

Advanced Sea Club Kayak



Newsletter

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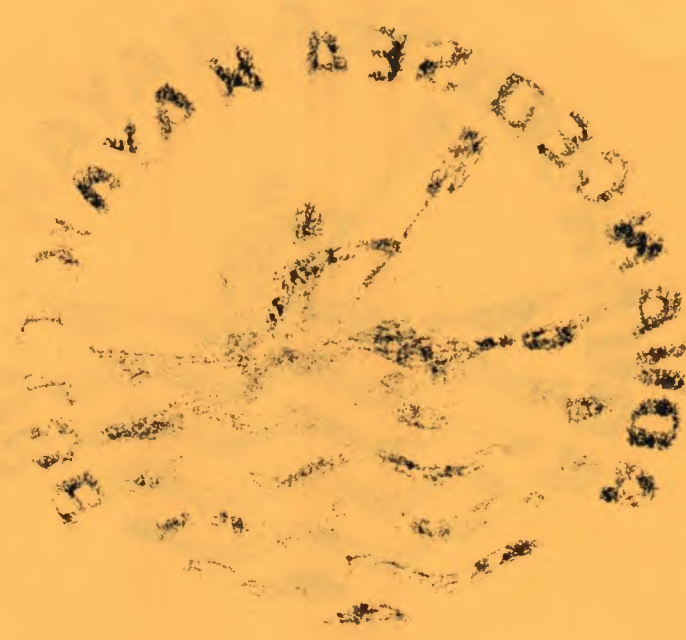
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FEBRUARY 1980

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Huntingdon
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ADVANCED SEA KAYAK CLUB

NEWSLETTER NO. 18

EDITORIAL

This Newsletter is issued early - its aim is to impart information regarding courses scheduled in the not too distant future ie

April 3 - 7 - Tom Baptie's 5th National Meet.

April 11 - 13 - Derek Hutchinson's Farne Island Cruise.

May 24 - 26 - Mike Fennessy's Coastal Kayak Camping Course.

August 16 - 22 - John Ramwell's Sea Canoeing Course in Scotland.

1. B.C.U. SEA TOURING COMMITTEE - 5TH NATIONAL MEET - EASTER 1980 - WEST WITTERING, SUSSEX
Preliminary Notice

The object of the 5th Meet, like the last 4, is to provide an opportunity for paddlers interested in sea canoeing to come together to share their experience and knowledge and to undertake group trips appropriate to their skill. Novices are equally welcome, as are experts and the programme will be adjusted to the needs of different levels of experience.

DATES - Thursday (afternoon) 3 April 1980 to Monday (afternoon) 7 April 1980.

VENUE - Nunnington Farm Camp Site, West Wittering; a convenient centre for Solent and Chichester Harbour, Langstone Harbour, Portsmouth Harbour and the Isle of Wight. Caravans etc acceptable.

Travel directions will be sent to applicants.

There are good shopping facilities close to the campe site and since this is a holiday centre shops are open during the Easter weekend. Good pubs are not too far away.

COST - Canoeists - Adults £5 per head, Juveniles (under 18) £3 per head.
Non-Canoeists - Adults £4 per head, Juveniles £2 per head; children under 11 free.
Includes camp fees, launching fees, harbour duties, etc.

CAMP EQUIPMENT - Applicants supply their own camp gear and must be self-catering.

PROGRAMME - The organiser knows the area well and will offer suggestions as to suitable trips but the decision as to what is to be done is made at Meet assemblies, the first of which will be on Thursday evening. This will be followed by briefing meetings each morning and de-briefing meetings after trips. Consideration is being given to the shore programme and this is likely to include equipment review, as at previous Meets, light refreshment facilities, etc. We will be prepared to organise training for novices during the weekend.

Two mini-buses with trailers and roof racks will be available for launching and also recovering groups so that launching can be made from one place and recovery from another.

CANOEING EQUIPMENT - Kayaks should be seaworthy and have adequate buoyancy, toggles should be fitted, declines are an advantage, towlines are necessary for advanced groups. Adequate waterproof storage for gear is essential. Adequate spare clothing and protective clothing is necessary. You will get wet, wet and wet again, cold, colder and probably coldest! Slalom canoes can benefit from detachable skegs.

