

May 2017

Club Information	2
Club Trip/Event Policies	2
Club Banking Details	2
Kayak Hire	3
Regular Events.....	3
Kayak Fest on Ponui Island	4
Paddling Red Days	
One Degree.....	5
On the waterfront.....	6
Winter Lecture Series Promo ...	11
Club membership renewals	11



Poet's Corner.....	11
World Masters Games	
– Lake Pupuke	12
Membership Application Form..	13

The Auckland Canoe Club AGM will be held on Wednesday 17th of May starting at 7.30pm at our usual venue – the Marine Rescue Centre.



Exploring up coastal inlets and estuaries can be a whole lot of fun. The restricted waterways are often the exclusive domain of our own capable kayakers. Recently some of our adventure seeking voyagers were well up a Manukau Harbour creek. Here they are testing the shallows near the tail-race of one of the big Waitakere reservoir dams.

PHOTO ROGER LOMAS

Auckland Canoe Club Information

Postal Address

P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland

Clubrooms

Marine Rescue Centre, Mechanics Bay

Website

<http://www.aucklandcanoecub.org.nz>

Officers

<i>Patron</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
<i>President</i>	Gerard Fagan	021 071 5917
<i>Secretary</i>	Rona Patterson	528 1155
<i>Treasurer</i>	Matthew Crozier	817 1984
<i>Trips Advisor</i>	Colin Quilter	360 6271
<i>Publicity</i>	Roger Lomas	846 6799
<i>Storage/kayaks</i>	Gavin Baker	528 5188
<i>Assistant</i>	Roger Lomas	027 221 4671
<i>Vine House</i>	Trevor Arthur	817 7357
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	Claire O'Connor	214 1769
<i>Webmaster</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512

Email addresses

patron@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
president@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
treasurer@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
trips@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
publicity@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
merchandise@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
vinehouse@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
webmaster@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

hire@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
(for kayak hire, or any related questions)

storage@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
(for questions about storing kayaks in the locker)

Club Trip/Event Policies

Visit the Club website for details of safety and other important policies.

Contacting trip/event organiser

You must notify the trip organiser in advance of your intention to go on a trip. Organisers need to know numbers and to be able to contact you if the plan changes.

You must also discuss with the organiser in advance any medical or other conditions (such as your experience and ability) that might affect the progress of the group.

Cancellation

If the weather looks uncertain call the trip co-ordinator.

Club Banking Details

<i>Bank</i>	BNZ
<i>Branch</i>	Newmarket
<i>Account</i>	02-0100-0023453-000
<i>Name</i>	Auckland Canoe Club
<i>Particulars</i>	Your FULL name (Initials are not enough to identify some members with similar names)
<i>Code</i>	Either SUBS, STORAGE, HIRE, OTHER (depending on what you are paying for)

If your payment is for several items, then please make **separate** payments for **each** item.

IMPORTANT

If you are depositing money to the Club Account please ensure that you include YOUR name so that the Treasurer knows who deposited the money.

Internet Banking

All major banks have set up Auckland Canoe Club as a registered payee for internet banking.

This means that you can pay to

Auckland Canoe Club

without having to enter the account number.

Check with your bank.

Kayak Hire

To book a kayak, enter details in the diary. Check diary before taking a kayak.

Kayak Hire Rates

Single kayaks

Daily hire – out am, back pm \$20.00

Half day – out am, back am
out pm, back pm \$10.00

Double kayaks

Daily hire – out am, back pm \$30.00

Half day – out am back am
out pm back pm \$15.00

- Please enter details of hire in register and on an envelope.
- Put money in envelope and place envelope in honesty box.
- **No I.O.U.s!**
- Carry or wheel kayaks to water.
- No seal launching.
- Please wash kayaks before returning to rack.
- Report faults or problems on the faults/problems sheet.

Regular Events

Vine House Weekends



On one weekend each month we have the use of Vine House. This gem in Mahurangi Harbour is a 2 km paddle from Sullivan's Bay, which is the ARC park at the end of the Mahurangi West Road, first on the right past Puhoi.

The house sleeps 10 and has all creature comforts. Bring sleeping bag, pillow case and food. A shared meal and nibbles is the norm for Saturday night, so bring your goodies.

