



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO.3



Estuary Barbeque - June 2004



At The Strand, boats packed and ready to go!

As we gathered in the club car park and pulled out boats for those who needed them, all eyes were on the weather, it was starting to cheer up! So with time being very important for catching the tide we set off in a six car snake to Gillingham. With Geoff Orford in the lead and Steve Anstee just behind with his 14ft sailing canoe, which was very prominent on the roof of his van and easy to follow. One quick stop at a garage to grab some disposable barbeques and we arrived at The Strand.

Steve had so much spare room in his open canoe, that a lot of extras were put into his boat!! Although it was agreed that if there was an award for the most well packed boat then Andrea Craig should have won it, it amazed us all how much she fitted into her kayak!



Sunset on Hoo Island

Once our boats were packed we were ready to go and so we took to the water. The paddle across was very pleasant with a lovely warm breeze and calm sea. The landing onto the island was easy and as always very muddy! So we set up camp and got the barbeques on and the bottles open. While eating good food and drinking cold beers we watched the sun setting over Hoo Marina.

Steve Chinn and a small group of paddlers had decided not to sleep over and started to head back after a wade in the mud to get to the water. By the time they reached The Strand it was dark and they landed 100 metres short of the hard landing ramp, the ladies in his group (who will remain nameless) decided that the only way to the shore was to swim across the mud, dragging their Kayaks behind them! Steve paddled down and found the hard ramp, but it was too late for the ladies by then and they were completely covered in Medway slime, mmmm lovely! Those who stayed on the island lit a big driftwood fire and had a very pleasant evening and peaceful sleep under the starry sky. We had an early start the next day as the tide time was vital and an uneventful paddle back to The Strand.

The Fun Factor

Following the excellent article "Horses for Courses" in issue 2 of the new MCC newsletter, further information has been sought from Professor Heinz P. Wildebeste of West Bridgford University, Notts. Professor Wildebeste is an expert in Polyethylene constructed kayaks, often referred to as "Tupperware", and he has written many play boating articles in the popular activity magazines under the pseudonym of "Spud Playwave". However, his recent research has led him to investigate the popularity of tupperware on placid water.

In an exclusive interview for MCC, he told us, "While I acknowledge the absolute appropriateness of the design of polyethylene constructed boats in whitewater/surfing environments and the use of touring/marathon designs on flat water, I have found that there is a case for mixing the two." He went on, "I entirely agree with the formula

$$\text{Hull Speed (Knots)} = 1.34\sqrt{\text{waterlength}}$$

to give the displacement speed of a vessel under human paddling power. My research however, has led me to develop another measure which I call the 'Fun Factor (F)' which can be overlaid onto the Hull Speed equation."

Professor Wildebeste has found that an expression for the F factor can be defined empirically as follows:-

$$\text{Fun Factor (F)} = S(\text{waterlength})^2 + L(\text{waterlength}) + C$$

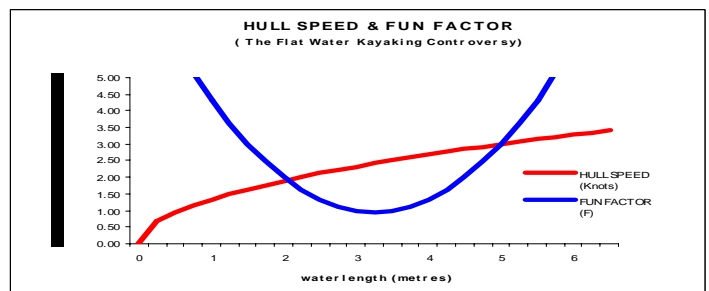
Where: S = coefficient of street credibility (value = +2/3)

L = kayak length (or the size isn't everything) coefficient (value = -13/3)

C = club membership enhancement coefficient (value = +8)

$$\text{Thus: } F = 0.67(\text{waterlength})^2 - 4.33(\text{waterlength}) + 8$$

Overlaying the 2 expressions :-



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While play boating activities clearly reside on the left hand side of the chart and marathon/touring/sea kayaking occupy the right, Professor Wildebeste defines the region in the middle, between the 2 curves, as the **“FLAT WATER ZONE OF CONTENTION”** and he commented, *“All the while this zone exists, our favourite sport will always be enlivened by healthy controversy. No kayak design is entirely “inappropriate” if you’re able to have FUN in it wherever you are paddling.”*



3 Star - Closed Cockpit Kayak

If you have 3 Star Closed Cockpit Kayak - great! If not - why not give it a go?

This is an assessment opportunity not to be missed. There are few people within our Club who are able, or prepared, to take a 3 Star CCK Assessment (needed for Level 2 CCK Coach Award, not to confirm what a good paddler you are, but if you are in to badges and certificates, why not?)

BCU Cost: £6.00 (payable to BCU) (non – BCU members £12.00) No fee for a fail.

Assessment Cost: Club Members are free, others £15.00. Bring your MCC card!

When: Tuesday 27th July, 6.00pm at Clubhouse. (We may be travelling to another venue, but it is unlikely). Finish when we finish.

