



AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB NEWSLETTER

July 1998

One of the truly delightful aspects of kayaking is the way it allows an entry into the simple life. No complicated gizmos and gadgets to operate out on the water, and equipment that takes hours to learn to operate, and a bookcase of instruction manuals.

Let's get the cliches out of the box and say it's just you and nature.

Normal living seems to take me further and further from the simple life. Take these last school holidays for example. I spent the holidays, those extremely wet holidays you will recall, on Waiheke. Not in a leaking tent pitched in a flooded field, as I might have in past years, but in a watertight house.

But I have many happy memories of camping in terrible conditions, rain often being the main contributing factor. Waking up to find the flysheet stuck to the tent inner, and the tent inner in turn stuck to my body, and an inch of water around my feet. It was all part of the fun.

These holidays I didn't get wet at all. Except in the shower. Warm shower, that was. Vanquished were the days of cold showers as the only option, the only way to clean muddy feet or rinse off the sweat from a day of hearty effort.

And I had enough to eat. This wasn't one of those holidays where I rationed myself to half a packet of two minute noodles for each meal, just to make supplies last the distance. Where I had a day without bread because the ants had got to it first. Or four weeks of coffee without milk because that was one necessity it wasn't too hard to do without.

What do the trials and tribulations of camping in the wet and tramping without food have to do with kayaking, you are wondering. Am I just taking the opportunity to tell you about the hardships I have endured in my past life?

Not at all. It's just that I think getting out on the water for an hour or a day takes your mind off the humdrum, and distracts you so much that you don't have to worry about whether you are hot or cold, wet or dry. You're having such a good time that who cares about the rest of it.

But there again, the hot shower afterwards is always welcome.....

Yours in paddling

Your Club Officers

President Trevor Arthur 817 7357

Secretary.....Margaret Thwaites 292 7883

Canoe hire/storage..... Bruce Bugbee 570 1134(day)

Editor..... Julia Thorn 575 3099

Sunday paddles..... Matt Crozier 276 7049

White water..... George Gerard 818 5066

CALENDAR JULY - AUG

West Coast paddling A number of members have expressed an interest in trips up the West Coast. An example suggested is to start from Little Huia, out through the North Channel and on up to Karakare or Bethells, landing where conditions allow.

Obviously these trips cannot be reliably planned. It's a case of keeping an eye on the tides, listen to the surf and swell reports and if the day dawns on the favourable side we go.

If we have a list of people interested in these type of paddles a morning ring around will avoid those keen missing out on a great day. To register an interest ring Trevor 817 7357.

26 July Watchmans Island ASKNET breakfast trip. Meet at either Stanley Bay Beach or Okahu Bay at 8 am for 8.30 departure. Bring your brekkie.

Contact Grant Stone tel 473 6658.

26 July APCC Race Parakai Special 12 km starting at noon at Springs Rd, Parakai. Contact Hauraki Kayak Group.

1 August Cockle Bay to Whitford Meet at Cockle Bay for an 11 am departure to travel the creek estuary to the Whitford roundabout. The trip suits novices. You have a choice of BYO lunch or using the cafe at Whitford.

Matt Grant has more details, tel 528 8269.

For those who would like to paddle a little further Trevor Arthur will lead a group starting from Okahu Bay at 8 am and joining up with Matt's trip at Cockle Bay. Trevor will arrange to have a trailer available for the return trip from Cockle Bay to Okahu Bay. Phone Trevor, 817 5357, to arrange a space on the trailer.

2 August Karapiro to Hamilton This is the first stage of Auckland Canoe Centre's five part trip down the Waikato River. See the full details further on in this Newsletter.

4 August (Tues) Club night An evening of food, kayak videos and guest speakers with a slide show, at Auckland Canoe Club clubrooms in the Multihull Yacht Club, above Fergs Kayaks at Okahu Bay, at 7 pm. Dinner and a video, time for a quick chat, and then the Main Event - *The Far North Expedition*. This will be a talk and slide show by expedition leader Colin Quilter and Kevin Jose.

The chef will have soup of the day awaiting your arrival, followed by hot roast beef served on fresh crusty bread. For the vegetarians a lasagne will be served. Supper after the show. Cost is a mere \$5.

Ray Clark is organising this social get-together, tel 818 9609. Please do come.

8 August Cornwallis to French Bay ASKNET night trip starting from Cornwallis Beach at 7.30 pm. Bring night light or torch.

Contact Kevin Jose for info tel 846 6796.

9 August Croissants & Coffee on Rangitoto

It's going to be a beautiful day on August 9. Why not spend it on the summit of Rangitoto with pleasant company, good food and a view from the Firth of Thames to Little Barrier? Meet at Okahu Bay at 9.45am for a 10.00am departure. We'll paddle to McKenzies Bay near the lighthouse, then walk to the summit. Bring lunch & snacks, a Thermos and walking shoes. Home mid-afternoon. Contact Colin Quilter, 5280747.