Lagoon Bay is very tidal, so bringing a kayak trolley is a good idea. The range of paddling is endless, e.g. Waiwera, Warkworth, Kawau Island, Motuora Island – your choice. Or just rest and read and enjoy this tranquil and special place. We recommend you take a carry bag to get all your gear up the track to the house. Secure parking is at Sullivan's Bay. Leave a note on your dashboard reading "Vine House Volunteer" when you park in front of the ranger's house.

Vine House is available for the following weekends during 2017

Typically Friday afternoon to Monday morning.

February 24–27, March 24–27, April 28–May 01, May 26–29, June 23–26, July 28–29, August 25–28, September 29–October 02, October 27–30, November 24–27 and December 15–18.

Please ring to book a bed, and for detailed directions. **Trevor 817 7357** or **Matt 817 1984**.

Saturday Morning Coffee Cruise

Most Saturday mornings some club members do a short paddle from the club lock up at Okahu Bay.

We set off from the lock up at 9.00, returning by 12.30. The level is fairly easy and you can nearly always hire a club kayak. The route depends on the tide and the weather. We often paddle out to Bean Rock lighthouse and then stop at Kohi Beach for coffee in a local café before paddling back.

Join us for a relaxed paddle. It's a great way to meet people in the club.

Be aware: People don't go every week. You might go one week when no-one else happens to turn up.

You should have basic paddling skills to join this group, you will be responsible for yourself.

Note: Paddlers under 18 to be accompanied by a guardian!

For more information, contact Lester Miller on 021 165 0297.

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome

The Committee extends a warm welcome to the following new members ...

Andrew Hunter
and **Jamie Gallant**



Deadline for Next Newsletter

31 May 2017

Kayak Fest on Ponui Island

Peter Sommerhalder

The first weekend in March will go down as a memorable event for 100 paddlers who converged on Ponui Island, south of Auckland. The KASK committee set a target to make it an island experience. This involved paddling to a real island and setting up camp. The reward for the paddlers was, that the weekend was fully catered for.

No need to do any cooking or dishes. A kitchen truck was shipped on a barge to Motunau Bay. This barge was also designated as emergency boat should the weather conditions change, and kayakers would be unable to paddle the 5km back to the mainland after the weekend. Fortunately, this

scenario did not eventuate. However, some photos taken by the farmer (Dave Chamberlin) showed flooding, slips and big surf where we were camped and did our workshops only one week earlier.

Like in previous years, the organisers put together a magnificent programme of lectures, trip reports and workshops. Participants were mainly of a “mature” audience. We all benefitted from the knowledge of the tutors, catering for beginners to experienced levels. There was also ample time to socialise and participate in a pub quiz and a silent auction.

Thanks KASK for another successful and enjoyable symposium.



Paddling Red Days One Degree

By Kayaker John

A one degree day had been on my mind for some time. I had completed a couple of paddles around the 100 km mark. I had never quite got to 1 degree. One degree is the distance found on the side of your chart. One degree of Longitude equals 60 Nautical miles which converts to 111.12 kilometres.

It's a long way to paddle.

Kristine and I had previously paddled over 100 km from Mahia to Napier but this was only true if you measured our track around Hawkes Bay, the straight line distance being shorter.

We were now at Muriwai having paddled 70 odd km from Port Waikato the day before in some fairly heavy weather. We had avoided the Manukau as we knew breakers would be rolling across the south channel. This year the weather had been so bad – every day we paddled on the west coast of the North Island had been a red day on Swell Map.

Our Muriwai landing had been in large surf which was now subsiding.

I had no interest in entering another west coast harbour with all the drama of dealing with a barred entrance. Kaipara was not appealing as the tides were just wrong for our paddle plan. The idea of paddling directly to Baylys Beach jumping past Kaipara took hold.

My GPS told me that was 115.5 km, just over 1 degree.

The forecast wind was for a light SW, a following breeze and light conditions. This was the first green paddle day indicated by Swell Map on this trip up the west coast of the North Island. The moon was almost full, rising before sunset and setting after dawn, it would provide sufficient light to read the ocean.

There would never be a better day for an overnight paddle, the paddle plan was agreed upon. Muriwai to Baylys Beach 120 km.

