



Newsletter

AUTUMN 2008

www.adurcanoeclub.org.uk

Please send any information for the newsletter to me at: janetatlb@hotmail.com
Janet Brown, Newsletter Editor.
Guest contributor: Ray Cooper!
Please let me have your reports for the next newsletter: Ray and I can't write it all!

CLUB NEWS

POOL SESSIONS

Pool sessions are now running every Thursday 8:30-9:30pm at Wadurs. Use will be closely watched. If we cannot improve on last year we will reduce to fortnightly or monthly sessions and/or put the price up. So use it or lose it!

WEBSITE

Look out for the redesigned website coming (fairly) soon!

CONGRATULATIONS

- **Fiona Taylor and Jim Callender: on their recent wedding**
- **Alison Davis and Alex Brown: on passing their BCU level 2 kayak assessments**
- **Dan Gusterson: on passing his BCU level 3 surf assessment**
- **Fiona Taylor: on appearing in Top Santé magazine, shown right**

YAHOO GROUP E-MAILS

Please subscribe to the Adur Canoe Club's e-mail notification service if you can. Send an e-mail to:

adurcanoeclub-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Or visit: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/adurcanoeclub/>



OTHER NEWS

WHEN PUTTING YOUR BOAT ON A TRAILER (or roof-rack).... Be careful!



Photo seen posted by one Sam Waites on UK Rivers Guidebook. His beloved Burn was tied down a bit too close to the trailer wheel, and suffered a little from the experience.

New York area: An SUV hit a school bus head-on. The driver was in a critical condition; no children were riding on the bus at the time of the afternoon accident, but the bus driver sustained minor injuries when a kayak on top of the SUV pierced the bus windshield.

I nearly lost my Fluid Flirt in 2006 in Spain: it fell off the side of the shuttle trailer but, thanks to the ropes, didn't hit the deck so was undamaged.

Had fun getting my sea kayak home this October: crosswinds caused the cradle to be moved within a few miles, and again 2 miles from Warwick services the bow was moving from side to side: we went awfully slowly until arriving there!

TALL STORIES: ANDY JACKSON, A BIOGRAPHY

From UK Rivers Guidebook: Mark Rainsley writes:

Andy Jackson was one of the pivotal characters of our sport. He crammed an incredible amount into his life; from exploring Scottish ditches, to kicking off 'World Tour' paddling trips, to working towards legal access to Scottish rivers, to making an awful lot of people laugh and smile.

His sudden death in 2004 at the age of 33 shocked and saddened British paddlers.

Andy's friend Ron Cameron has now written a biography of Andy, collating Andy's writings, some amazing photos and the memories of Andy's (numerous) friends and family. The royalties from this book are to be divided equally between the [Andy Jackson Fund for Access](#) and the [IcFEM](#)

(providing education, healthcare, agriculture and social support in Kenya). Mark (UKRGB) gets a small commission for book sales through these [links](#), and will be making a donation to the above funds for each copy sold.



WET WEST PADDLEFEST September 2008: by Ray Cooper

On my most recent escapade to Scotland during September I was fortunate enough to take part in the Scottish Canoe Association's 3rd Paddlefest weekend. This weekend is a celebration of the life of Andy Jackson (see above).

On the Saturday, WWPF descended upon the River Garry near Invergarry, and having paddled this Grade 3+ dam release river twice earlier in the week with my Scottish coach, there was no holding me back. Overcoming the obstacle of being on my own was not a problem as everyone I met was very friendly. I teamed up with a group I met on the shuttle bus to the put in.

After a brief introduction to the fast flowing waters we made our descent. I managed to travel the bottom part of the first falls upside down. A close encounter with a rock underwater confirmed that upside down was not good, a quick roll and off down to the next falls. As we sat in the eddy contemplating the first part of the run my paddling compatriots ribbed me about my great start.



Spot the (anonymous) paddler at the first waterfall on the Moriston

Sunday arrived quickly and it was now a trip to the River Moriston, only a few miles away from one illustrious log cabin. Although I was all geared up to paddle, after scouting the top section of this Grade 4/5 river, I decided it was in my best interests to sit this one out. We found a nice vantagepoint and waited. It wasn't long before the excitement began: one poor soul exiting his boat at an inappropriate time (half way down a long and big rapid section). His friends rescued him from the brink of disaster just in time, but not his boat, which merrily floated not just the next falls, but all the way to the bottom of this technical section.

A few people paddled the middle section of this river, which I had also done during the week, mainly Grade 2 (3). We hurried down to the last, very tough section in the truck, to watch the ensuing mayhem as the more experienced paddlers put in here. It is amazing to see that the fine line between success and disaster is so very, very small with some very close encounters that drew gasps from all of us watching.

In summary, this is an excellent event put on by the SCA every year, very well organised, very friendly, and enjoyable for both paddlers and spectators. The whole event over the 3 days was just £15, including the shuttle buses. (Now wouldn't it be good if the BCU were able to hold something similar).

