



*Newsletter of the*  
**BURLEY GRIFFIN CANOE CLUB**

Volume 31 Issue 10, Nov 2021

**Your Committee:**

- President:** Bob Collins  
**Vice President:** Patricia Ashton  
**Secretary:** Gabrielle Hurley  
**Treasurer:** Tammy ven Dange  
**Boat Captain:** Jeremy Cook  
**Membership Secretary:** Patricia Ashton  
**Safety Officer:** John Lockie



*In this issue*

- President report
- Patricia's bit
- Coaches corner
- Polo update and on this occasion an essay of origin of Water Polo
- An idea from innovation conference
- An interview with an adventurer
- Marketplace



*The ACT Government assists this organisation through the Sport & Recreation Grants Program*

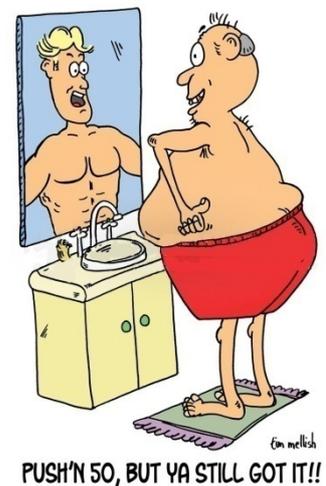
Position	Person
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Membership Secretary	Patricia Ashton
Public Officer	Bob Collins
Editor ('Blazing Paddles')	Robert Bruce*
Coaches rep	Margi Bohm
Webmaster	Geoff Collett
Assistant Boat Captain	Scott MacWilliam/David Abela
Canoe Polo	Laura Kleinrahm
Time Trials	Lachlan Parker*& Matilda Stevenson* (Jointly)
Marathon	Richard Fox
Event Co-ordinator	Bob Collins
Sprint	Vacant
Bay Area Kayakers	Alan Newhouse
Slalom - ww	Peter Strazdins*
Social Convener	Vacant
Publicity and Sponsorship	Vacant
Recreational paddling	Vacant

## ***Open for business***

***With Lockdown finally ended its great to see everybody emerging into the sunlight or dodging showers and enjoying paddling activities once again. It might take some members a little longer to get back that fine edge to their paddling.***



**BGCC 24-Hour Paddle Challenge**

**11-12 December, 2021**

**Hosted by BGCC at Molonglo Reach, Campbell ACT**

**Sanctioned by Paddle NSW in its Ultra-Marathon series**

**\*\*\* Choose to paddle for 24 hours or 16 hours (with a break from 10p.m. -6a.m.) \*\*\***

**An event for competitive and recreational paddlers; solo paddlers and teams.**

**Entries:** via GoMembership: <https://paddleaustralia.justgo.com/Account.mvc/Login>

**Early-bird** entries close 11:59 p.m., Sunday 5 December, 2021.

**Entry Fee:** \$0 for U18      \$20 for U23      \$30 for over 65      \$35 for all others

**Final entries** (with late fee of \$10) close 11:59 p.m., Tuesday 8 December, 2021

These fees are for current financial members of PNSW/PA. Other paddlers add a \$20 surcharge. Entries are per paddler, not per boat, including for doubles, multi-paddler craft and relay teams.

**Enter** either the 24-hour or 16-hour event. **But** have the option of dropping from the 24-hour to the 16-hour event by advising the organisers before 8:00pm on Day 1 of the event.

See *GoMembership* for restrictions on Junior paddlers, who may enter the 16-hour event.

**Course:** 4.7 km loop course on the Molonglo River

**Briefing:** 9:30a.m. Saturday 11 December 2021

**Start Time:** 10:00a.m. Saturday 11 December 2021

**Finish Time:** 10:00 a.m. Sunday 12 December 2021

**Allowable craft:** Kayak, Canoe, Ski and SUP.

**Solo** – one single or double canoe, kayak, ski or SUP with a single paddler or 2-person crew for the entire event

**Team** – a relay of paddlers rotating over the period of the event:

- ‘Competitive’ with up to 4 paddlers using single-craft or 8 using double-craft, in one or more canoes, kayaks, skis or SUPs
- ‘Recreational’ with up to 8 paddlers using single-craft or 16 using double-craft in one or more canoes, kayaks, skis or SUPs.