On 10 February 2017 we were waiting on top of the dunes waiting for day break so as to eye up the Muriwai surf, the boats laying packed by the water's edge ready to go.

With enough light to confirm a path through the breakers we were off, making our way past the outlying break on first attempt.

A steady but slow pace was set. The strategy was to arrive at Baylys on dawn the next day, a necessity to take on a surf landing. To paddle faster would have been pointless as landing through surf at night would be a nightmare.

Around 2pm we started crossing the Kaipara entrance. Kaipara is the largest harbour in the Southern Hemisphere. People say how surprised

they are to find the outlying reef so far out and how big the waves are.

Most of the afternoon was spent passing Kaipara especially as our speed was slow due to adverse currents. We discussed closing with the coast and landing in the northern channel where the surf would be small as the beach was sheltered by the outlying bar, this was our last exit point, the decision was made to carry on.

As darkness began to fall we ate and began to layer up to keep warm doing this early on to avoid getting chilled. With a light following breeze we were making good speed on an easy sea and the moonlight proved bright with light cloud cover, bright enough that we could maintain visual contact without the use of lights and see the approaching waves.

The problem with lights on a kayak is they take away your night vision, I avoid displaying them unless it is particularly dark and not possible to read the ocean or maintain contact with your paddle buddy by natural light,

If there is a risk of collision it's a different story but out here it is a lonely ocean.

We had worked our way about 10 km offshore to pass the Kaipara and we stayed out to minimise the risk of paddling into the shore break on the lee shore. Out here the ocean's motion is easier as the swell has not yet begun to rise when it begins to feel the bottom.

We carried on paddling occasionally stopping to rest by rafting up and holding each other's boats or one or the other would continue to steer while the other rested.

None of this proved very successful for sleeping but did provide rest especially so as the sea fell calm around midnight as forecast.

Time and distance calculation showed we would arrive at Baylys Beach at dawn as long as we kept moving slowly so there was no need to paddle with more than a slow steady forward stroke.

Around 3 am some lights rose above the horizon at Glinks Gully which is 20 km short of Baylys Beach, we began to close the coast and followed the cliffs north finding it easy to hold course as we chased the full moon.

The noise of surf was now audible and the swell rising underneath us as it felt the ocean floor.

Just as our time and distance calculation had predicted we were off Baylys Beach and landed through the surf at first light.

A one degree paddle completed. Two more paddle days to finish the North Island, when I would become the oldest man to paddle the North Island at 61.

On the waterfront

Roger Lomas

We have certainly enjoyed a wide diversity of paddling conditions over the last couple of months. Storms, record rainfall and wind were the enduring memories. On the positive side, many of our keener paddlers were out there trying to make the most of the challenging conditions. It might have been a little bit wet, but at least it was warm.

The early morning group maintained their regular momentum and worked around most of the horrible weather. There was however one soggy Saturday morning of note. We were scheduled to paddle the upper reaches of the Manukau Harbour and the rain radar was indicating the potential of something heavy. Just prior to launch time a drenching of biblical proportions occurred. For many of the group assembling that morning it would have been so tempting to just scamper away. The cosy cafes of nearby Titirangi Village were starting to look rather attractive. But our hardy paddlers persevered, the rain eased back a little and we all embarked on time.

Once underway Mother Nature rewarded our stoic stance with one of her magnificent displays. After weeks of heavy rain the hinterland was super saturated. The runoff from the most recent deluge was substantial. We saw ample evidence of it in every little bush clad bay we visited. Waterfalls were thundering down the steep coastal slopes and once placid shoreline streams were now raging torrents. Mega-tons of storm water was being discharged out into the harbour. It didn't take long before a significant layer of fresh water had established itself above the denser sea water. As the misty remnants of the storm clouds cleared, there was a sensation of being down in the southern fiords.

Club long distance sea kayaker Kristine Van Kuyk and fellow expedition buddy John Crimp had a reason to celebrate earlier this year. They succeeded in completing their quest to kayak along the entire

outer coast of the North Island. Not a bad effort for a couple of energetic fifty and sixty something paddlers.