(The fine print: if the weather forecast is bad, phone Colin. We'll go somewhere else, perhaps shortening the trip and departing earlier to avoid the wind).

9 August Sea kayak race Meet at Okahu Bay at 8 am for handicapping. This is a 10 km race with a BBQ and cuppa afterwards. A race for Puffins and Penguins, Slingshots and Sabres, and anyone in between.

Contact Grant Stone 473 6658, Matt Grant 524 2108, Roger Lomas 625 8924.

9 August ASKNET Long Bay north Long Bay to Shakespear Bay via Whangaparoa peninsula. Meet at the southern end of Long Bay at 9 am for 9.30 departure. Paddle to Arkles Bay then follow the coastline to Shakespear Bay for lunch stop. The return will be a direct non stop paddle to Long Bay. Total distance is about 23 km, so the trip suits intermediate and above paddlers.

The leader is Kerry Howe, tel 478 9952.

16 August APCC Race Hunua Tupperware Race starts at 10.30 am at Hunua Falls Park, finishes Wiroa Gorge Road end. This is Auckland's only white water race, and features the scenic Wairoa Gorge.

Contact Manukau Canoe Club for details, tel Adrian 576 0996 or Steve 263 8693.

14/15/16 August Opoutere weekend Join in an exciting weekend based at Opoutere Lodge on the Coromandel. We have booked the lodge for the Friday and Saturday nights. The accommodation is in bunkrooms or family rooms, and there are hot showers plus a good kitchen/dining room. Cost is \$15 per night for a bunk, child \$8, and camping \$10.

Kayaking options include a safe paddle on the Wharekawa Harbour. Intermediate plus paddlers will attempt to go down the coast to Whangamata, and up the harbour and portage across to the headwaters of the Wharekawa and back to the lodge.

Non paddling options include bushwalks, bike riding in the forests, tramps along the gorgeous beach and glow worms at night. It's a great spot only two hours' drive from Auckland.

Contact Roger Lomas, tel 625 8924.

2 August Picnic with Neal Join Neal for a tikki tour of the Harbour. Destination will depend on weather and participants. Bring lunch.

Neal can be contacted on 846 1429.

23 August APCC Event Waikato River Race Day Starts at 11 am. Two courses: 15 km for junior and novice, 32 km for seniors. Contact Hamilton Canoe Club, Paul Ewart tel 07 855 8425

26 August Slide evening at Auckland Canoe Centre Entitled *Sea kayaking as it should be*, a slide presentation by Gerry and Trish Maire on their sea kayaking holiday in Turkey. Starts at 7.30 pm at 502 Sandringham Rd. Free entry, and refreshments afterwards.

Please RSVP to Auckland Canoe Centre, tel 815 2073.

29/30 August North Island Marathon Champs Contact Blair Roskrue at Waitemata Multisports tel 626 2066.

30 August Goat Island Be at Mathesons Bay at 10 am for a 10.30 departure. The idea is to paddle around the coastline, around Cape Rodney and check out Goat Island, a fascinating spot. High tide is at 1 pm.

Contact Grant Stone for details, tel 473 6658.

REGULAR EVENTS

Evening paddles occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30pm from Okahu Bay. You can simply turn up for these trips, and if you want to hire a kayak you should phone Bruce Bugbee 570 1134. We try to have a Committee member there for these paddles, but excuse us if it isn't always possible.

Sunday morning paddles from Okahu Bay start at 9.15 to be on the water by 9.30, unless an alternative time is stated here. Destination is usually by consensus and depends on the weather. You should be finished by lunchtime. These trips are for novice and intermediate paddlers.

There is no need to let anyone know in advance if you are coming. However if you feel better speaking to someone beforehand you are welcome to phone Matt Crozier for more info; if he is not going along he will put you in touch with someone who is. Phone Matt on 276 7049.

Kayak hire arrangements are as for weekday paddles, and Trevor Arthur can also arrange assistance with this. Phone 817 7357.

LAURIE'S COLUMN

At the last meeting of the Auckland Small Boat Safety Committee the matter of navigation lights for kayaks was discussed. The Auckland coastguard had written to the chairperson of the Sea Kayak Operators Association of NZ following an incident on the Auckland Harbour some weeks ago when one of their patrol boats had come across an unlighted kayak one dark evening. The coastguard had to wait some time while the kayaker hunted around his cockpit for his flashlight, with which he, the kayaker, is supposed to warn approaching vessels of his presence and to avoid collision at sea.

I was confident enough to inform the committee that the idiot kayaker was not a member of the Auckland Canoe Club. You night paddlers have all been warned so many times about going out into the Harbour without the required light. So I hope none of you will ever undermine my confidence in you.