After playing on various wave features and eddy hopping on the way down, we approached the last double drop: the largest on this part of the river. Whilst getting into position for some photo opportunities, I inadvertently drifted backwards into the current: not the best idea. A quick spin saw me facing in the right direction at least but the line I was now forced to take (a tight squeeze between two large imposing rocks) was probably not the best! This fed me directly into the big munch machine at the bottom of the drop. It obviously didn't like me as it quickly spat me out... upside down! Another roll, more applause and rib taking from the guys. After playing in the big stopper for a while we caught the free shuttle bus back to the put in and went again and again and again: awesome!

With each run we all got better and more adventurous with boofing coming into play rather than the *easier* routes being taken. Although quite tired by the end of the 4th run it was a truly memorable great day of paddling. Fort William, about 30 miles away hosted the big Saturday night party.

Ray on the Garry



This event is growing every year in popularity and was attended by some 300 people including the excellent paddlers from the Pyranha and Dagger teams who were absolutely awesome to watch.

I for one will be attending the event next year and open the door to all who may be interested. It is a long way but it's worth it. Contact me to discuss. *Ray Cooper.*

RIVER DART October 2008: by Ray Cooper

John MacColl and I paddled the Dart loop section with Andy Hall and crew. On Saturday it rained hard, and by Sunday morning the river was high with water flowing through all 3 arches like an express train.

I met the guys at Newbridge and after a short discussion we decided to paddle it. Rather than get in at the bridge we walked up the path on the opposite side and got in further up the river to take in a few more exciting drops. Scotland was big, but this was very fast and with very few eddies so mistakes were not to be desired.

I had already spoken to a few paddlers and apparently a group of 4 did the Upper Dart but lost two paddlers very quickly, fortunately they were rescued but their boats were not recovered until Holne Bridge: now that is a long way. Someone had lost a boat in the loop section before we got on. As we all clustered into the smallest of eddies it occurred to me that out of everyone in the car park I appeared to have the smallest boat: it became apparent that a bigger boat might have been a good idea. (I have since invested in a Burn).

We were good to go and as soon as we were in the main flow we were off, back-paddling to try and reduce speed. Both John and I tripped over one of the first few drops but with our "self-righting boats", with big grins we were off again. We eddy hopped where we could under the watchful eye of Andy and team, and paddled the Webburn tributary prior to tackling the remainder of the loop.

A few inspection trips were necessary and this paid dividends as a submerged tree was in the middle of one set of rapids: scouting rapids really does work. A couple of swimmers needed to be rescued, fortunately John and I managed to stay in our boats, but not for want of trying as I had 3 attempts to roll up and paddle away from one of the bigger stoppers on the bottom section.

Just before the get out at Holne there was a massive wave train that acted as a superb triple roller coaster. I saw people on the bank as I coolly took the first two waves, thinking how cool I must look in my small boat, getting more vertical each time just before doing a complete flip over backwards on the third: all coolness now gone! Another roll ensued, a quick panic spin as I was now travelling backwards, under the bridge near the get out. Wow, it happens quickly at this speed!

After a shuttle back to the top, we went off again on our second run. The level had fallen slightly and this run was attacked more skilfully. I just managed to avoid John as he achieved a neat, if unplanned, pirouette when he got stuck in a stopper. Between my laughter and the noise of the water I don't think he heard me shout at him to paddle, but it was fun to watch. Another great day of paddling and my first time on the Dart: awesome!

Thanks to Andy Hall and team for the opportunity and the welcoming atmosphere. *Ray Cooper.*

Coming in next newsletter: the continued adventures of Ray in whitewater-land! (Unless YOU want to do something instead!).

LOST KIT: IDEAS TO HELP EASE THE PAIN AND INCONVENIENCE TO OTHERS

Black paddles are hard to find on riverbanks (and I speak from experience): get some colour in your life!

Write your name and phone number in your whitewater and sea kayak: if found you can be contacted to

1. Check you're OK
2. Arrange collection of lost boat

If you have lost a kayak contact the Police non-emergency number of wherever you are, numbers available at end of newsletter: please print out and keep in your car! These numbers will be on the redesigned website soon.

With a sea kayak, it is necessary to contact the coastguard as well, and if your whitewater boat is likely to head out to sea fairly soon.

It is worth putting a post on UK Rivers Guidebook forum (INLAND or SEA depending where you lost it) stating where and when you lost your boat: they are often reunited with their owners.

TEN TOP: YOU KNOW YOU'RE A KAYAKER IF...