**Note:** Both Solo and Team entries will need a team name when registering. Paddlers on a team **must** use the **identical team name** when registering!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **COVID-19 SAFETY**

**This event must be COVID safe.**

**All participants and spectators must abide by social distancing and all other Government restrictions applicable at the time of the event.**

**Burley Griffin Canoe Club will be restricting use of the clubhouse facilities.**

**More information will be distributed closer to the event when the COVID situation is known.**

**Paddler Safety:** A safety boat will be stationed at the start/finish area. However paddlers are responsible for their own safety and the safety of anyone in need of assistance on or in the water. When on the water, paddlers **must** at all times have a pea-less whistle readily available to relay a

message along the river that the safety boat is needed. Any time spent assisting a paddler in difficulty will be allowed for.

**Night-time safety – 7:30p.m. to 6:00a.m.:** All paddlers starting a lap **after 7:30p.m. must** wear a lifejacket with a torch and whistle attached. All paddlers must have lights on stem and stern of their craft. Cyalumes will be provided for all craft. Paddlers starting a lap **after 6:00a.m.** may choose not to wear a life jacket, but must consider safety factors such as fatigue when doing so.

**Amenities:** The BGCC club-shed has male and female toilets and showers. Molonglo Reach has public toilets and a free public barbecue. The club-shed kitchen has a fridge, microwave oven, kettle and pod-coffee machine. No catering provided, but cafés and supermarkets are not too far away.

Use of the kitchen area is currently restricted to 4 people at any time; the board room to 8 people; male change room to 3 people; and female change room to 2 people. Social distancing applies.

**Camping:** is **not** permitted at Molonglo Reach, however ‘shelter tents’ are – so nothing too elaborate please! There will be designated shelter tent areas, so please do not set up camp just anywhere. Cars must not be taken onto grassed areas – park in the carparks only!

Given restrictions on use of the clubhouse, it will be even more important that paddlers bring shelter tents and other equipment they require.

## **BURLEY GRIFFIN CANOE CLUB LOOKS FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !!**

### **Table of Contents**

Coming Events: .....	4
President's Report: .....	4
A note from Patricia.....	5
Coach's Corner: Margi Bohm .....	6
Canoe Polo update .....	7
Club news .....	12
An Interview .....	13
Marketplace .....	15

### **Coming Events:**

- *Marathon.....*
  - *24 hour marathon in December 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>*
- *Canoe Polo*  
*9-11 December 2021: Oceania Champs – Hawkes Bay, NZ*

*The first edition of the new 2022 Sprint Competition Newsletter and coming program from Paddle Australia*

<https://paddle.org.au/2021/10/25/2022-pa-canoe-sprint-competitions-newsletter-1/>

### **President's Report:**

#### **Sport & Recreation Grants**

On Friday 12 November Helen and I sent off BGCC's applications for a \$6,000 Operational Grant and a \$ for \$ grant for our new pontoon – quoted by Shane at \$29,815.

We do not anticipate hearing a result until official announcements are made in mid-January 2022

### **BGCC's General Financial Position**

Our financial position and the upcoming projects, recurring costs, and revenue streams have now been examined by our Treasurer and plans put in place for future expenditure on infrastructure and equipment. These future plans will also ensure that the Club continues to have a healthy cash flow position.

### **Buoys along the Molonglo River**

We are planning to replace all of our buoys along the time trial course in time for our 24Hr Paddle Challenge on 11/12 December 2021. Margi will soon be calling for volunteers to assist.

### **2021 24Hr Paddle Challenge – 11/12 December 2021**

Plans are going well for our 24Hr with some of the Sydney clubs organising small competitive teams. With the Covid19 situation, we do not expect a large number of entries, however there is still a fair bit of organisational work to be done.

