



Spirit of Gaia in winter quarters in Sicily.

rudder removed the need for switching. A support crew restocked them twice a day and provided contact with shipping and locks. The attempt proved successful this time and they lowered the time by a day to 16 days 20 hrs 16 mins.

Hanneke Boon, head of James Wharram Designs, has completed her world circumnavigation on *Spirit of Gaia*. The final hop was from near Palermo where the boat spent the winter.

An unsupported 2,000km three month trip up the Inside Passage from Olympia to Skagway has been undertaken by a team of eight in support of the services charity The Not Forgotten. Two were able bodied but the others had a selection of health issues including gunshot wounds, above knee amputations, viral induced paralysis and PTSD, collected from the Falklands, Iraq and Afghanistan. The original plan in 2020 was a descent of the Amazon but Covid resulted in a change of location and delays, a trip of this nature taking more planning than most. They also had a fundraising target of £250,000 for the charity, so far having reached £140,000 through Just Giving.



The Inside Passage team ready to launch.

Pumpkin season

Lebanese American Steve Kueny has paddled a record 63km down the Missouri in a pumpkin he grew himself, taking 10 hours 49 minutes, beating the 61km set by Duane Hansen last year on the same river. Meanwhile, Belgian paddlers at Kasterlee near Antwerp have an annual pumpkin race, proving popular with BBC viewers.



The pumpkin paddlers of Kasterlee.

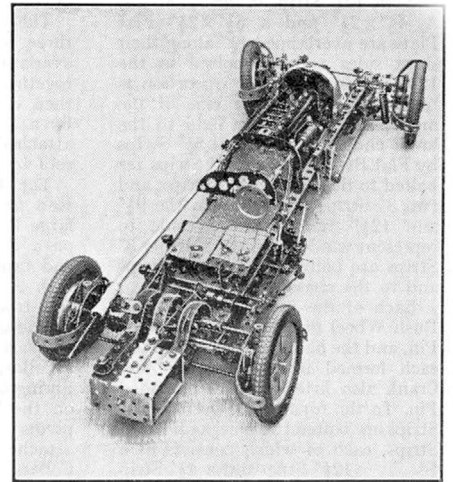
Most watched

- 1 ▶ Belgians race boats made of giant pumpkins
- 2 ▶ Watch: Door camera captures flock of sheep in garden
- 3 ▶ Rushdi Abualouf reports from Gaza camp where thousands live in tents
- 4 ▶ Dog walker films winds lifting forest floor in Scotland
- 5 ▶ No

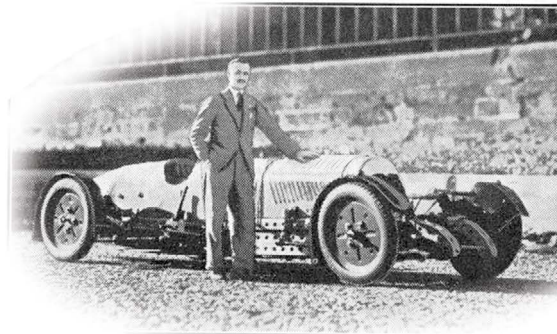
Model-Builders

WINNERS READER'S SUGGESTION

Model-builders who are also interested in assessing also...
 Instructor Out-...
 Constructor...
 Increase the...
 by using...
 fits in...
 Binary...
 andall...
 ented...
 me...
 ning...
 dis-...
 amp...
 the...
 this...
 hole...
 the...
 and...
 the Bolts...
 Car and



The fine model sports car shown in the illustration to the left was built by Capt. O. J. Cook, Woldingham, Surrey, who is seen alongside the model. The details of the chassis are shown in the illustration above.



distortion of other parts.
 Part No. 200 probably has the wider range of applications and the radius of 1 1/8" to which it is bent was chosen so that these Curved Flats fit neatly around the radius of 2 1/4" small radius Strips, to which they are secured by means of the Brackets. The Curved Flats are particularly useful for...

A model enthusiast

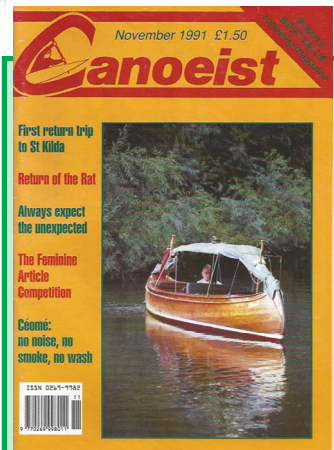
This snip is taken from the August 1940 *Meccano Magazine* and shows Oliver Cock, then about 28, with a model he designed and built. A qualified diesel engineer, he was to become the BCU's national coach but was to retain his interest in engineering. Our November 1991 article on *Céomé*, the canoe he converted from petrol to steam drive, included various pictures of him tinkering with her engine. He was also interested in films, founding the BCU's film library, and the lower picture here shows him scaled to match his model. He was the first president of the British Dragon Boat Racing Association, was thought to have invented canoe polo and his Bude weeks were central to establishing kayak surfing as a sport.

Women in canoeing

The ICF have held their first two day Women's Symposium in Dublin, with 100 delegates from 35 countries seeking to address the problems of women seeking positions of leadership in canoeing. The keynote speech was by Zelda La Grange, former private secretary to Nelson Mandela, and other participants included Sport Ireland CEO Dr Una May, ICF vice president Dr Cecilia Farias, Maree Burnett of the ICF Executive Committee, lead in Women in Sport for Ireland Nora Stapleton and Thomas Byrne, Minister of State for Sport & Physical Education. IOC president Thomas Bach also sent a message.



Steve Kueny on the Missouri.



Scottish road restrictions

The A83 Rest & Be Thankful pass between Loch Long and Loch Fyne is in trouble again with further landslips, perhaps calling for a long avalanche shelter which will be complex to install. A little further up the coast the Connel Bridge is scheduled to have its deck replaced although a temporary walkway will allow pedestrians to keep crossing. Both of these will result in long diversions so these need to be factored into logistics for trips on this wonderful part of Scotland's west coast.