

Dane Jackson's biggest

Dane Jackson ran the 41m Salto del Maule waterfall in Chile in February, his highest although he has run five others over 30m. The highest ever kayak descent was 58m Palouse Falls in Washington by Tyler Bradt in 2010, resulting in minor injuries.

Trips

Every year Fran Pearson completes a long distance trail with her two children and their friend. This year they hope to complete the 365km Severn Way, the entire length of the River Severn, from source to sea. They normally hike the trails but this year they've decided to hike, paddle and mountain bike the trail. The expedition is planned to start on 19th July and last two to three weeks. The plan is to section up the route and complete approximately a third of it using each discipline.

All three children have additional needs and they're looking to promote the great outdoors being accessible to all.

Penny is 12 and has Turner Syndrome, hypotonia, hypermobility, dyspraxia, autism, learning disability, renal problems and problems with her eyesight and hearing. Dominic, 10, is a registered young carer for Penny and has a diagnosis of ADHD. Charlie, their friend, is 10 also and has a diagnosis of severe dyslexia. Despite their issues, these kids are just up for taking on these physical challenges and working as a team to get them completed.

In addition to completing the trail they've decided to take on a scientific element this year, too. They've been trained by the EA to use their equipment to test the water for pollution along the entire river and they've supplied them with the equipment needed for this. They're also carrying air pollution monitors on them throughout the expedition. Everywhere they go they always pick up litter and this expedition will be no exception. These kids have recently been crowned Shropshire's environmental champions for their commitment to litter picking. All three kids are active members of Shrewsbury Canoe Club.

Otto Bonn

1927 - 2020

Otto Bonn, who devoted more than half his life to his beloved sport of canoeing, including almost 50 years working for the International Canoe Federation, has died at the age of 93.

Mr Bonn began his love affair with canoeing as a kayak paddler on the Hungarian national team before taking on a variety of roles with the Hungarian sport organization.

He was elected as an executive member of the ICF in 1954 and from 1970 until 1988 he served as an ICF vice president. He took on the role as ICF Secretary General in 1988 until his retirement in 2000.

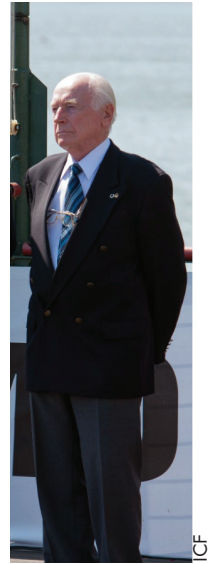
He was made an ICF honorary member in recognition of his longtime association with canoeing.

Otto Bonn was highly regarded by not only everyone in the canoeing family but by the wider sporting and Olympic community. He had a reputation as a humble and understanding man who worked hard in every role he took on.

He received an IOC Order of Merit from the then president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, in Budapest in 1995 and a similar award from the Hungarian National Olympic Committee.

Mr Bonn attended every Olympics since 1952 and spoke five languages. He was an important player in the history of canoeing and will be sorely missed by all in the community.

The ICF sends its condolences to Mr Bonn's family.
ICF



David Cogswell

1930 - 2020

It is with much regret and personal sadness that I write this tribute to my long time friend and colleague David Cogswell, who passed away in Warwick hospital.

Dave or 'Grey Owl', as he was fondly known throughout the IDBF because of his long white bushy hair and eyebrows, topped by large glasses, was admitted to hospital for an operation following longterm problems with his general health.

He put up a good fight but left our dragon boat world very peacefully in his sleep at 7.15pm on Wed 15th January 2020.

Dave was a stalwart among the officials within our sport, serving as the BDA's treasurer and secretary since its foundation in 1987.

Dave then became the EDBF treasurer on its foundation in 1990 and in 1993 became the IDBF treasurer, a position he held until 2011, when he handed over the IDBF finances to Alan van Cauberg.

Grey Owl loved dragon boating and devoted the last 40 years of his life to it, even to the extent of converting the loft of his house into an office, which meant taking a part of his bedroom away to make room for the staircase. His devoted wife, Audrey, made no known comment about this!

Dave was the first person that I brought with me from canoeing to dragon boating and was not only a loyal trusted colleague but a very special and dear friend for over 40 years.

Dave was at his happiest when travelling the world, meeting other race officials and enjoying the personal friendships that our great sport can bring.

In recent years such travelling outside of England stopped as he could not make the international trips but he still attended BDA meetings and was ever present at the British national championships, taking in the race entries and sorting out the medals and trophies whilst chasing up any new BDA membership fees.



Henning Wiekhorst

I was able to see him in hospital on the Monday before he died and spent time talking to him about the old times and the jokes of Murray Jones, his long time race officiating partner, which brought a smile to his face.

Although he could not talk or open his eyes he could hear what was being said but a little smile was all that he could manage.

I told him that all his dragon boat friends were thinking of him and I thanked him for all the good and happy times that we all shared together over the past 40 years and that he needed a haircut!

That also brought a smile to his face and a flutter of the eyelids. It

was a nice way to say goodbye to him and we parted as always as very good and special friends to each other.

I doubt if the sport will ever see the likes of Dave 'Grey Owl' Cogswell again. He was that rare person who went through life in a calm and thoughtful way, rarely raising his voice or losing his temper. He had a sense of humour that everyone could relate to and enjoy, with a smile to match and a desire to serve our sport to the best of his ability.

He kept meticulous records of all that he did in dragon boat racing and his roof office contains a wealth of information and artefacts that show the history of dragon boat sport over nearly 40 years.

Dave will be sorely missed by all those in the sport who knew him, I am sure, but especially by me

Mike MacKeddie-Haslam

Dave always made me feel very welcome, from the canoe sprint days right through to sorting out a paperwork problem for me at the latest BDA national championships at Holme Pierrepont in September, including making me welcome to his house for a BDA committee meeting and sending me an unexpected BDA honorary membership card - Ed.