We will soon be putting out broadcast emails seeking volunteers to help set up on the Friday and again over the weekend. Even if you do not plan on paddling, we still need help in the Timing tent over the weekend.

Thanks

**Bob**

## **A note from Patricia**

Thanks to everyone who attended the weekly Wednesday club nights. We had a great turnout with some excellent racing. Particular thanks to Gabrielle and Lachie for doing the timing.

Results are now available on webscorer: [BGCC Wednesday races 2021/22 - Race 1 | Race results | Webscorer..](#)

We will run the races in the same format each week, with paddlers choosing the start they feel is most suitable to their speed. We will also add a fourth start for paddlers who want to paddle in minimal wash and not be overtaken by faster boats. The starts will be:

Start 1: Under 10km/hr

Start 2: 10-12 km/hr

Start 3: Over 12 km/hr

Start 4: Paddlers who don't want to be overtaken

As we've got paddlers of varying levels of experience, we thought it would be useful to remind everyone of some basic paddling etiquette, particularly as we don't yet have the buoys back on the river:

1. The overtaking boat has the responsibility to keep clear of boats they are overtaking
2. As you approach a paddler to overtake him/her, please call out "Passing to your left"
3. Always pass a boat by paddling into the centre of the river side – in other words pass to their left or keep them on your right
4. Give boats you are passing a wide berth of around 3m, especially C1s. This rule is to make sure that we don't disadvantage paddlers with less balance or experience than you or those who are paddling very unstable boats.
5. Do not pass slower boats on the inside of the turns or bends in the river
6. Be mindful of oncoming boats at bends in the river
7. Keep to the right of the river generally, particularly if you are being overtaken

## Coach's Corner: Margi Bohm

Can you drive a video camera?

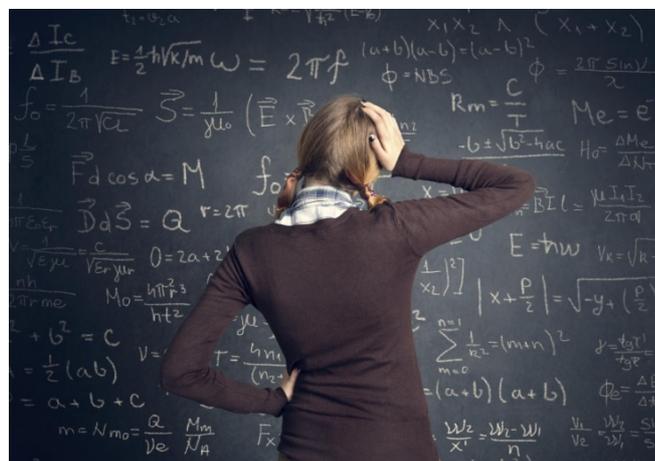
I am looking for some help to make a series of HOW TO videos for our club members. The videos will cover things like paddling technique, stretching, core exercises and using the club gym equipment. If have experience in making these kinds of videos or can help in any way, please contact me at [margi.bohm@gmail.com](mailto:margi.bohm@gmail.com). Thanks very much.

*Ed. There was a rumour that margi has been working hard on a new formula to get a couple of seconds off your PB's. We sent out a cub reporter to see what he could find out. At 2.00 am the light was still on in Margi's study as he snuck up to the window, voila!*

Restrictions are lifting, the water is warm (at last) and morning temperatures are above zero. The platypuses are out and about with new sightings along the bank across from the put-in pontoon. It is definitely time to think about getting on the water.

A MUST DO for your calendar should be the Wednesday Twilight Paddle series – an opportunity to test yourself over the time-trial course, rack in a few bragging rights including seeing the platypus, go for a paddle onto the lake to see the sunset and enjoying time with other BGCCers. Bring some food for afterwards and join in the festivities around the bbq.

