

SHEPPERTON TRIPLE CHALLENGE | **THREE DAYS,** **ONE UNMISSABLE WEEKEND.**

Hosted by The Sharks in partnership with Shepperton Slalom Canoe Club

Date: May 23rd-25th 2026 - Bank Holiday Weekend

Location: Shepperton Lock Island, Ferry Lane, Shepperton, TW17 9LW

www.thesharks.org.uk



Paddle, learn, and grow on moving water.

This May Bank Holiday, the Shepperton Triple Challenge returns for three days of paddling, progression, and shared experience on moving water.

Bringing together **Division 3/4 Slalom**, the **London Open Wild Water Racing Sprint Championships**, and unique doubles events, the weekend is designed to **open doors across disciplines**.

This is not just about racing—it's about:

- Trying something new
- Building confidence on white water
- Learning through experience
- Connecting with paddlers from across clubs

With coached sessions, open practice, and multiple race opportunities, the focus is simple:
get on the water, develop your skills, and enjoy the process.

Who Is This For?

Everyone. Absolutely everyone.

Whether you're:

- New to white water
- A flatwater paddler ready to progress
- A developing slalom paddler
- Curious about Wild Water Racing
- An experienced racer looking for a fun, open format
- A junior, senior, master, family, or club group

The Shepperton Triple Challenge is built to welcome you in and give you a place to try, learn, and grow.

You don't need to be ready.
You just need to be willing to give it a go.

All Craft Welcome! What Will You Paddle?

You do **not** need to be an expert.
You do **not** need to own a top-tier race boat.

Our guiding principle is simple:

Start with what you're comfortable in – then take the next step with support.

Progression might look like:

- GP → Slalom boat
- Slalom → Wavehopper
- Wavehopper → Wild Water Racer
- Try C1 → Race C2!

A range of **kayaks and canoes will be available to borrow**, making this a *low-barrier*

introduction to different disciplines and boats.

All equipment *can* be borrowed on the day — just turn up and paddle.

If clubs are bringing **10+ paddlers**, please let us know in advance so we can ensure fair and balanced boat sharing. Private boats are, of course, welcome.

Venue & Facilities

Set on the Thames at Shepperton Lock Island, Shepperton Slalom Canoe Club provides a world-class, safe, and welcoming environment for paddlers of all levels.

Whether you're stepping onto moving water for the first time or developing your racing skills, the venue offers the perfect balance of **manageable white water, supportive surroundings, and high-quality facilities**.

Onsite Facilities

- Free riverside camping (Friday–Monday)
- **Clubhouse access** (space limited during the event)
- Changing rooms, hot showers, and toilets
- **Onsite café** (vegetarian and vegan options available)
- **Free parking** along the road (additional space TBC)

Everything is set up to help you focus on paddling, learning, and enjoying the weekend.

Nearby & Local Highlights

- **Whitewater The Canoe Centre:** A specialist paddlesports shop just moments away — stocked with everything a paddler could need. A strong supporter of the event.
- **The Ferry Coffee Shop:** A short walk from the site, perfect for quality coffee and lunch.
- **The Thames Court:** A riverside pub within 5 — ideal for evening meals and social time.
- **Storia:** offering a standout Italian menu with vegetarian and vegan options.

Safety Information

- Helmets and buoyancy aids must be worn at all times while on the slalom course
- The main Thames navigation can be busy with powered craft and rowers
- Please remain aware, vigilant, and practise safe paddling at all times

This is a shared water space — respect for others and good decision-making are essential.

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Provisional Event Schedule

Saturday | Free Training & Practice Focus

A full day to build skills, try disciplines, and gain confidence.

- **Check-in:** From 09:00
- **Slalom Training (coached):** 11:00 – 14:00
- **Wild Water Racing Training (coached):** 15:00 – 16:30
- **Open Practice:** Throughout the day

No pressure, no racing — just time on the water where it matters most.

Supportive coaching sessions will run in groups:

- Develop control and flow in **K1**
- Step into new challenges with **C1**
- Pair up and experience **C2 paddling**

Whether you're new or developing, this is your space to **explore and improve**.

Sunday | Competition Day 1

Step into racing with support, structure, and space to perform.

- **Check-in:** From 09:00
- **Slalom (Division 3/4):** Starts 11:00
- **Free practice:** During the break
- **Second runs:** ~14:00

Additional Events:

- **Family Canoe Double** (boats available)
- **Team Event** (free entry)
 - Teams of three paddlers
 - Stay within 15 seconds at key points
 - Built for fun, teamwork, and shared racing

London Open Wild Water Racing Sprint Championships:

- **Safety Briefing:** 15:30
- **Race Start** ~16:00 (*dependent on slalom progress*)

Race, learn, reset, and go again.

Monday | Competition Day 2

Another chance to race — and something a little different.

- **Check-in:** From 09:00

- **Slalom (Division 3/4):** Starts 11:00

Pan Galactic End Cockpit Canoe Double Championships Held during the racing break

- One run only
- Free for slalom entrants
- Boats provided (or bring your own)

Featuring a unique fleet:

- 1967 Czechoslovakian-built classic
- 1970s Lippy design (JayCee Canoes)
- 1970s Gaybo-built Lettmann

A mix of **competition and character**, bringing paddlers together in a unique format.
time — set in a welcoming, supportive environment.



