last in may, saw the opening of the Sprint Racing season with three events being held in London. The first two were on the Saturday and Sunday, being held over 10,000 metres for K2 and K4 and organised by the Richmond and Royal Canoe Clubs respectively. Both these were almost exclusively supported by members of the two clubs - however in the Senior K4. the Argonaut crew of Oliver/Edwards/Mean/Mackereth raced home ahead of Royal crew with the lauded Richmond crew in third place....

The major event of the weekend was the Brent Regatta, held on the Welsh Harp in North London on the Monday. In past years this regatta has been combined with rowing and power boats events, and last year I highly slated this concept, there being almost total lack of co-ordination between the respective sports, the regatta running hours late, and canoeists being pushed around between the other two sports. My comment at this time was either we have a continuous time to ourselves or organise a regatta elsewehre. Well, we got the continuous time. The whole of the Monday morning was turned over to Canoe Racing, and this certainly proved to be one of the best Brent Kayak Regattas ever held. Additional course buoys were laid by Royal Canoe Club - overcoming the usual 'wash-hanging' on this venue - and for once the canoeing events were run dead on time from start to finish. Not only was it the best 'Welsh Harp' we have ever held, but conditions were ideal and produced the fastest times ever at this event.

Some 15 canoe clubs competed but it was only in the Senior K1 and K4 that winning places went outside the two London clubs of Richmond and Royal. One of the real highlights of the day was the Senior K1. Here the line-up was Lawler, Parnham, Avery, and Horton from Richmond Canoe Club; West and Mean from Royal; Edwards of Worcester; Oliver of













- Di Lawler, one of two from Richmond to capsize on the start of the Womens K1 at the Club's regatta.
- 2. Judy Letchford of Richmond a new member of the club who is proving as asset....
- 3. The first turn on the 10,000m at the Richmond Regatta.
- 4. Start of the Womens K1 event at Richmond.
- 5. A pair from the 'far north' at the Brent Regatta in London.
- 6. Royal paddlers Farell/Hunter pushing their K2 at Brent.
- 7. The Senior K1 at Brent Lawler and Wilson battle neck and neck for the lead. (Photos: Canoeing Magazine)



Lincoln; and Wilson of Ayrshire. Off the start Parnham took up the lead, closely contested by Oliver and West. After a few hundred Oliver gains the lead, Wilson pulling up with Parnham, and West just leading from Lawler. Over the '500' and the race really closed up, Oliver still holding on to a few feet, but Wilson, Parnham and Lawler all within a length of each other. With the final effort the lead was taken up by Allister Wilson with Peter Lawler a few down and just holding off Laurence Oliver, Doug Parnham dropping to fourth place. A brilliant race this for Allister - who has not raced for over two years! - and just as good for Peter, coming from three lengths down just before the 15001. With Allister back in racing form it is to be hoped he will find the time to travel south and take a few pots from the Richmond paddlers who seem set to take almost every race going ...! The Argonaut K4 crew paddled a great race to win from Richmond, but both Richmond and Royal rather took them to town in the Relay, Richmond winning from Royal with the Argonauts some 20sec down!

Outstanding among the Juniors was the performance of Pawlow/Wink in K2. This pair from the Royal Signals (also now paddling under Royal colours), just sneaked a win form from Chester/Wetheral of Richmond. In the Novice events Carvell/Lawrence (not Dave - his brother) took the K2 for Royal, while in the K1 the win again went to Royal Canoe Club, with young 14-year old Eric Farrel gaining a conclusive win from Webster of Longridge Canoe Club.

Di Lawler of Richmond took the win in the Womens K1, and teamed with Pam Renshaw the pair also took the K2. Jane Rowse of Longridge gave a good race in the K1 but could not just make the lead, while Helen Woodhouse seemed a little off form.

Right on 12.30 all canoeists were off the water after certainly the most successful Brent Ragatta. Now with the complete morning to ourselves, could we not persuade Brent to let us have the whole of the Sunday and run an International Sprint Regatta?

The following weekend - 5th June - was the date for Richmond Canoe Club's own annual Sprint Regatta on the Thames, and here conditions were far from good to make top class racing. However even with the tide running all the afternoon and only a 500 metre course, the actual racing was exciting. As might be expected Richmond paddlers were much in evidence and it was only in the Senior K1 and K4, and the Novice K1 that wins went outside Richmond or Royal. Laurance Oliver of Lincoln produced a fine win in the K1 over Parnham and Lawler from Richmond, going on to stroke the Argonaut K4 to a win over Richmond 'A' and 'B' crews. In the Novice event it was Brown of Nottingham City Kayak Club who gained the win from Farrell of Royal. Helen Woodhouse was well on form to take the Womens K1, likewise Avery/Parnham in the K2, Chester/Wetherall in the Junior K2, and Pawlow in the K1.