There are several groups paddling regularly so there is bound to be a time to suit you if you want to join in a group. Times are listed on the website at



<http://www.bgcc.org.au/index.php/coaching/30-coaching-and-instruction/14-coaching>. A summary is provided below for flat water paddlers. See the website for canoe polo details:

	06:00	06:30	07:00	09:00	noon	17:00ish	18:00
Mon		Margi					
Tues	Gary	Margi	David & Russell				
Wed						Twilight Paddle and TT	
Thurs	Gary	Margi					Patricia
Fri		Margi					
Sat		Gary	Margi		Helen		
Sun			Gary	Club Session			

The racing calendar is also starting up with a big race weekend planned for 21/22 Nov in Narrabeen. Sprints on the Saturday and the last marathon race of 2021 on Sunday. Several BGCCers are in the running for Divisional point places and we are up there in the club point score too. If you feel comfortable travelling to Sydney, this is a weekend to consider.

Also consider being part of the BGCC 24-hour relay 11/12 Dec. This race has a long history, originally designed way back in last century (okay early 1990s) to provide regional clubs with a virtual racing format. Then we raced on our own turf around an honest 5km loop with clubs calling in their results by phone every hour or so. It was a big deal back then because mobile phones were not that common. Now everyone travels to the Molonglo – our turf so no excuses for not being involved! Racing can be over the full 24 hour period or you can choose to take an 8 hour break overnight (all U18s have to take the break). You can paddle in teams or by yourself. This is a fun weekend so please consider being involved either as a paddler or volunteer.

The harbour series is also waking up ... check the PNSW website for details.

Hopefully we will see you on the water soon.

Margi

## Canoe Polo update

Polo is back on deck and loving the warmer water and longer days. In addition to trainings, the weekly competition has been returned to it's traditional Wednesday night slot, and it's a great club vibe to be playing at the same time as the time trials.



This weekend (13/11) we are hosting the second Women's Come & Try event, with 10-13 participants expected. With a few weekends of training between, we are hoping for a few of

the paddlers to then join us for the Canberra Invitational (4-5/12) in Division 2, with teams from Shoalhaven, Sydney and hopefully Melbourne and Adelaide expected for the event.

If you would like to give polo a try, please get in touch with Laura ([laurakleinrahm3@gmail.com](mailto:laurakleinrahm3@gmail.com)) as we'd love to coordinate another come and try before the busy Christmas period. We have players of all ages and abilities, so don't be shy, give it a try!

## BOAT, PADDLE AND BALL

*A short history of canoe polo Ian Beasley June 2015*

Today's canoe polo is power, speed, athletic and spectacular; contrasting to the relaxed recreational canoe ball games of the past. The birth of the modern sport can be considered the demonstration games at Duisberg, Germany in 1987. But for over 100 years before this, canoeists played games of boat, paddle, and ball.

### *Beginnings*

Early magazines record that a variety of canoe ball games were played in Great Britain in the late nineteenth century. Punch, or the London Charivarl, published a woodcut entitled 'Polo on the Sea' in 1875.

The picture shows men and women in neck- to-knee bathing costumes standing on flat topped, double-hulled vessels competing for the ball with double bladed paddles. The objective appears to be to place the ball into a floating ring. The Graphic, also of London, published an engraving in 1880 entitled 'Water Polo at Hunter's Quay, Scotland'. This is quite different; players sit astride wooden barrels made-up with horses' heads and tails. Simply staying on the horse was challenging enough as riders were thrown from their uncooperative charges. Another picture, 'Water Polo', from The Graphic in 1884, shows players in decked canoes. The same picture appears in the book

Outdoor Games and Recreations—a popular encyclopaedia for boys published by the Religious Tract Society in London, 1892.

The fun continued into the 1950s with two players to a canoe; one to paddle and the other to play the ball. These early games were a novelty, about fun and entertainment, and did not develop into today's canoe polo.



*Polo on the Sea. Punch, or the London Charivarl, 2 October 1875. Picture courtesy of J W Lester.*



*Water polo at Hunter's Quay, Scotland, The Graphic, 1880.*

1 Around this time, canoe polo was also played in the United States of America. The first game was at Rocky Glen, Pennsylvania in 1905 John Conkling designed a boat specifically for playing canoe polo on a field marked out by a timber frame. 2 At Williamsport, 1913, players, one to a canoe, stood to work the ball with a paddle. And at Pittsburgh a Canoe Polo League was established in 1914 with clubs competing for a championship trophy.