Originally a Wellington girl, Kristine acquired her essential sea skills along the windswept coast of Cook Strait. Since moving to Auckland a couple of years back she has become a staunch regular with the early morning group. She takes great joy in telling her former Wellington paddling mates about our wonderful year round kayaking paradise.

During the last three summers, Kristine has been busy tackling challenges that would leave many sea kayakers in awe. On last year's outing Kristine and her expedition buddy John paddled across Cook Strait and then down the South Island's east coast. They finished up in the depths of Fiordland. The previous year they had paddled the east coast of the North Island. Kristine has kindly agreed to lead off our Winter Lecture series on Wednesday 21st of June talking about some of her recent adventures.

There must be something special out around Great Barrier Island. Matt Crozier and Wally Gilmer certainly seem think so. They paddled over there again recently to probe around the coast. During their latest summer expedition, they found a few more interesting campsites and sea caves for us to enjoy. Knowing Matt, it would have been a very close inshore exploration that left no cave unexplored. Matt will be along for a show later in the year to tell us all about it.

The winter lecture series wouldn't be complete without a presentation from the evergreen Colin Quilter. We will have to wait till the chill month of July for Colin's show, but just remember, it will all be happening in our warm and comfortable Marine Rescue Centre venue. Look out for the promotion in the next newsletter.

Continued on page 7 ➤



Sometimes we just need to set our priorities straight. It's Saturday morning in early autumn and these kayakers were making the most of the sunny weather. There was time for a swim and morning tea before discussing those all-important matters of the day. Mowing the lawns and other domestic duties just had to wait.

We were paddling up near Onehunga recently and noticed this new coastal walkway snaking around the steep coastal escarpments. Pedestrians and cyclist can now obtain a brief above-the-water experience of the mighty Manukau Harbour from these wonderful new enhancements. Welcome to our world.



Our onshore club activities commence in a few weeks' time. On Wednesday 17th of May, the Auckland Canoe Club AGM will take place. We will meet at our usual venue, the Marine Rescue Centre at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start. Then over the next three successive months we can sit back and enjoy the winter lecture series. All of these events are timed to occur on the third Wednesday of each month.

Down at our home port of Okahu Bay there has been steady activity. Many of our newer members have been making good use of the club hire fleet. Our big lightweight Barracuda double kayak has been in on the action too. This is a great kayak for taking friends and family out for an introductory experience on the harbour.

Further along the ramp, the old Royal Akarana Yacht Club building has finally been demolished. A new Marine Sports Centre will rise from the rubble. This new facility will cater to a merger of existing yacht clubs and a few new ventures. During the rebuilding stage, many of the Akarana club activities have been accommodated in the old Auckland Sailing Club facility. This is adjacent to the club storage locker. On most sunny weekends now, club members visiting the bay will be embraced by a very familiar feeling. The carpark is now reminiscent of the Auckland motorway system, gridlocked.

Our club novice ski paddler group has been out training over the summer months. I quite enjoyed the ability to speed along the waterfront in my new

lightweight craft. It was a sensation similar to riding a nice sporty motorbike. It didn't take long to adjust to the lighter flightier feel of the nimble speedster. The ski accelerates at a rapid rate and is quick to pick up even the smallest amount of wave energy.

One important aspect that a novice ski paddler quickly notes is their vulnerability to wind. Paddlers wear leg leashes when out in gusty conditions. The ultra-light ski can quickly distance itself from a hapless capsized victim. Extra care is also required with placement of the craft back on shore. It doesn't take much of a gust to send these lightweight speedsters off on their own. These are trifling concerns that are easily negated by the skis better qualities, pure simplicity and user friendliness. It's perfect for the quick out and back training paddle and that's why I own one.

During our early excursions we were keen to achieve proficiency in that all important ability to remount the ski. Whilst out practising, one attendee was struggling with this manoeuvre and I closed in to assist. It didn't take long to analyse the problem. He was wearing one of those big bulky life jackets that became fashionable a few years ago. It had pockets, zips and attachments for Africa. These hulking great life jackets resemble a backpack with a bonus front pack. They make the wearer look a bit like the mighty Michelin Man. All of those extra pockets, zips and

Continued on page 8 ➤

lanyards were now impeding the self-rescue capabilities of our novice ski paddler. He was struggling to achieve the basic first stage of a deep water self-rescue, sliding face down across the cockpit of his ski. A new slimmer fitting life jacket soon sorted that impediment out. His remount skills were soon successful.