Certainly the most exciting race of the day was the 10,000m K2 held in the evening. Here brilliant tactics by Richmond crews Avery/Parnham and Lawler/Horton, gave a very convincing win over the crew of Oliver/Edwards, the latter pair losing the lead at the first turn and, after a short challenge towards the 2000m mark, dropping back to be almost cought by the main pack over the finish.



Senior K4 race at Brent Regatta

#### LATE ADVERT

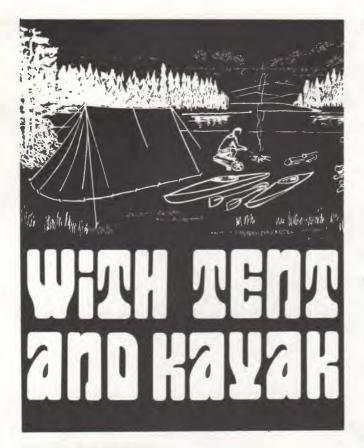
CAMPING -Facilities available for organised groups, ½ mile River Wye. Showers available when convenient and by arrangement. Contact - Warden, Woodlands, Glasbury-on-Wye, Via Hereford.



DDR paddlers on the slalom course at Zwickau - spectacular photos from John Albert.







#### **VANGO FORCE TEN**

Pitching of the Vango Force Ten is somewhat different from the Ridge Tents we looked at last month, save for the basic section of setting the ground sheet. The Force Ten is of very low shape, using an 'A' pole at the front, an outside upright pole at the rear, and just three adjustable guys.

After securing the ground sheet, the 'A' pole is put together and positioned over the front of the tent. The eye-tab at the peak of the tent is then pulled upwards and attached to the hook of the 'A' pole. Adjustment of 'A' pole feet should then be made to pull the tent taut. The small rear pole should then be positioned. Next comes the fly-sheet - no pegs yet on the side of the tent. The fly-sheet is attached to the inner tent by a double linkage half way along the centre. This is to keep a constant space between the inner and outer. The main guy is then fitted. This is completely separate from the tent and should be tentioned to keep the 'A' pole in an upright position. Pegs on the corners and sides of the tent and flysheet together should be pulled out and pushed home. The only other guys are mid-way on either side of the tent and should be pulled out last. An excellent tent this of rather unique nature. (Its correct name is the Vango Force Ten Mk2).

#### GOOD COMPANION

The last in our range is the Good Companions. This is a single pole pyramid shaped tent and one

of the easiest to correct. Having pulled out and pegged the ground sheet, the upright pole should be jointed. Unzip the entrance and, with the small metal support on top of the pole, fit through top of the tent and push into position. In most moderate winds the tent will stand quite well without need of a person supporting while the guy lines are pulled out. However invery high winds, it will be necessary to put pegs in on the windward side of the tent first (which of course should be the back if you have pitched it right). Now taking four pegs, pull out each of the cornerguys, making sure that the pegs run in line with the seam on the tent. Adjust the four to bring the whole tent upright and tension pull to lose the creases. The two main guys on the front of the tent should next be pulled out, followed by all others along the sides.

An 'A' pole unit is available with this tent and is used in the same way as with the Vango. The Good Companions is available in Minior, Standard, or Major.

#### PACKING OF TENTS

For most campers the packing of a tent after a fine weekend is just a chore and the quicker it is done the better. However for the wise camper it is just as important as the correct pitching. Each of the above tents should be dropped in the reverse order of erecting, but the real important thing comes when all the tent pegs are out. Now before you take out the ground sheet pegs, pull the tent material to one side and then the other, carefully folding down so as not to allow the tent material to come outside the ground sheet area. After throwing guys lines into the centre, take out all the ground sheet pegs and fold the tent exactly in half - either long ways or sideways, which ever is the easiest. Thus the tent material will be folded against itself and protected from wetness of the underside of the ground sheet that always occurs, no matter how warm the days may have been.

#### STORAGE AND CARE OF TENTS

Once you have the tent home, hang it up by the main guys and allow to completely dry. Always try and do this as soon as possible, leaving for a few days with the dampness of the ground sheet folded in will soon ruin your water-proofing and rot the material. If the tent is not to be used again for some time, it is wise to sprinkle a little baby powder or French chalk over the outside of the ground sheet. This prevents perishing or sticking during storage.

When you come to fold the tent, use the same method as when you packed it from the campsite. Lay it flat and carefully fold the tent material against itself, leaving the ground sheet to offer protection from any moisture. Also it will be folded in a manner that will make for easy erecting when you come next to use it.