The playing area was 15m x 45m with goal posts at each end, the boats were 4.8m long. A game comprised in two 10 minute halves. The paddles had a metallic spoon ring fixed to each blade that formed a pocket to catch and carry the ball (in the manner of lacrosse). In 1916, New Jersey, each team consisted of five players, the boats were 1.8m long and a game was three 15 minutes innings; the ball was 15 cm diameter. Different games were introduced to Texas and Illinois. In Texas, 1922, a team comprised up to five canoes with a single paddler. While in Illinois, 1923, there were three canoes, each with two players. Newspapers reported canoe polo as a fast and attractive sport for players and spectators. But it was not to last. From the 1930s, the sport appears to have lost its appeal and was not active again in the USA until the late 1990s. In the 1920s, Germany and France played canoe ball games as an introduction to canoeing and to build river skills. Serious canoeists paddled remote rivers but as the automobile was not yet widely available, only the most enthusiastic ventured out. It was difficult to attract new paddlers and spectators were few. Canoe ball games provided an exciting introduction to canoeing: challenging, safe, and close to home.

In 1926 the German Canoe Federation introduced 'kanupolo' as a way to attract new members as well as encourage camaraderie and contribute to federation finances. They also published rules of play. Folding kayaks were used until the 1930s but later replaced with wooden boats that were over four metres long. The playing area was large, 99–120m long by 50–90m wide. Goals sat on the water and were m wide by 1.5m high. Each team had eleven players and a game was in two halves of 45 minutes each.



Water Polo. The Graphic, 1884.  
Picture courtesy of J W Lester



Canoe polo in the 1929 final, artist: Artur Nikolaus  
Source: Kanu Sport 1930, German Canoe Federation

4

The playing field was later reduced to 60–90m x 40–60m with two 30 minute halves and five players aside. By 1935 kanupolo had become a regular competition with a governing body, coaching manuals, and consistent rules of play. There was a break during war years with

interest not renewed until 1965. Regular competitions resumed 1969.

The Canoe Club of France introduced canoe ball games to canoeing festival programs in 1929. The games soon developed into a sport with a playing area of 60–100m long by the width of the river. Goals sat on the water and teams comprised three, four or five boats. In 1935 a group of paddlers set guidelines for a game called 'canoe ball' to be played at the festivals—its primary aim was to vary training and to test paddling skills. It was not intended to create a competitive sport, although by 1943 playing rules were formalised, the large playing fields were reduced to 80m x 35m, kayaks replaced canoes, and canoe ball became 'kayak ball'.

Great Britain continued with two to a canoe until the 1950s. Following Great Britain, Australia took to touring canoes with two players from 1952 through to the 1970s. The bow paddler played the ball while the stern paddler controlled the boat. But change was coming. In 1960, Oliver Cock refereed a game played in canvas canoes on a lake in Northern Wales, one player to a boat.

For many years canoe polo had been played on rivers and lakes in a variety of craft, on different sized fields, to different rules, under different names, and for different reasons. There was little need to change what was an enjoyable and challenging activity.

### **Technology**

Quite independently, in 1966, the Borough of Newham in London asked Bert Keeble from the National Schools Sailing Association to design a kayak for teaching in swimming baths. Many pools were built in schools in the sixties and used for teaching children basic paddling and rolling skills. Ball games were a part of these sessions that provided an entertaining and practical way to apply the new skills. Some pools were open to the public.

The pools were small, 10m x 25m, so small kayaks were needed to make the best use of the available space. The new kayak was made from wood; it was short and had a rounded bow and stern to prevent damage to the pool. Later, Alan Byde, a senior coach with the British Canoe Union (BCU), constructed a similar one from glass reinforced plastic. He called his boat the baths advanced trainer (BAT). The move to a baths setting and the creation of the BAT together provided the impetus to reshape the sport: the pool limiting the size of the playing area and the smaller boat leading to a more manoeuvrable craft. There were few rules of play, but these would change too.