SAFETY - Liaison will be undertaken with Coastguard Rescue Centre and the Meteorological Office. A standby telephone will be manned and transport will be available to recover stranded paddlers. Advanced paddlers will be expected to carry flares/smoke signals. The organiser accepts no responsibility for people who leave the agreed paddling groups. There is no intention of undermining the independence of people who wish to "paddle their own canoe" but sea paddling must be teamwork and since this is a National event the reputation of the Sea Kayak Committee is involved. An application to attend a National Meet assumes your co-operation. Do not be dismayed by this. The previous Meets have all been happy events but we did encounter the occasional 'cowboy' for whom ignorance of their own capabilities was bliss but worry for the organiser.

ASSEMBLIES - Previous Meets have been fertile in showing your ideas and inventions in kit and gear, offered comparisons of canoes and by the courtesy of members attending, the opportunity to try them out. Charts, almanacs, tide-tables, etc, will be

available for planning sessions. Some of the trips can be used as pilotage excursions for all who wish to practice navigation - 'The Haven Finding Art'. For those who do so compasses will be necessary. A simple Silva type compass will do and a few will be available from the organiser. The organiser cannot arrange Sea Proficiency tests at the Meet - contact your LCO if you want to take one.

PRELIMINARY APPLICATIONS - Should be sent to TOM BAPTIE, Merton Adventure Centre, 226 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3HD. Further application forms can be obtained from John Kuyser, Secretary of the Sea Kayak Committee. Group applications can be in the name of the leader with a list on the back of names, ages and level of experience.

ACCEPTANCE FORMS - Will be sent upon receipt of applications, with further information, at which stage a deposit of £1 per head will be asked for. Applicants may, at this stage, pay the full fee or elect to pay the balance at the Meet. Deposits are non-returnable. The initial application form may seem to be somewhat formidable but please put yourself in the position of the Organiser who may not know you from 'Adam' and who has to carry much responsibility for the event. The more info' he has the easier will he sleep although no doubt he won't get much that weekend!

LEADERSHIP - Experienced sea paddlers can expect to be invited to lead trips. This generally sorts itself out by general agreement, but please give careful consideration to the application form questions. Trainee Instructors can lead trips and have them logged for SI qualifications. The Sea Kayak Committee look forward to another successful Meet which will further promote the discipline of Sea Canoeing. There have been some notable trips lately, the Meet can lay the foundations for more but, please also cater for the less ambitious paddler.

2. B.C.U. COACHING SCHEME - DEVON & CORNWALL AREA - COASTAL KAYAK CAMPING COURSE - SOUTH DEVON HEADLANDS 3-DAY TRIP - 24/26 MAY 1980 - PLUS B.C.U. SEA PROFICIENCY & ADVANCED SEA TESTS - BRIXHAM - PLYMOUTH : 2 NIGHTS' LIGHTWEIGHT CAMPING ON COAST

The trip is designed to provide experience of sea canoeing expeditions and therefore applicants should have experience of - lightweight camping or bivouacking; paddling at sea for about 6 hours with only one beach stop for lunch; Eskimo roll, with loaded kayak.

We will be independent of land support and all food will be taken in kayaks. The Course is very suitable for anyone wishing to train for a D or E Expedition by kayak. It will also serve as a Training Course for those preparing for Advanced Sea Test and log books can be signed accordingly. Slalom-type kayaks are suitable for this trip provided they can satisfactorily carry the total weight of paddler and equipment, but the use of some sort of skeg is recommended.

A detailed list of suggested equipment and how to pack it will be sent to each member of the Course. Food, camping or canoeing gear can NOT be provided by the Organiser, but a deck map and tidal atlas of the area will be supplied.

B.C.U. TESTS - either of the tests may be taken during the trip. Sea Proficiency will be tested on the middle day and therefore the first day of the trip may be counted as one of the three "qualifying day trips". Advanced Sea Test (Assessors: Mike Fennessy & Jeff Cheat) will take place over the three days and will include some evening paddling and some open sea navigation away from the main group. Camping is not assessed.

COURSE FEE £6.00
plus .30p (BCU Members) or £1.00 (Non-members) if taking Sea Proficiency
or plus £1.00 (" ") " £2.00 (" ") " " Advanced Sea Test

APPLICATIONS including Course Fee(s), made payable to "M J Fennessy - BCU Account", should be sent to 66 Lulworth Drive, Roborough, Plymouth PL6 7DU, to arrive by 1st May. Late applicants are advised to 'phone (Plymouth 775999) to see if places are available.

