

The unit have a sufficiently wide range of canoes for members to have a go at all aspects of the sport. For the long distance racing types we have a very good class 4 boat and the use of K1 or K2 boats if required. Slalom and down river enthusiasts have a choice of 2 slalom boats and 2 down river boats and for the person who just likes paddling there are two more touring boats.

During the summer months there will be ample opportunity for all members to receive instruction in all types of canoeing from basic principles to the most advanced paddling techniques, so please contact your Executive Committee members or one of the scouters if you would like to take full advantage of this offer.

The Devizes to Westminster canoe race was run over the Easter holidays and I am pleased to report that one of our unit members Bruce Roberts was in the canoe that finished third in this event. Bruce was paddling for the Metropolitan Police and I am sure you will join me in congratulating him for doing so well in a marathon which is probably one of the toughest races run anywhere in the world.

The less fit members of the unit canoeists spent a very pleasant Easter canoeing on the River Wye starting from Brienton (just up the river from Hereford) and finishing at Bibblins camp-site at Symonds Yat. The weather was very cold but fortunately fine and apart for one little mishap which happened while adoring the view and failing to notice a weir we kept dry.

We have just finished a series of canoe rolling sessions which were held at Fulham Baths on Thursday evenings throughout the winter. How about some new faces next session?

The replacement hull for the 'Spider' that was damaged has now been fitted to the deck and we now have another first class competition boat which would cost 45 pounds new for about £10.

Three members of our unit competed in the County Canoe race which started at Petersham (near Richmond) and finished at the River Youth Club at Putney. Fred Farrow finished first in the K1 class and in winning the race overall he beat the faster K2 boats. Chris and Peter sunk twice while winning the race and were forced to retire. Later in the year (when it is warmer) John B. and I are paddling in the Arun Race. Here is your chance to spend a pleasant afternoon in the country and get a good laugh at the same time; so how about some more paddlers.