Sea swells are usually minimal along the east coast of the Auckland region. Great Barrier Island takes good care of that. During recent storm activity, some bigger swells sneaked through. When they arrived along the North Shore bays, the early morning paddlers were out for a look. We encountered a sizable cluster of board surfers riding the waves off Mairangi Bay. The bigger sets were rearing up to three metres when they surged in the shallows. Our group unanimously elected to stay well clear. We ended up having some fun on the smaller ones at Torbay. Here we enjoyed the rare thrill of surfing across the bar into Deep Creek.

When out cruising the waterfront on a regular basis, one gets to see many an interesting sight. Our eagle eyed early bird paddlers are always scanning the sea. Sometimes we spy the bizarre. I well remember my first sighting of a stand up paddleboard in action. From a distance I thought I was witnessing a scene

from the second coming. Recently we spied a very unusual paddle board that didn't need a conventional paddle. This one had a clever propulsion device fitted. It looked like a gym workout machine that you stand on and pump pedals. It certainly made that thing scoot along. Some of the senior lads nearly required medical assistance after another paddle board sighting. Their eyeballs nearly popped out when a bevy of bikini clad ladies started doing on-board yoga lessons.

I was very impressed with the determination of our coffee cruise ladies in recent months. Their numbers have increased and they weren't easily dissuaded by the spell of fickle weather. A cheerful capable crew, they all pitch in to help with the chores of getting on and off the water. They may like to linger over that mid paddle latte, but they are all speed and efficiency when back at the club locker. They had their kayaks washed, racked and were heading home in no time at all. They depart from Okahu Bay most Saturday mornings and if you would like to join them, contact Lester Miller 021 165 0297 for details of departure times.

Continued on page 9 ➤



It's another stunning sunrise at Narrow Neck beach and these kayakers are eager to depart. They are off to Rangitoto Island for breakfast in a secluded bay out past the lighthouse.

If regular kayaking is avoiding you, then a sure fire remedy is at hand. You need a kayaking makeover. It's time to abandon that big old beamy bath tub and buy a new boat. Whilst the credit card is out, grab some flash new accessories too. Take a look around and see what many of the active kayakers are using. Some very desirable user-friendly light-weight options are available now. Don't be miserable about money here, think of it as an investment. If it gets you back out on the water again for healthy exercise and company, then it's an excellent investment.

Swim escort duties can be signed off for another season. The events were all trouble free and pleasingly not re-routed to the standby venue. A big pat on the back is deserving to all the support paddlers and especially Club President Gerard Fagan for coordinating. Some of our paddlers like to have a bit of fun getting to and from these events and often include side excursions. Overnighting on Rangitoto Island prior to the big swim crossing was one of the highlights.

Our accommodation out on the island has evolved over the years. Initially we lodged in the old scout bach, just a short stroll away from the wharf area. The bach was a bit of an eyesore back then, somewhat gloomy and neglected. It was also plagued by pesky mosquitos and copious quantities of nocturnal snoring. When the flash new Rangitoto visitors' day centre was built next to the wharf, some

of us took up refuge within. It was palatial by comparison, handier to our kayaks and it commanded a much better view. It didn't take long before the whole squad had moved over too.

We quickly established a good rapport with the local DOC rangers who were understanding of our once a year visit to assist the swimmers. Unfortunately in the last couple of years our presence appears to have become an issue. Some body or something has upset someone. This is puzzling considering our previous long standing good relationship. Late last year the club received a rather terse letter from DOC pertaining to our annual one night stand. It made specific mention about our using open fires (gas cookers) and erecting structures (tent inners for mosquito shelter) in the big open sided visitor centre shelter. We were no longer welcome and the message was clear to the squatters, move on.

Camping is not permitted on Rangitoto Island but there was a ray of hope some ten years ago. This was when the Auckland coastal kayak trail was being mooted. There was talk of a kayaker's campsite being established at Boulder Bay on the islands northern shores. Unfortunately nothing eventuated, but we can always continue lobbying. Our options for overnighting on the island are now minimal. There is always that old scout bach if we are truly desperate.