VANGO - basic setting of ground sheet



'A' pole jointed...



and positioned over front of tent



fly sheet thrown over tent



GOOD COMPANION - pulling out ground sheet



metal support on top of pole



fit through top of tent



and push into position



pull out each of the corners

# AROUND L-D

The National Long Distance Championships - to be held over the August Bank Holiday Weekend - will be competed at Worcester this year. Worcester Canoe Club are of course hosts for the event and it promises to be the best ever.

The course is a tough one of fourteen miles on the Severn and Teme, and includes three challenging weirs. As last year, the singles and doubles events will be held separately on the Saturday and Monday, with a Sprint Regatta on the Sunday.

Worcester Canoe Club having been putting in a great deal of work on the publicity side and, with event coinciding with the 'Charter Festival' of the town (250 anniversary of the granting of its Charter as a city by King James 1st), it is possible that upwards of 10,000 persons will be spectating. Also, at the present time negotiations for T.V. coverage are going on. Thus for August Bank Holiday - MAKE IT THE NATIONAL LONG DISTANCE CHAMPION-SHIP....

The Chelmer Long Distance, held on 6th June, was raced in rather cold conditions by some 120 paddlers. However there was a very hot time in the Senior K2 with Pawlow/Wink of Royal Signals taking 1hr 28mins for the 13 mile course - roughly 10 miles an hour! A couple of crew got their enthusiasm dampened with a capsize on the start of this class, some 22 kayaks trying to make the first turn on this narrow waterway....

Early in May the Arun Junior Canoe Race - organised by 8th Worthing Sea Scouts - attracted a staggering entry of 127 kayaks! The race, on a short course of only 6-miles, was for Scouts under 14 and 16-years and produced some very fine records. In the K1, young 13-year old I. White of Longridge Scout CC broke the old record by three minutes to make a time of 37 mins dead. The K2 course record was completely smashed by another crew from Longridge - O. Harding/A. Rogers - when they clipped five minutes off to return a time of 35min 24sec. Fastest home-built went to M. Parratt of 14th Ton-bridge Sea Scouts paddling an Espada K1......

The first Long Distance event on the Wallers Haven near Pevensey, was recently organised by the Hailsham Youth Club. The 12-mile course with two portages proved to be a tough one with a strong headwind. The Senior Class developed into a race between Moore/Pearson of Eastbourne (racing for the first time in two years), and the Police Cadet crew of Herring/Woodgate. Despite their two year lay-off, the Eastbourne pair gained the win.....

The River Arun saw more racing canoeists in May when, on the 23rd, the Worthing Canoe Club organised an Open L-D Race. Despite the steady drizzle and a course of 18-miles with only two portages, some 126 paddlers thrashed off the start from Arundel and course records fell. Royal Canoe Club paddlers P.Barnard/D.Baylis smashed the Senior K2 records by some nine minutes with an excellent 2hrs 21min. A. Miller of Harlow Canoe Club also broke the Senior K1 record winning by five minutes from B. Greenham of 3rd Wokingham Scouts.

The Junior Race was only over 12-miles and here wins went to G.Walton/A. Suckling of Hailsham Youth Centre - just outside the record - and P.Gorman from Worthing CC gained a run-away-win by some twelve minutes from second place in the K1......

#### SPORTS COUNCIL

RE-ORGANISATION OF SPORTS COUNCIL A NEW STEP FORWARD FOR SPORT, SAYS MR ELDON GRIFFITHS

New Government measures to foster the development of sport were announced on 10th June by MrEldonGriffiths, Minister with special responsibility for sport.

"The Government", he said, "has decided to enhance the status of the Sports Council, to give it executive powers and widen its responsibilities. As promised in the Government's election manifesto, the new Sports Council will become an independent body responsible for the grant-aiding functions now exercised by Government departments."

A Royal Charter is to be sought for the new Sports Council (as in the case of the Arts Council). As soon as arrangements can be made, the Council will cease to be a purely advisory body, and will be set up under an independent chairman, Dr Roger Bannister, who will serve on a part-time basis.

"The Government's aim", Mr Griffiths said, "is to foster the development of all branches of sport, to stimulate provision of more and better facilities, and to ensure that sporting amenities shall be used to their fullest capacity. Parliament is to be asked to provide the new Sports Council with more funds for these purposes."

The Council would also operate on a broader basis than at present. In addition to representatives of the governing bodies of sport, its membership would include representatives of the Local Authorities, the Armed Services and the popular spectator sports. The Council would be expected to establish relationships with bodies like the Countryside Commission and Nature Conservancy; it would also have available to it the service of the Government's Technical Unit for Sport.

Paying tribute to the valuable work of the present Sports Council, Mr Griffiths said that after careful consideration of all the factors involved and the representations made to him, the time had come to take another step forward for sport. "These various new measures and others that will flow from them, are proof of the Government's recognition that sport and physical recreation are an increasingly important dimension in our national life."

