

Cumbria Canoeists meeting Golden Rule, Ambleside. 27/09/01

Present:

Nick Mortimer
Steve Farthing
Liz Farthing
Ian Wilson
Colin Litten
Nick Dickson
Tim Mather

Mick Waplington.
Nigel Timmins.
Charles Stewart
Nigel Seymoor
Alastair Yates
Roger Ward
Paul Trott

Keith Morris.
Steve Lenartowicz
John Sherwin
Robin Andrews
Kevin Steel
Terry Storry
John Patterson

Apologies: from Liz Savage, Heather Prince, Annie Dukes, Matt Ellis, Jim Wilson, Andy Clifford.

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

Access. There was some discussion about putting information on the web. Real concern was expressed about this as things are changing all the time, but it was to be looked into. ED. Note: This is now done, so visit www.cumbriacanoeists.org.uk

Colin gave a run down on Foot and mouth restriction.

Eden should soon be OK though it depends on restrictions being lifted on the take out field – contact Jim Wilson for most recent updates.

Border Esk is OK.

Lune, Rothay and Clough are not open as restrictions are very much still in place. **Do not paddle the Lune.** The Lune has had a very serious incident of trespass in July, right in the middle of F&M restrictions. This incident is in the middle of investigation.

Andy Clifford, the river advisor, has sorted an agreement on the middle Lune between Rigmaden bridge and Devils Bridge, Kirkby Lonsdale. Talk to him **first** if you want to paddle this section.

The **Eamont** down to Eamont Bridge can be paddled so long as you contact Dalemain Estates and pay the nominal fee. Note it is closed during November.

Greta is open.

The **Leven** is unlikely to be open at all this winter.

Crake is probably OK but contact Colin Litton to check most recent information. Also one can no longer portage the rapid at the Bobbin mill. It must be shot on sight, do not get out even to view it!!

The **Duddon** and the **Troutbeck** are no longer subject to foot and mouth restrictions. When paddling the Troutbeck ask first at the garage if you can park and exit the river. Please do your bit and buy some fuel and/or sweeties from them to keep them sweet.

Upper Derwent is OK, between the lakes don't land, the lower sections below Bassenthwaite is, we think, in a restricted area.

The **Kent** is being paddled but contact river advisor for most recent update.

The **Brathay** and **Rothay** are fine.

The **Tyne** catchment's area is still heavily restricted but the **Tees** is open. *News from the Northern region meting 5/12/01. High force to Middleton pay £3 for ticket contact LAO Adam*

Hearn on 01833 640881. Access on the 12km stretch of the middle Tees between Barnard Castle and Winston Bridge is now available from 1/11/01 to 31/3/02 – access at Barnard Castle is from S bank between the stone road bridge and the green footbridge. The only other access/egress points are at Abbey rapids and at Whorlton Lido, where a small fee will be made for parking. Egress at Winston bridge is via the gravel track on river right about 100m above the bridge. All canoeists are asked to keep off the Greta (that flows into the Tees) as part of this access agreement made between the landowners and BCU Northern. Further details contact LAO Ali Rowell 01325 462108.

RCO/LCO meeting - 15th September. Attended by Mick and Colin.

Coach update was looked at and it was realized that the round of forums will not enable everyone to become updated. Therefore the process has been expanded and anyone doing a BCU course that finishes with an action plan, e.g. a coaching course is automatically updated. You will soon be able to use a continuous coach development record sheet as printed in last CODE or even do it on line.

Coaches will be termed Updated or Non-updated coaches. All clubs, centres etc. will be advised to only use updated coaches. Coaches should soon (January 2002) get a print out of both their qualifications and when they should next update.

All coaches need to update by April 2002 though competition coaches have until April 2003. Remember you can go to any update forum. The NW have their next one on 3rd March and the Northern region have theirs' on the 17 March. Cumbria will decide a date for theirs' at next meeting.

Howard Blackman talked about The SRC cup 2002. Basically it is a club-organised introduction to sprint racing. Anyone can organise and/or enter regardless of boat style. The winning club in each region gets a cash prize of £150. Cumbria clubs please note: it will not be hard to win this in our region since only one club I know of does any sprint or marathon racing, and remember you don't have to have access to specialist boats, a race of 100m is classed as a qualifying race! For further details contact 01386 861317 or src-cups@bcu.org.uk.)

Slalom coach / world-class start programme is now in operation but is complex and basically needs involvement by paddlers at a very early age. There is a lot of money here but probably only available to a few?

White water racing- there is a Junior World cup event on the Tryweryn 21/22nd July 2002. A number of events for novices to white water racing are planned. Also there are number of Wave Hoppers which clubs and even individuals may be able to borrow with a deposit of £100. Look at web site for details www.wildwater.org.uk

Cumbria Update day 20th October. This event was discussed, but has now happened. It was very successful thanks to all the presenters who helped out. This event would not happen without you. It went well because of your involvement, and thanks once again from Nigel Timmins and Mick Waplington.

Club round up.

Copeland. Lakes trips well attended and Scotland this winter also lots of star awards done.

Lakeland. Polo expanding. Thanks came from Tim Mather for the polo tournament funding. Polo year book is available.

Canoe sailing – very active with events run on Windermere recently.

Courses A number of courses have run supported by the Awards for All grant. This has now finished, as the wind up date was the end of November. But Calvert Trust have some places left on their disability awareness course 21-25 January 2002 that we have funded and we will have a Canoe Level 2 Assessment programmed sometime next summer. Howtown had a level 2 training course and some CST testing.

AOB

Josh Litton recounted his story of gaining funding for a coaching award from Cumbria Youth Alliance. Well done!! Funding is available for 8 to 26 year olds. Contact 017687 75085

Alan Brenton suggested a coaching weekend where lots of different courses run at the same time, to create interaction between coaches. It will depend on a CCP wanting to do it. Also coaches will need to express interest in running courses. Contact Nigel Timmins 017684 80084 or Alan if you are interested.

Keith Morris is concerned about the web site. It needs improving but he needs material to do it. E.g. access info, bulletin board, etc. Please contact him with material or offers of help.

John Sherwin raised the issue of BCU publications not being clearly advertised. Some info is not even in the public domain e.g. Info on hiring swimming pools and Canoeing and the National Curriculum at key stage 2. (Information is printed at back of code but I have to admit that not all publications are mentioned. Have raised this at BCU office and they are looking in to producing a full list. NT.)

Colin Litton attended a workshop on recreation management. It was not very representative as mainly National Park reps attended. Not productive for paddlers. At least he has made contact and connections.

**Next meeting:
24th January at King's Head Thirlspot, Thirlmere
7:30 pm.**

Excellent food is served from 6pm at the Hotel.

Jan and Nigel will be eating there before the meeting, if any one wants to joins us.

Note - this is the AGM and any people who would like to become actively involved and really make a difference to canoeing in Cumbria should contact Mick Waplinton before this date to discuss the various roles. RCO, Chair and Secretary are up for election. We are trying to keep these to a three-year period so no one should feel to daunted by it?