### **Taking shape**

An international competition beckoned. An enthusiastic following had grown through the schools in England and canoe polo played in swimming baths was an emerging national sport. It was introduced as a demonstration sport at the Crystal Palace Exhibition, London in 1970 and caught the imagination. Such was the interest that the first English National Championships were held at the National Canoe Exhibition in the following year. Subsequently, the championships were held every second year and over several years, introduced the English version of canoe polo to the world.

By the end of the 1970s England, Germany, France, Australia, Finland, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Italy and Spain played some form of canoe polo. Oliver Cock, a national coach with the BCU, had written the rules for the 1970 Crystal Palace games that called for a 1m x 1m target suspended 2m above the water at each end of the field and, along with other requirements, prohibited playing the ball with the paddle. At the

first English National Championship in 1971, a school team (average age 16 years) lost the grand final. They were incensed because aside from inconsistent refereeing, the paddle rule was not consistently applied and consequently penalised their style of play. They complained to the BCU, which in response, formed the BCU canoe polo committee with an initial brief to formalise the rules.

In 1972 the committee moved to introduce these to other countries, but met considerable opposition. Consequently two quite different games persisted with the supporters of each passionately defending their favoured style. England, France and Australia preferred the BCU format of 1m x 1m goals 2m above the water and allowing hands to play the ball. Germany, Italy and the Netherlands preferred the large playing area, on water goals, using the paddle to control the ball. Germany continued playing on large playing areas until 1990. Seeing the need for a uniform approach, the International Canoe Federation (ICF) published a universal version of the playing rules, also after much debate over which form the game should take, in 1986. The first demonstration of these was at the World Sprint Titles in Duisberg in 1987, arguably the birth of the modern game. The sport of canoe polo was now official. It is played on a smaller field, with elevated goals, the ball may be controlled by hand or paddle, and the BAT is the designated boat.

### **An international sport**

The ICF International Canoe Polo Rules were finalised in 1990—playing area 30m x 20m (later revised to 35m x 23m); goals 1.5m x 1m, 2m above the water and playing time two, 10 minute halves. The inaugural ICF World Canoe Polo Championships held at Sheffield, England in 1994 showcased the sport with eighteen competing countries. There were eighteen men's teams and six women's teams. The countries and their final placing were, for the men: 1 Australia, 2 Germany, 3 Great Britain, 4 Netherlands, 5 France, 6 Belgium, 7 Ireland, 8 Hungary, 9 Italy, 10 New Zealand, 11 Chinese Taipei, 12 South Africa, 13 Finland, 14 Austria, 15 Japan, 16 Brazil, 17 Portugal, and 18 Canada.

And for the women: 1 Australia, 2 Great Britain, 3 France, 4 Germany, 5 New Zealand, and 6 Ireland. Subsequent championships were hosted by Australia (1996), Portugal (1998), Brazil (2000), Germany (2002), Japan (2004), The Netherlands (2006), Canada (2008), Italy (2010), Spain (2012) and France (2014).

A new milestone was reached in 2005 when canoe polo returned to Duisberg for the multi-sport 2005 World Games. Canoe polo demands speed, skill and teamwork; a spectator's delight. Tackling, ball skill and boat skills make it very different. Now a sport in its own right, it is no longer simply river entertainment or a diversion for the other disciplines.

Far from the relaxed recreational games of yesteryear, canoe polo has become a fast competitive sport that challenges the best sportsmen and sportswomen. It has taken shape over the years and continues to change. But above all, the origins of the sport are not lost: most still play for fun

### **Acknowledgements**

The author wishes to acknowledge the various sources that have provided the material for this history. Along with the references given below, many players have shared their recollections of the game's changes over recent years. The Internet has been invaluable; providing access to archived newspapers and newsreels, club histories and other groups

around the world. Thank you everyone. Comments on this essay are welcome and should be addressed to the author at: [ibeasley@eftel.net.au](mailto:ibeasley@eftel.net.au).