APPLICATION FORM FOR SOUTH DEVON COASTAL KAYAK CAMPING TRIP 24 - 26 MAY 1980

NAME.....ADDRESS.....
D o B if under 18.....
Telephone No:.....
1980 BCU Membership No. (if any).....
Have you passed the BCU Sea Proficiency Test
If YES, please give Date.....Place.....Examiner.....
If NO, do you wish to take the Test during the trip
Do you wish to take the Advanced Sea Test.....
I enclose Course Fee(s) of.....and apply to join the Kayak Camping Course.
Signed..... if under 18
Parents' Signature.....Date.....

ON BACK PLEASE OUTLINE CANOEING EXPERIENCE PARTICULARLY SEA CANOEING WITH APPROXIMATE DATES.

3. ADVANCED SEA KAYAK CLUB - ONE WEEK'S SEA CANOEING COURSE, AUGUST 16 - 22 1980

INTRODUCTION - I have been arranging this sea canoeing course every alternate year for some time now. The idea is to combine a camping holiday with some sea canoeing, and so the prime functions are enjoyment, coaching and safety. You should be up to, if not beyond, sea proficiency standard. If you have a BCU log book, please bring it with you.

VENUE - A camp-site, almost in the middle of Gatehouse of Fleet, Kirkcudbrightshire, S.W. Scotland. It lies on the A75 between Castle Douglas and Newton Stewart.

COST - You pay your own camp-site fees and for your own food, it being self-catering...apart from the last night when we have a communal Bar-b-que. Coaching fee £5.00 per head for the week, made payable to the Advanced Sea Kayak Club. This sum goes towards coaches' expenses, the Bar-b-que and any remaining to funds of the ASKC.

EQUIPMENT - No equipment is provided. You will need the obvious basic sea canoeing equipment ...all in sound condition. Sea kayaks are preferable but not essential. You will be needing camping gear of course including tent, cooking gear, etc, and plenty of food and clothing. You can buy food in the village.

COURSE SYLLABUS - Sea expedition work around the Galloway Coast. There will be emphasis on navigation, meteorology, marine biology, expedition first aid, photography and equipment.

APPLICATION FORM - closing date for applications 23 June 1980.

I apply to join the Sea Canoeing Course to be held at Gatehouse of Fleet, Scotland, from 16 - 22 August 1980.

NAME..... AGE (if under 21).....

ADDRESS..... Please find cheque/postal order for.....
 made payable to the Advanced Sea Kayak Club.
 On completion send to J J Ramwell
 32 Glebe Road
 West Perry
 SIGNED..... Huntingdon
 DATE..... Huntingdon
 Cambs PE18 ODG

4. HERON SURVIVAL TRAINING CENTRE - PRACTICAL SURVIVAL TRAINING COURSES

The essential investment for all Yachtsmen, Weekend Sailors, Pilots, Teachers and all serious outdoor enthusiasts.

The correct use of all safety and survival equipment, clothing, liferafts, flares and radios is demonstrated together with practical sessions giving a unique opportunity to gain experience and knowledge of the survival situation, in complete safety - before it's too late.

FOR YOUR COPY OF THE 1980 PROGRAMME CONTACT - Heron Survival Training Centre
Administration Offices
Telephone: 0502 714038 Fair Close, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 9QT

5. BASIC SEA SURVIVAL COURSE

A 1-day practical course covering the basics of Sea Survival, use of liferaft, lifejackets and an insight into the problems of survival at sea. The course involves practical use of survival equipment and liferafts in the swimming pool.

SYLLABUS - Principles of Survival, Survival Clothing, Safety Equipment, Evacuation of craft, The Liferaft - its design and operation, Launching of the Liferaft, Lifejackets and Buoyancy Aids, Survival kits, Rockets and Flares, Distress Radios, Location Aids, First Aid Kits.

PRACTICAL SESSION - A practical session will be held in a local swimming pool covering launching, boarding, overturning and management of the Liferaft. A range of buoyancy aids, jackets and lifejackets will be available to use in the water.

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED - Please bring swimming costumes and towels for practical sessions. You may also bring your own lifejackets to try out in the pool and any clothing to wear during the session. White gym shoes may be worn. All notes, diagrams and leaflets will be provided as will meals and refreshments. Packed Liferafts and Lifejackets are provided for all, for the practical session.

COURSE FEE - £27.50 + VAT

COURSE DATES - All Saturdays - 22 March - Central London: 26 April - Central London.
24 May - East Anglia: 21 June - Loughborough: 26 July - Yorkshire area.

APPLICATIONS TO Heron Survival Training Centre (address as in 4. above)