Continued on page 10 ➤



There's something special about an early morning paddle. These kayakers are off to enjoy the dawn tranquillity of an unruffled Manukau Harbour.

It's a well-known fact that birds of a feather flock together. Kayak paddlers tend to follow that pattern too. Within our club there are interest groups that will cater for most plumages. If you are struggling to find compatibility, then get yourself along to the winter lecture series. It's a gathering place for paddlers of all diversities and a good place to start making contacts.

The recent World Masters Games in Auckland aroused considerable interest within our ranks. Many of our members gave it a go and some surprise hidden talents revealed themselves. Congratulations to Rosie Thom, Kevin Sargent and Rosemary Gatland who all mounted the victory podium to walk away with a good haul of kayaking gold, silver and bronze medals. A big pat on the back is deserving to all the other members who participated, including those helping out as volunteers.

Greenland paddles are popular with some of our kayakers. A few years ago there was a bit of a fad for them and it almost reached cult status with some of those peculiar North Shore types. Aficionados for this fad are often mocked with the moniker of stick paddlers. When one of those sticks was thrust into my hands, I was compelled to give it a try. It was wooden of course, a bit shorter in length than my regular wing bladed weapon and super skinny. After a quick trial, I was surprised with both its ability to propel and its lightness. I had to admit that it had potential, but it was not for me.

Some years later I was accosted by a couple of crusaders from the stick paddle brethren. My little

group had stopped for morning tea at Whites Beach just out past the Rangitoto Beacon. When we went to depart we were confronted by the two stick wielding zealots who wanted to demonstrate twenty one useful things that their paddles could do. I sensed what was coming and made a quick escape. One of my good paddling mates that day was the no nonsense ex-army boy, Tony Hannifin. He had Irish ancestry to boot and was having none of it either. He told them to get out of his way or they would receive a short sharp and potentially painful demonstration of lesson twenty two.

Over the last couple of months the dawn patrol paddlers have been practicing their cooking expertise out on the beach. The camp cooking stoves have been included in their kayaking kit and there has been keen competition in the breakfast skills department. Just recently they were seen enjoying bacon, eggs, sausage, tomatoes and hash browns served with mixed grain toast and a nice steaming hot cup of tea. A full English breakfast no less and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

In recent times the early morning kayakers have been seen dining near Cornwallis Beach, Island Bay, Matatakia Bay, Birkenhead Wharf ramp, Okahu Bay, St Heliers Beach, Castor Bay, Narrow Neck Beach, French Bay, Taylors Bay and Waiake Beach at Torbay. If you would like to sharpen up your cooking skills, improve your paddling skills and become part of a regular early morning paddling group with keen commitment then give me a call.

Roger



It was a very damp Saturday morning up near Hobsonville and these paddlers were certainly in luck.

The rain eased off when this tiny shell bank beach was spied and morning tea was taken.

It bucketed down all the way back.

Auckland Canoe Club Winter Lecture Series

Kristine Van Kuyk – North Island kayaking adventures

Wednesday 21 June

Marine Rescue Centre

city end of Tamaki Drive next to the downtown heliport

Meet at 7 pm for a 7 30 pm start.

The winter lecture series club nights provide the perfect opportunity for kayakers to gather for a friendly informal evening.

Early attendees can enjoy refreshments and then grab the best seats in the house for the show.

It's a great place for catching up with club mates and meeting some of our newer members.

Everyone is welcome so feel free to invite along family and friends.

The main event of the evening is the informative winter lecture.

This is the ideal platform to showcase the adventures of our own intrepid explorers.

Not always about kayaking, but guaranteed to arouse an interest in the outdoors for next summer.

Make a note of the upcoming dates, the third Wednesday of June, July and August.

All inquiries Roger Lomas 027 221 4671

Club membership renewals

Membership subscriptions for April 2017 to March 2018 are now due.

Please update your details on the attached membership form and post with your payment, or fill out the membership form on the club website (Support> Club Forms> Membership Form) and pay online to our bank account - see details on the inside cover.

New members who have joined the club since January 1st are already paid up until March next year.

