

attention to two casualties who had suffered concussion and longterm health problems that had followed over many months. However, it was felt that no rule changes are needed. Competitors who do get injured should rest and should not drive home.

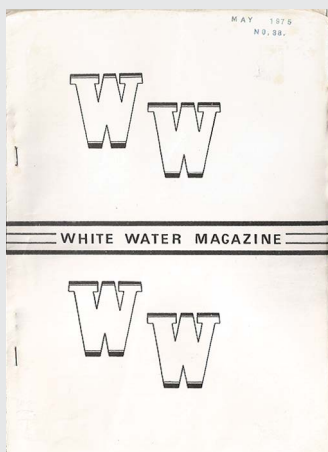
Managing dragon boat racing

A meeting, chaired by Chris Hawkesworth, has been held at Manvers Water Front Boat Club to discuss dragon boat racing. Present were

BDA and PUK representatives, who cooperate mutually, in contrast with the situation at international level.

Despite the ICF's claims to be the governing body for dragon boat racing, the IDBF continues to have far more support. Latest evidence is the ICF's European championships in June, not the first such ICF event to have been cancelled. Nevertheless, the World Corporate Games' dragon boat racing event this year has only been open to ICF crews, not mainstream dragonboat racers.

Back then



50 years ago

- ★ This was Vic Brown's final issue.
- ★ An invitation slalom with television coverage was to be run as an experiment at Linton-on-Ouse.
- ★ Leeds Canoe Club ran a sponsored marathon on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal to raise funds for the world slalom and WWR championships, Norman Jackson winning a canoe for the most sponsorship raised, £52 of a total of over £1,000.
- ★ The British slalom team for the Skopje world championships was smaller than usual as there were not enough paddlers of adequate standard.
- ★ Ironbridge and Stangerthwaite slaloms were cancelled while Marsh Lock was moved to Hambleden.
- ★ Those entering judges' events needed to pay a 50p entry fee, to be refunded when judging was completed.
- ★ Slalom organizers were asked to send a copy of results to the editor of this magazine.
- ★ On a trip through the Corryvreckan whirlpool Derek Hutchinson claimed to be alive as he was a coward.
- ★ Priority tickets for the Montreal Olympics were on offer to canoe club members, wives and children but not friends and relations.
- ★ The Wiggle Gate Test leaflet was out of print but was so popular it was published again in the magazine.

20 years ago

- ★ Swimmers won a court case allowing them to take midwinter dips in Highgate ponds where a ban had been imposed to protect authorities from any possible legal action over allowing cold bathing.
- ★ British Waterways had their Government grant cut to fund other problems.
- ★ The National Maritime Museum Cornwall unveiled Sean Morley's kayak used to paddle round the British Isles, Tim FitzHigham's paper kayak for paddling down the Thames and Derek Hutchinson's Baidarka for crossing the North Sea.
- ★ The EA put together a policy statement suggesting canoeists might be permitted to use sections of river where nobody else was interested.
- ★ At an international symposium on the Water Framework Directive at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London a third of the questions were put by Kevin East (Canoe-Camping Club and BCU) and Paddlers International.
- ★ Ahead of the General Election Tessa Jowell responded to our request for Labour's achievements on access while in office but Conservatives, Liberal Democrats and Plaid Cymru did not respond on policy.
- ★ WW racer Ian Torodff was to attempt a speed record for crossing the English Channel.
- ★ Our guide to the lower Tyne included a bridgescape unmatched in Britain.
- ★ Anglo Irish pair Baker/Mawer won the Devizes-Westminster Race by 26 minutes from Beazley/Dark.
- ★ All seven proposals (including the IDBF) for membership to the General Association of International Sports Federations (lobbied against by ICF president Ulrich Feldhoff) failed to get elected (including one body with no opposition) because applicants needed to have 75% support, abstentions counting as opposition.



10 years ago

- ★ Leading up to the General Election, politicians were making much of funding for the NHS, teachers and the police whereas a significant proportion of the public were more concerned about where they could walk, cycle, climb or get on the water at weekends.
- ★ A pair paddling round New Zealand got back the phone they had lost after the finder rang up the number of Paul Caffyn on its memory.
- ★ Scottish ferries replaced fares with Road Equivalent Tariffs, equivalent to the cost of driving the corresponding distance by road, helping Scottish island tourism.
- ★ Sport England ran a campaign under the slogan This Girl Can, encouraging women's sport, even if there were some complaints about shortage of political correctness.
- ★ The Angling Trust demanded that access information be removed from websites as they were about to post evidence that Douglas Caffyn's researches were wrong, which they have yet to do.
- ★ Craft at the London Boat Show included Jet UK's jet kayak and the Oru kayak, made of corrugated plastic.
- ★ A study by the ICF on artificial slalom courses showed the Lee Valley to be well over twice as expensive to build as any other in the world, only partly accounted for by an extra channel. Another was to be built at Linton-on-Ouse.

- ★ Oklahoma City was to get an artificial slalom course.
- ★ Tom Sharpe won the K1s in the Devizes-Westminster Race and Broughton/Moule included a female in the winning K2 for the first time ever, winning by an hour and 20 minutes.
- ★ The ICF were to have gender equality across the Olympic disciplines by 2020.