

The Bellboat

'a
great
day
on
the
water'



Designed by Olympic Canoe Coach David Train, the Bell Boat is a totally unique design in watercraft; its purpose is to remove the fear of taking part and to help with team work and co-operation. The versatility of the Bell Boat holds no bounds; it is a team boat for all, which has been used by every section of the community. It is nine



metres long and the catamaran design makes it very stable - this enables safe transportation of up to 8 adults or up to 12 children plus a helm/coach. It can be used by all ages and any ability.

School Use

The Bell Boat is ideally used as a school on water and gives those taking part a greater understanding of teamwork, individual strengths and co-operation. Above all, it's fun!

Bell Boat Events

There are Bell Boat events run throughout the year around the country. These are fun events in which all ability levels are welcome. There is also an annual Bell Boat National Championships each year with prizes for age classes and scout/guide groups.



The Bell Boat Helm Award

This award is specifically aimed at teachers to enable them to take youth on the water. A teacher with no previous paddling skills can qualify as a helm after a 2 day course (this includes 4 hours first aid). Courses are available through the Coaching for Teachers scheme. www.sportscoachuk.org

For further information about Bell Boats go to **Youth** Section

www.canoe-england.org.uk

A division of the British Canoe Union.

Case Study

School Lessons are all at Sea in Plymouth.

How a new fleet of Bell Boats ensured children from Plymouth enjoyed a quality experience of water-based activities.

"This is a brilliant experience right on our doorstep. We would like to be able to use it everyday. The children love it. Bell Boating is a great addition to the school's programme of activities."

Mr. David Angel, Head teacher, Pamphlett Primary School.



Plymstock School Sports Partnership Development Manager Rob Wright saw the opportunities that were on his doorstep with Plymouth being a waterfront city and natural environment.

His intentions were to enrich, enhance and extend the experiences offered to young people in the partnership. The partnership wanted to provide an accessible way that children could achieve a number of cross curricular learning outcomes through Physical Education and school sports. A floating classroom was the answer.

He talked with the British Canoe Union, asking how he could get large numbers of children involved in Paddlesport. The answer came in the form of a fleet of Bell Boats and helm training for his staff and university students to supervise them. Almost 300 young people from years 4 - 13 took part from 49 schools and 48 staff and volunteers were trained to helm the craft from within the partnership. This initiative won the partnership their prize.

Rob has had foresight in realising the need for progression and is has applied for Big Lottery funding combined with partnership money to buy a fleet of 21 open canoes taking Paddlesport to the next stage.

Olympians hand out school prizes

2006 School Sport Partnerships' Development Awards winners for increased participation in PE and School Sports.

Kelly Holmes, Duncan Goodhew and Australia's Brennon Dowrick presented awards to Rob Wright PDM for Plymstock Partnership