This newsletter will be the last for members not renewed.

Poet's Corner

*So what that Summer forgot us
Who cares that Winter is nigh
This Autumnal day is perfect
To be under an Autumn sky
So today out there on the Harbour
Into a warm West wind
The sea a swimmable temperature
Conditions to calm the mind
To the left a workaday Auckland
And passing Mission Bay
A sight to gladden this teacher's heart
A class of school kids at play
A day at the beach away from their school
On paddle boards learning all sorts
Of lessons that last forever*

*Of things that cannot be taught
And paddling on benignly
Thinking how dull it would be
Without events unexpected
Things that can happen at sea
Those intrepid explorers
Of which in our Club there are some
Return from their trips with eye stretching tales
Foul weather met with aplomb
But all things considered for this timid soul
Calm waters light airs I desire
The occasional fright keeps me on my toes
To keep going until I expire.*

Mike Randall

World Masters Games – Lake Pupuke

Peter Sommerhalder

As some of you know, we have a small group of Auckland Canoe Club paddlers meeting regularly on Fridays, either for a bike ride, or weather permitting, a paddle in either of Auckland's harbours.

The destination for our outing on the 28th of April was Lake Pupuke. We made our way by Devonport ferry and on our bikes to Sylvan Park, the event of the Kayaking 200m Regatta races. Our role was to support and cheer on five paddlers from our club.

Unbeknown to us they have quietly trained and prepared to race against competitors from all over the world. The competitors were Philip Noble, Rosemary Gatland, Rosie Thom and Kevin Sargent. They all got rewarded with medals for top placings over races of 1000m, 500m, 200m and a full marathon.



The cheerleaders: Mike, Sue, Ian and Colin.

Rosemary Gatland.



The marathon held earlier in the week consisted of four laps around the lake with a portage in each lap. A 30 knot southerly wind whipped up the lake, creating high waves crashing against the shore near Sylvan Park. More than half of all competitors had at least one capsize. Most of them however fought on, re-entered their kayak and finished the race.

The boats used are not what we usually see on our club outings. They are lightweight skinny K1's or K2's, designed for speed in calm conditions. It takes skill and lots of practice to paddle, and even more so to race, these kayaks. Some of the competitors were past Olympians and kayakers with lots of racing experience.

We congratulate all five of you for your splendid performances.



Discussing racing tactics: Rosie, Philip and Sue.

Rosie Thom.



AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



New Member

Renewing

IF YOUR DETAILS HAVE CHANGED PLEASE UPDATE US

Surname: _____ **First Name:** _____

Family Name(s) _____

Address: _____ **Suburb:** _____ **City:** _____

Phone (home): _____ **Mobile:** _____ **Fax:** _____

Phone (work): _____ **Email:** _____

Rate your Experience:

I have completed a basic skills course.

No Experience

Novice (confidently forward and backpaddle, paddle for 30 mins without rest)

Intermediate (able to brace, perform a deep water entry, paddle for at least 2 hours or 25 km)

Advanced (self rescue in all situations, off-shore paddling experience)

Do you own a kayak? **Yes** **No** **If YES list type(s):** _____

Please select the types of kayaking you are most interested in:

Sea kayaking

Touring

Sea kayaking racing

Whitewater

Surf/rodeo/polo

MultiSport

Kayak trips: Are you interested in co-ordinating kayak trips ? **Yes** **No**

To comply with the Privacy Act 1993, please read and complete the form below.

I Agree **I Disagree**

To let the Auckland Canoe Club publish my name, address phone Number or any other information concerning me in the Club Newsletter or to National Canoe Associations. I accept responsibility for correcting this information where applicable.

The Auckland Canoe Club and its officers take no responsibility for any injury any person may suffer, or any damage to equipment, while participating in the Club's kayaking activities. Any Person, who does participate, acts at his or her own risk.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Fees for the year ending 31 March

Member \$30

Family \$35

Life Member

Post to: Auckland Canoe Club, PO Box 9271 Newmarket, Auckland

Total Payment

Cheque

Bank Transfer

Bank: BNZ, Newmarket

Acct: 02-0100-0023453-000

Name: Auckland Canoe Club

Particulars: Your name & initials

Code: Subscription