



GLOUCESTER DAY by DAY

Scandinavian canoe trip

SIX venture scouts from Gloucester are going to Sweden this summer to take part in a canoe expedition, called "Paddle 81."

In what promises to be an exciting and adventurous activity, they will canoe, together with their two leaders, Frank Henderson and Philip Brown, from Helsinki across the Baltic to Stockholm, then via the inland waterways of Sweden to Gothenborg, and up the coast to Oslo.

The whole event is sponsored, and brings together a small group of young people from several countries.

The venture scouts, members of the 44th Gloucester Venture Scout Unit, will be in two double canoes in the Swedish leg and when they are

not canoeing they will be joining in the public relations and fund-raising activities that accompany the expedition.

All the money raised will be going to the Nansen International Children's Centre which is based in Norway, and it will be used to launch an international exchange scheme for disabled people next year.

This will strengthen links between the Venture Unit and the Children's Centre that were forged last year, when 15 members of the unit completed 10 days voluntary work in Norway as part of their summer expedition.

None of the lads are experienced canoeists, but as soon as their 'A' levels are over they will train hard for the event, which will be a test

of endurance rather than canoeing skills.

They are also seeking sponsors with the hope of raising between £500 and £1,000 towards the project — their contribution towards the International Year of the Disabled Person.

To help towards the cost of the trip, they have planned several money-raising events during the next two months, including a tree-felling service.

The six lads in the team all attend Sir Thomas Rich's School, apart from one Paul Venn, who has now left.

Vikings

ON May 31, Gloucester will be invaded by a raft full of



Five of the venture scouts, from Sir Thomas Rich's School, Gloucester, who are looking for sponsors for their canoeing expedition in Sweden. From the left they are, Nigel Brewster, Russell Watson, Iain Wainwright, Stuart Bishop and Mark Simmons.

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