The London Open Wild Water Racing Sprint Championships

Race Format:

The sprint course starts **below the weir on the far side of the slalom course**, where paddlers accelerate into the Shepperton flow, driving downstream through the slalom section before opening onto the main navigation channel and powering to the finish at Weybridge Ferry Landing.



Sprint Format – multiple runs welcome!

Your **two fastest runs** submitted to the WWR Committee

Distance: ~200m | **Estimated time:** 1-2+ minutes racing time

C2 Wild Water Racers are very welcome and encouraged. If you haven't raced a C2 before, this is a great opportunity to try doubles racing in a supportive, high-energy environment. Bring your teammates, rally your club, and take it on together.

Check-in From: 09:00 | Safety Briefing: 15:30 | Event Starts: ~16:00



Family C2 Challenge

A highlight of the weekend, the **Family Canoe Double (C2) Challenge** brings paddlers together to take on the course as a team.

Designed to be fun, inclusive, and slightly competitive, this event encourages:

- Parents and children
- Siblings

to step into a C2 and experience the coordination, communication, and shared challenge of paddling together.

Boats are available to borrow — just turn up and give it a go.

Pan Galactic End Cockpit Canoe Double Championships

A unique and characterful event, the Pan Galactic End Cockpit Canoe Double Championships celebrates a classic era of paddlesport.

End cockpit C2s are traditional tandem canoes where both paddlers sit towards the ends of the boat, requiring:

- Strong coordination
- Clear communication
- A good sense of humour

These boats offer a very different paddling experience—less forgiving, more demanding, and incredibly rewarding.

With a small fleet of vintage boats available (or bring your own if you have one), this one-run championship is about:

- Trying something different
- Embracing the challenge
- Enjoying a piece of paddling history

Race Categories:

Slalom:

- **Kayak (K1):** Men / Women / None-binary
- **Canoe (C1):** Men / Women / None-binary
- **C2 (Doubles):** Men / Women / Mixed / None-binary

Wild Water Racing:

- **Kayak (K1):** Men / Women / None-binary
 - **Canoe (C1):** Men / Women / None-binary
 - **C2 (Doubles):** Men / Women / Mixed / None-binary
 - **Perception Wavehoppers & None-Composite (GP) Crafts.**
 - **Slalom Boats**
 - **SUPs (Stand Up Paddleboard)**
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Age Categories

Junior 8 | J10 | J12 | J16 | J18 | Under 23

Seniors | Masters 35 | M40 | M45 | M50 | M55 | M60

Vets 70 | V80 | V90 | V100+

Ages are based on your age as of 1st January each year.

Prizes & Awards



Medals will be awarded to the fastest paddlers in each **age category and craft**.



Trophies for the overall fastest Men's, Women's, and Non-Binary paddlers in:

*Kayak (K1) | Canoe (C1) | Canoe Doubles (C2) | **Wavehopper** | **GP** | **Slalom***



Certificates for all finishers, including your fastest recorded race time.



Family Prize: Awarded to the top-performing family crew in the C2 event, recognising teamwork, coordination, and shared effort on the water.



Pan Galactic End Cockpit Canoe Award: Presented to the fastest crew in the End Cockpit C2 Championships, celebrating adaptability, partnership, and the spirit of taking on a unique challenge.

Entry & Payment

Please enter in advance via the **Canoe Slalom Entries** site:
www.canoeslalomentries.co.uk/year/2026/competition/sharks

Entering early helps us:

- Provide the right equipment
- Deliver better coaching
- Create a smoother event experience

Slalom Fees (approx.):

- Division 4: £7.40 per day
- Division 3: £9.90 per day
- *All classes included in the entry*

Wild Water Racing:

- A discounted entry of **£5** is available for those who have pre-entered the Slalom event.
- £7 otherwise (all classes included)
- WWR only entries (for those not racing slalom) can be made via the Wild Water Racing website:
www.wildwater.org.uk

Questions & pre-registration: canoeing@thesharks.org.uk

- On-the-day payment accepted (cash or card)
- Early entry encouraged to support event planning

The Sharks are a not-for-profit community club — your participation directly supports the growth of paddlesport. **Donations are warmly welcomed.**

Bank Details

Account Name: The Sharks Sports Group CIC

Account Number: 67417911

Sort Code: 08-92-99

Organiser Details

Club: The Sharks

Website: www.thesharks.org.uk

Name: Grant Underwood

Email: canoeing@thesharks.org.uk

Mobile Phone: 07951 770241

BE PART OF IT.

The Shepperton Triple Challenge is part of something bigger.

It's about creating a space where paddlers of all levels — newcomers, families, athletes, and clubs — can come together to **learn, race, and grow on moving water.**

A space where trying a new discipline feels possible.
Where progression is supported.
Where the next step is always within reach.

By taking part, you're not just entering an event.
You're helping build a stronger, more connected paddling community — one that opens doors and creates opportunities for others to follow.

Whether you're racing, learning, experimenting, or simply getting on the water — this is your moment to be involved.

Try something new.

Build confidence.

Be part of it.

The Shepperton Tripple Challenge starts with you.

www.thesharks.org.uk