#### **COUNCIL'S FUNCTIONS**

The new Sports Council will be given the task (subject only to general ministerial directives of channelling and sharing out among applicants the Government money available for grant aid. The following types of grant are to continue.

Grant to governing bodies of sport and other national organisations, for sports development, coaching and administration.

Grants for training and participation in international sports events, including Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games.

Grants towards the capital costs of national and larger-than-local sports facilities.

Additionally, the new Sports Council will be enabled to give assistance - not now available - to-wards local authority sports facilities which are not provided solely for local use but serve a wider or specialist purpose. Consortia of local authorities and sports organisations who join together for the purpose of providing new and better sports amenities will be eligible to apply for aid.

Existing Government grants to purely local sports clubs meet a purely local need. In the Government's view they should be supported by local rather than central funds. Except in special circumstances, this type of grant will be phased out; but the Government money hitherto used on these

grants will not be lost to sport. Instead it will be available for other sports projects at the discretion of the new Sports Council. The new Council, however, will also have powers to consider grants to local clubs in special cases.

#### **ASSOCIATED BODIES**

A joint working party is expected to be set up to consider the place of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, its staff and sports centres within the new arrangements. Governing bodies and other national sports and recreational organisations will be invited, as a group, to advise the Sports Council and will be given a voice on it.

It is the Government's intention to retain and strengthen the nine Regional Sports Councils in England. These will be given closer links with the new Sports Council, and there will be discussions with them about ways in which their functions might be extended.

Sports matters that are the exclusive concern of Scotland or Wales will become the responsibility of new Scottish and Welsh Councils. These will take over from existing advisory councils and will be given executive functions, including the grant-aiding of sports in Scotland and Wales. Sports matters concerning Britain as a whole, and those specifically concerning England, will continue to be dealt with by the Sports Council, whose members will include Scottish and Welsh representatives.



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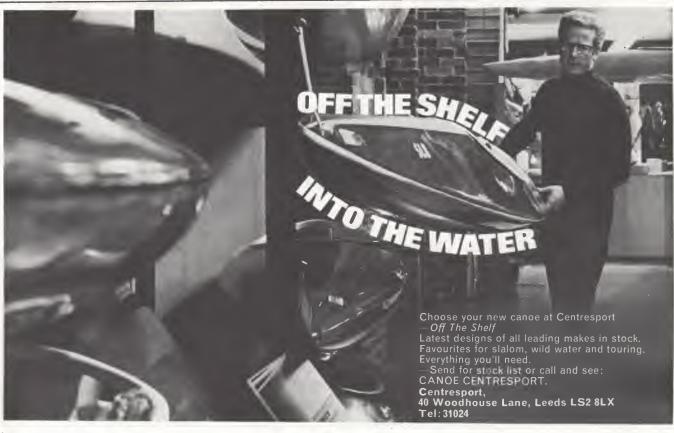
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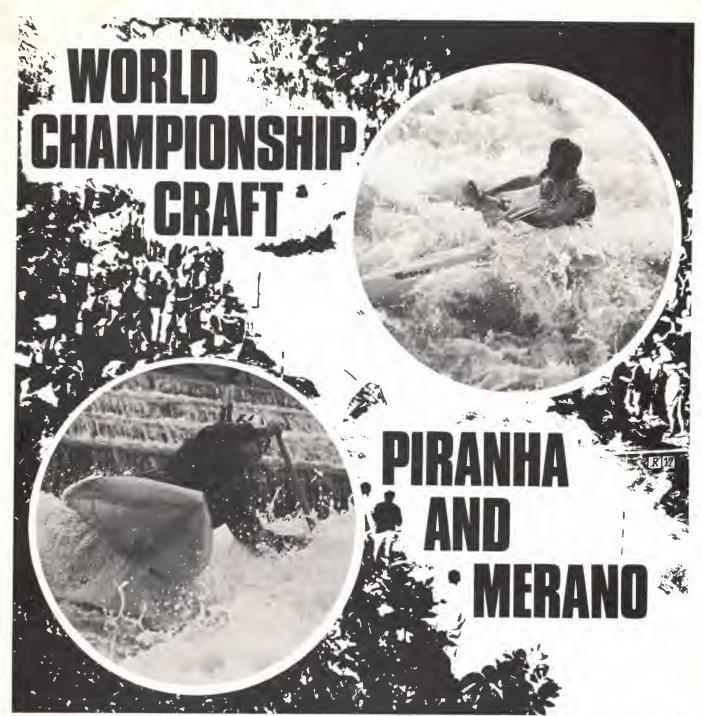
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