

11/12 2S
 18/19 Amsterdam
 25/26 Essen
June
 15 PW
 15 1WN
 15 1WS
 22/23 **European Championships, Avranches**
 29/30 3N
 29/30 3S
 29/30 3SW
July
 6/7 **Hull**
 13/14 **Gareth Howes Memorial**
 20/21 PO
 20/21 1O
 20/21 2N
 20/21 2S
 27/28 Belfast
August
 3/4 Skovshoved
 10/11 Dikkebus
 24/25 België
 26 Andy Hambley Trophy, Bude
October
 15-20 **World Championships, Deqing**

DRAGON BOAT RACING

November
 3-11 11th Gay Games, Hong Kong
 4 Lake Hemando Festival
 5 Champion Lakes Centre
 5 Rodd Point
 10-12 Sagwanani Festival
 11 Grevillea Park
 11-12 Coast to Coast Festival, Bokarina
 17-19 Australian Cross Border Championships, Gateway Lake
 18 Wallaroo
 18/19 Gt Lakes, Elizabeth Reserve
 19 Hot Water Games, Schwerin
 25-27 Singapore Waterfest
December
 2 Spirit of Macleay, Kempsey
 2/3 Penang, Teluk Bahang Dam

3 Champion Lakes Centre
 3 Manila
 3 Pink Paddle Power, Melbourne
 3 West Lakes
 9 Grevillea Park
9-11 Euro Cup, Dubai
 10 Angle Park
 10 Victoria Ballarat
 16 Holiday Distance, Tampa
 31 ICF World Cup, Ychang

January

13 Grevillea Park
 14 Champion Lakes Centre
 21 West Lakes
 28 Queensland, Lake Kawana
 28 Victoria Falls Creek

February

3 Bei Loon Challenge
9/10 2nd World Ice Championships, Ottawa
 10 Grevillea Park
 11 Champion Lakes Centre
 11 West Lakes
 16 Sydney Lunar Fest
 18 Lunar New Year Festival, Victoria
 18 Queensland, Bokarina

March

3 West Lakes
 9 Grevillea Park
 9/10 Grafton
 9/10 State Championships, Champion Lakes
 9/10 Victorian Championships, Carrum
 16 Queensland State Championships, Bokarina
 17 Forbes
 23/24 State Championships, West Lakes
 24 Parkes Mas Games
 27 State Championships, Penrith

April

4-7 NZ Championships, Lake Karapiro
 17-21 Australian National Championships, Champion Lakes

May

15 Skipton
 19 Himley

26 Chatham
 27 Sherborne

June

2 L Lomond
 9 Woking
 16 Bristol
 16 Scarborough
 22 Llanberis
 23 Leeds
 28/29 Birmingham

July

4-7 European Nations Championships, Racice

6 Ilford
 7 Chichester
 14 York
 20/21 Shrewsbury
 21 Kingston
 27 Falmouth
 28 Warrington

August

31 Bewl Water

September

1 Tonbridge 3-8 14th Club Crew World Championships, Ravenna

7 Southampton
 8 Ilford
 21 Wakefield
 22 Stratford-upon-Avon
 27/28 Newcastle

October

28-4 Puerto Princesa, ICF Championships

MISCELLANEOUS

January

20-28 Boot show, Düsseldorf

February

16-25 Worldwide Classic Boat Show

May

17 Scottish Women's Paddle Symposium, Aviemore

Editorial

Things seem to have come to a head at Grandtully after a recently retired slalomist built a training wall in the Tay to deflect flows at low water levels. Such activity is not unprecedented. I recall moving rocks near the start line there with Ray Calverley, who must have been about 16 at the time, father Harry warning him to be careful of his hands ahead of a major slalom.

Rocking the foundations

On another occasion Norman Jackson and a couple of friends removed a rock further upstream from a good racing line ahead of a wild water race.

Such activity is of limited duration. Any decent spate would soon move them again. In the Alps it is not unusual to hear the rumbling of car sized rocks being rolled along the bed of a river.

The difference this time was that they were concreted in place. This did not go down well with the locals, with whom there appears not to have been any consultation although the owner of the local rafting company had warned against it. In practice, it was probably less unacceptable than the installed overflow from a septic tank halfway down the course but that is not the issue.

Information was placed on the SCA website and equally quickly removed. Notice was given that the SCA lease to leave slalom gates across the rapids would be terminated and they have since been removed. Bear in mind that the SCA HQ has been moved from

Edinburgh to Grandtully, where there is an SCA campsite, and the importance becomes more significant.

The paddler at the centre of the ensuing row is reported to have talked immediately to the SCA management and to SEPA and all concrete has since been removed, which should have been a damage limitation exercise.

However, the ripples have spread and a number of other issues have been raised, not least the poor relations between the SCA Slalom Committee and SCA management. Other issues range from which groups of slalomists should get free coaching to positioning of slalom gate line support poles on land earmarked for house building near the bridge.

It does seem that there are problems to be addressed within the SCA beyond the moving of rocks.

Stuart Fisher

Has your email address changed or do you want to be added to the mailing notification list when copies of Canoeist are issued?

Email mail@canoeist.co.uk with your email address (with your former email address if changed) and ask us to add you to the list.