## References

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## Endnotes 1

Many people wonder how a sport played in kayaks gained the name 'canoe' polo instead of 'kayak' polo. In late nineteenth century England, canoes were considered boats in which the paddler sat low and faced the direction of travel (compared to a row boat in which the paddler sat high with their back to the direction of travel). Canoe conveniently described a variety of craft that included Canadian canoes, Eskimo kayaks, kayaks, decked canoes, folding canoes, and the Rob Roy. Early games were played in canoes and kayaks, so canoe polo was an easy and logical name for the sport. The Rob Roy is of interest because it was possibly the first example of a decked canoe that would today be called a kayak.

John MacGregor constructed a deck on a canoe, which he called the Rob Roy, to paddle Europe's rivers; he also used a double bladed paddle. A description of the boat and his adventures are given in his book A Thousand Miles in a Rob Roy Canoe published in 1866.

**2** John F Conkling of Hawley, Pennsylvania applied for two patents with the United States Patent Office that relate to canoe polo. The first in 1905 was for a collapsible canoe designed for playing water or canoe polo. The boat was 183 cm long x 61 cm wide. The second in 1906 was for a water-polo apparatus intended to mark-off a playing field. The field was 48.8m x 24.3m wide, the frame included goals and a method for placing the ball in the centre of the field. What became of Conkling's inventions and their influence is not known.

## Club news

Power to the paddlers.

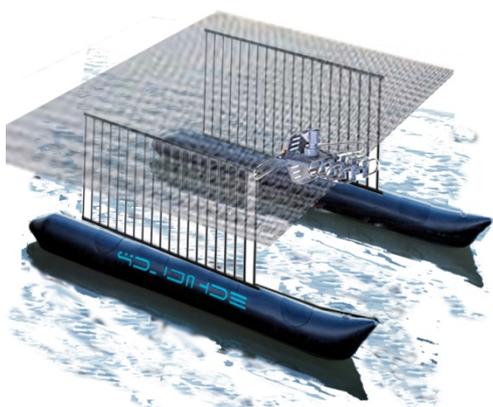
Paddlers in next year's Canberra run event of the marathon race series will try to rectify the embarrassment of Cop26 and be the first to try the new system of harnessing the 'power to the paddlers' to help Australia achieve the global target of 50% reduction of its emissions by 2030. A technological innovative breakthrough by Australian inventors was announced at the recent global inventors conference 'Innovation and Ideas'.\*



All kayaks that enter this regatta will be fitted with a device that will capture the energy of the kayak passing through the apparent wind of its own making.

A turbofan will be attached by using suction caps to the front of the kayaks. The energy created by the turbo fan will be led to a large capacitor mounted on the rear deck of the kayak.

There will be a number of gates situated along the race course and each paddler will be required to pass through one of these gates each lap of the course to discharge the energy held in the capacitor. These gates will then send the energy to the national grid.



But wait, there is more. Each kayak power unit will have its own digital signal that will be transferred along with the energy to the power utility and a payment to each paddler will be calculated on the amount of energy transferred.

Each Paddler will benefit from the speed and duration of his/her race or session.

An additional benefit will be the handicap suffered to wash riders, forcing them to paddle a separate line to

get the benefit of higher wind strength.

There will be an additional attachment of a water driven turbo that can be towed during training to make a bit of extra income if so desired.

The devices will be available for testing and training after the Christmas break.

\*The Avago Arms of Watfordshire denies any knowledge of this conference taking place on its premises.

## An Interview

On hearing that Dr Richard Barnes was going to begin his dream of crossing the Tasman soon we sent our newest cub reporter to interview Richard on his Voyage. She filed her audio script and as yet the Editor hasn't had time to hear it so it is published verbatim.

CR Hello Dr Barnes, thank you for agreeing to give me some of your time. I hope I don't mess it up, I am on a working holiday from Europe.

*Dr B* Your welcome, always happy to speak to Blazing Paddles.

*CR* How long have you wanted to do a solo voyage to New Zealand?

*Dr B* For many years I have dreamed of crossing the Tasman.

*CR* I believe you have built your boat especially for the trip.

*Dr B* Yes that right, it has taken a couple of years.