1. When you drive over a bridge, you check to see if there's a gnarly river underneath
2. Soggy sandwiches are quite acceptable
3. You return to work from your holiday/weekend more exhausted than when you left
4. You choose a car based on the interior length so your kayak can fit inside (*Editor:* or if you're Ray, choose a kayak so that it fits in your truck)
5. When the value of the kit in your car and the boats on your roof far exceed the value of your
6. You try to edge whilst reverse parking, and refer to pulling over as "eddying out"
7. Boof isn't just a word that flashes up on screen when someone gets punched in Batman
8. When your boss wonders why you only ever call in "sick" after a torrential downpour



9. When painful bruises appear from nowhere 2 days after you've been boating and you don't know how they got there

10. You flash your car headlights at people with boats on their roof, forgetting you don't have any on your car

These are just a few from UK Rivers Guidebook (and from Facebook to there). To see them all visit:

<http://www.ukriversguidebook.co.uk/forum/viewtopic.php?t=43369&postdays=0&postorder=asc&start=0>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Contact Details:

Clare: 01903 691473 clare.thurgar@btopenworld.com

Dan: 01403 211813 dnz_mx@yahoo.com

Gid: 01903 691473 gideon_reade@yahoo.co.uk

Cara: 01403 211813 cara_hamblin@hotmail.co.uk

Steve Bennett: 07778 590678 stephan.bennett@talk21.com

Sat 22nd/ Sun 23rd/ Sun 30th November/ Sun 7th December: BCU/ UKCC COACHING LEVEL 1 COURSE

To attend the course, you need to have:

- New 2-star award or old 2 star kayak and 2 star canoe
- Foundation Safety or old Canoe Safety Test
- Completed registration with the BCU

The 4-day course cost should be under £100 per participant, although the BCU also charge for paperwork.

The club will pay 50% of the fees for members who are prepared to coach for the club.

Sat 29th/Sun 30th November: OCA OPEN CANOE WHITE WATER INTRODUCTION - DEVON

Contact Gideon or Clare for more information.

Sat 13th/ Sun 14th December: WHITE WATER KAYAK (OR CANOE) - DEVON

Possibly: Teign/ Tavy/ Barle. Grade 1-3. Those who are experienced in open boating in moving water and are over 18, can also join this trip.

Contact: Clare.

Summer 2009 SEA KAYAKING SHETLANDS

Contact: Clare.

FOR SALE

Wanted: Back issues of Practical Caravanning. Contact Harvey Roft.

RETAILERS

Take your membership card to get around 10% discount (may not apply on all stock).

WHITEWATER THE CANOE CENTRE

Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Middlesex, TW17 8NS. (Just off the M3 junction 1). 01932 247978. www.wwtcc.com

SOUTHWATER WATERSPORTS

Unit 13 Oakhurst Business Park, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, RH13 9RT. 01403 732389. www.ukkayaking.co.uk

BRIGHTON CANOES

Unit S, Rich Industrial Estate, Avis Way, Newhaven, BN9 0DU. Tel: 01273 513200. www.brighton-canoes.co.uk

STORM KAYAKS

Unit 8 Harbour House, Harbour Way, Shoreham Beach, BN43 5HZ. Tel: 01273 465406. www.stormkayaks.co.uk

PEGLERS: On The Hill

18 High Street, Arundel BN18 9AB. Tel: 01903 885555. www.peglers.co.uk

Is your favourite retailer missing? Did they give you a discount as an ACC club member? Let me know and I'll advertise them here!



NON-EMERGENCY POLICE NUMBERS

ENGLAND		Nottinghamshire	0115 967 0999
Avon & Somerset	0845 4567000	South Yorkshire	0114 220 2020
Bedfordshire	01234 841212	Staffordshire	0845 3302010
Cambridgeshire	0845 4564564	Suffolk	01473 613500
Cheshire	0845 4580000	Surrey	0845 125 2222
City of London Police	0207 601 2222	Sussex	0845 60 70 999
Cleveland	01642 326326	Thames Valley (Berks Bucks Oxon)	08458 505505
Cumbria	0845 3300247	Warwickshire	01926 415000
Derbyshire	0845 1233333	West Mercia	08457 444 888
Devon & Cornwall	08452 777444	West Midlands	0845 113 5000
Dorset	01202 222222	West Yorkshire	0845 6060606
Durham	0845 6060365	Wiltshire	08454 087000
Essex	01245 491491	WALES	
Gloucestershire	0845 090 1234	Dyfed Powys Police	0845 3302000
Greater Manchester	0161 872 5050	Gwent	01633 838111
Hampshire	08450 454545	North Wales	0845 6071002
Hertfordshire	0845 3300222	South Wales	01656 655555
Humberside	0845 6060222	SCOTLAND	
Kent	01622 690690	Central Scotland	01786 456000
Lancashire	0845 1253545	Dumfries & Galloway	0845 600 5701
Leicestershire	0116 222 2222	Fife	0845 600 5702
Lincolnshire	01522 532222	Grampian	01224 386000
Merseyside	0151 709 6010	Lothian & Borders	0131 311 3131
Metropolitan Police	0207 230 1212	Northern Scotland	01463 715555
Norfolk	0845 4564567	Strathclyde	0141 532 2000
North Yorkshire	0845 6060247	Tayside	01382 223200
Northamptonshire	01604 700700	IRELAND	
Northumbria	01661 872555	Northern Ireland	02890 650222