You will need: All your paddling gear (be prepared to get wet during rescues, etc..). Also, make sure you are aware of the syllabus, either see Paul in advance, or check on the Coaching section of the BCU website. Practice to make sure you are hot on the evening. If you are not up to scratch on any section, you can work on it, and take it later.

This is **NOT** a coaching session, however, tips may be offered for successful participation, and hopefully, passing.

Names to Paul Newman as soon as possible please!
Telephone: 01634 232874 or alternatively email: paulnewmanpaddlesport@blueyonder.co.uk

First come, first served and a maximum of 6 (unless another kind Coach from the club, able to assess 3 Star CCK volunteers).

Are you a BCU member?

Paddlers new to our sport may not realise there is a National Governing Body, the British Canoe Union (BCU), which represents all aspects of paddle sport on our behalf. What is also important, is that an agreement has been negotiated by the BCU and the Environment Agency (EA), who control use of the Medway. This agreement means that ALL BCU members can paddle the navigation section of the Medway, from above Tonbridge to Allington

Lock without having to buy a licence. Non-members have to buy a licence from the EA.

After recent discussions with the EA and BCU it has become apparent that **membership of Maidstone Canoe Club is not enough.** We pay a fee to the BCU for all non-BCU members to cover third party insurance (just in case we damage or hurt someone else or their property), but this does **NOT** cover a Medway licence.

In addition to allowing us to paddle the Medway, a BCU membership brings a magazine, and the ability to enter competitions, or be a coach (all Coaches **MUST** be full members).

There are some membership application forms upstairs in the clubhouse, next to club membership application forms. If you are not yet a member, please take a form and join.

Maidstone Marathon Results

Division	Single/Double (S/D)	Position	Name	Points	Time	Distance in miles
4	S	8	Paul Elston	13	78.08	8
8	S	1	Aaron Jordan	20	48.43	4
8	S	2	Foad Azimi	19	48.70	4
5/6	D	2	Martin Howes & Phil Bowles	19	87.07	8
7/8	D	6	Dean Jordan & Tina Jordan	15	49.15	4
9	D	1	Gemma Thompson & Alan Thompson	20	51.18	4
Lightning one design Guppies, etc		2	Gemma Harris	-	44.38	2.5
		2	Oscar Whiteside	-	34.20	2.5
		3	Tom Vaughan	-	44.10	2.5
		4	Sophie Harris	-	47.30	2.5
		5	Jordan Harris	-	Retired	

Thanks to all the helpers at the Club Marathon, without your conscientious help, things would have fallen apart.

Congratulations to all racers, especially our younger paddlers who did fantastically well! We hope you beat your own personal best times for the distances you raced, if not better luck next time!



Summer Club for our Young Members

Maidstone Canoe Club have organised a weeks course for our club paddlers from Monday 9th August to Friday 13th August.

We will open the club house from 09.30am and would expect to be on the water for 10am. We will be off the water by 12.30pm ready for a hearty lunch I am sure!!

There will be no charges for this course and any adults that wish to come and join in with these morning sessions will be



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made most welcome.

If you would like to attend this course, please just come along!

Christmas Party 2004

Alright, alright, we may only be half way through July, but I Steve Anstee am trying to get the Christmas party provisionally booked and need an indication of numbers if it is going to happen.

I have spoken to the new owners of the Kentish lady, who as you may be aware have just had the boat refitted and they are offering us a good deal

The suggested itinerary is to depart from the jetty in the park at 7.30pm (which is just a short walk from our club) and then have a cruise up the Medway towards Teston. Turn around and cruise back to arrive back at the Jetty for 11.30pm. Entertainment will be a live Jazz band or disco, a professional catering buffet will be included and the boat has a well stocked bar. There will be a raffle, which will have some excellent prizes and we also have a quizmaster.

Dependant on numbers the maximum cost per head is £15 for a minimum of 40 people and gets cheaper if we can get more people to come along, the Kentish Lady can take a maximum of 75.

For more information go to www.kentishlady.co.uk or see the flyer on the notice board.

Please contact Steve Anstee to reserve your place as soon as possible, this will make sure we can make a definite booking in time!



Weekly Events

Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings the club is open for training and fitness.

Wednesday evenings leisurely paddle for anyone who wants to come along, on the water for 7pm.

Sunday mornings club paddle, on the water for 10am

Forthcoming Events

22 July Swimming Pool Session, for more info please contact Ken Binstead

24-25 July River Festival, please come along to help us promote the club

27 July Three Star Closed Cockpit Kayak Course

29 July Swimming Pool Session, for more info please contact Ken Binstead

30 July to 1 August BCU London and South East Region White-water training weekend at Holme Pierre Pont, Nottingham. Contact Geoff Orford as soon as possible to book a place on this fantastic weekend!

9-13 August Summer Club for our young members

29 August Josh Bay Barbeque Beach Party Trip, please see club notice board for details.

If you have anything you would like to see included in the next issue of this newsletter, please contact Steve Anstee by e-mail: seanstee@blueyonder.co.uk or alternatively Tel: 01622 716325, thank you!