*CR* Did you get help with the design, fitting out, curtains, carpet, upholstery and all those home comforts when you anchor for the long nights? Do you have a TV?

*Dr B* Oh! It doesn't have a TV or any of the comforts you speak of.

*CR* So you will be doing a lot of reading then?

*Dr B* No, I won't have time for reading either. I will be too busy.

*CR* Entertaining? How many beds do you have for visitors if you meet somebody coming the other way?

*Dr B* I don't have any spare beds, it's a very small boat. Have you seen any pictures of my boat? It only has one bed.

*CR* No, I haven't, I am sorry, I thought all sailing boats had more than one bed.

*Dr B* It's not a sailing boat, it's a kayak. I will be paddling a Kayak, I think you should have a look at these photos.

*CR* Oh, my goodness!. It is small. You could easily get run over by a big boat or a whale. How do you prepare you meals? Do you have a kitchen?

*Dr B* No, I don't have a kitchen but through the wonders of technology I am able to prepare a soup, main meal of roast lamb with mint sauce and a dessert of Danish apple crumble with cream all from a packet of powder and a bit of water.

*CR* That's amazing. A question I know everybody will be asking is "how will you keep your toilet paper dry"

*Dr B* No problems there either, technology has provided me with waterproof, recyclable paper

*CR* Incredible, I do like the colours though, they are my favorite colours, are you Ukrainian? did you pick the colours of Ukraine as a symbolic gesture of the struggle of man against the elements, man standing against the oppressive bourgeoisie, the proletariat against the capitalist system?

*Dr B* I am sorry, no I didn't, I just liked the colours. I think we are getting off the subject of my trip. What was your name? I missed it at the beginning of the interview.

*CR* Kristina Tymoshenko, you may have heard of my mother Yulia.

*Dr B* No. I don't follow European politics. Do you have any more questions about my expedition?

*CR* No, I think we have just about covered everything. It's good that you are a doctor though, able to attend to any medical emergency.

*Dr B Sigh*, I am not that kind of a doctor. Sorry I think my phone is ringing, I must run.

*CR* Thank you doc...mister Barnes...good luck.

*Ed.* Apologies, this is a photo of Richard Barnes kayak Blue Moon which our reporter should have researched beforehand.



## Marketplace

No opportunities for immediate purchases of this wonderful unusual item that would be the pride of place in any paddlers lounge room. We don't have it ready for immediate delivery and we would have to source a competent craftsman should a paddler so desire to own one of these. So at the moment all you can do is drool and dream of owning this amazing piece of furniture.



**SALE !SALE !SALE ! THIS WOULD BE A BARGAIN AT \$2000 ITS KEVLAR  
YOURS FOR ONLY \$500**

Here is an item that is available for immediate purchase and delivery. Our November special is a Quantum K1 selling for only \$500. Made of kevlar. Weighs 10kgs. Always stored under cover and washed after use. Paddler weight range is 65-85 kgs. Comes with padded cover, foot pump, handmade lightweight racing rudder, portaging handles, race number holder. In good condition except for minor damage to the nose which needs a gel coat repair. The hull is stability 2. This is an excellent K1 and one that I won several category Marathon races in as well as second in a national championships. 2010 model. Pick up only from Canberra, ACT or the owner knows a good kayak courier for a buyer if they need transport.



You can view bigger pictures at

Kayak, K1 Quantum kayak,  
[https://www.gumtree.com.au/s-ad/curtin/kayaks-paddle/kayak-k1-quantum-kayak/1284765114?utm\\_source=gmail&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=socialbuttons&utm\\_content=android\\_MyAds](https://www.gumtree.com.au/s-ad/curtin/kayaks-paddle/kayak-k1-quantum-kayak/1284765114?utm_source=gmail&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialbuttons&utm_content=android_MyAds)

Or contact Julia by phone at 0437720339

*Thank you to all contributors to this edition of Blazing Paddles.*

*If you have contributions for the next edition, please get in touch [robertba28@gmail.com](mailto:robertba28@gmail.com)*