For others in the Club who are not regular Tuesday nighters, always remember it is extremely difficult to pick out a kayak in a slight chop from another vessel during the daylight hours; you are TOTALLY INVISIBLE at night if you are not in some way illuminated.

Members of the Club were the first to venture out onto the Harbour at night when we paddled each Tuesday and Thursday evening from Westhaven. Most of our paddling then took place to the westward reaches of the Harbour. We had strobe lights and with these caused quite a stir attracting searchlights from the police launch, fishing vessels and ferries. Then, of course, other paddlers, ASKNET and Fergs found the attraction of night paddling, so now it's all on.

Always remember you have every right to be on the Harbour (except in certain restricted areas), and the sea in whatever craft you choose to be in. But that right incurs responsibility. You must be responsible for your own safety and for the safety of others. You must obey the rules of the sea. If you don't know the rules take a coastguard approved boat masters course.

But let's get back to paddling in the dark. By law, in your case being the skipper of a boat less than seven metres in length, you MUST carry a light (torch) that must be available at all times to warn other vessels approaching you of your presence to avoid collision. It is just as simple as that. Don't stick it somewhere under your spray skirt because you have no deck bungies - and almost every kayak intended for racing has no deck bungies; tie it to your buoyancy aid or to your spray deck panic loop. Have it handy for immediate use.

That's rule no. one. You may have a strobe light (which is not strictly legal) or an all round white light. But that light does not take the place of the hand held torch. These types of permanent illumination cannot be seen against an illuminated background; you are once again invisible.

Which brings us to rule no. two. You may be invisible but most larger craft have proper

navigation lights and may not be seen but rather have their presence made known. Sounds daft, but if you see a red light on the left and a green light on the right you may not see the vessel carrying these lights, but as they get bigger and bigger and closer and closer then my friend you are about to be in big trouble.

Rule no. two: keep a sharp look out at all times. For this you need eyes and ears. If you have a very talkative paddling companion you will invariably find that nothing else matters to that person except his or her topic of conversation, and it will be your responsibility to keep a sharp eye and ear on everything else that is going on around you.

Rule no. three: keep away from shipping lanes. Don't cross over to Devonport unless you have to. Don't cross to Rangitoto unless you have to and in both cases rules one and two must be adhered to. Be very careful if you paddle from the Compass Dolphin to Bean Rock. Unless you are very careful you will find the current, which ever way it flows, will push you out into the channel, and into the path of the Quickcat.

One last tip. If some bright spark (sparky!) turns up for a night paddle with a 12 volt powered halogen all round light make him paddle at the rear of the pack, or you will have no night vision to see where the hell you are going.

Laurie B

OCEAN PADDLER

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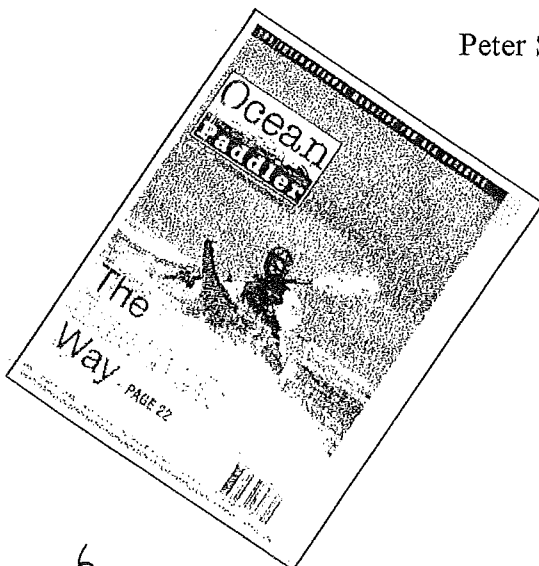
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See on Web Page: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/SAMDOG>

OCEAN PADDLER - The International Magazine for the Sea Kayaker

This new magazine has recently been launched in Great Britain. It will publish four times a year and counts some of the best known names in British kayaking as its authors and contributors. The glossy magazine is available from Aucklands leading kayak retailers and sells for \$11 per copy. Yearly subscriptions can be arranged. As an incentive buyers of issue no 2 will get issue no 1 for FREE. Happy reading and paddling.

Peter Sommerhalder



Tour of the Waikato With Auckland Canoe Centre

The Tour starts at Karapiro and finishes at Port Waikato 9, yes Nine! weeks later!
Total distance approximately 130km broken up into 5 stages averaging 26km per stage.

An opportunity to participate in the "Tour of the Waikato" is extended to any Auckland Canoe Club Member who has the ability to paddle a current assisted 26km or so in a day on the river.

The "Tour" is not a race, but an opportunity to cruise a substantial section of New Zealand's longest river in the company of other paddlers with a Shuttle, "Shuttle Bunny" and "Tour Toy Boy" delegated to shuttle vehicles from Put In to Take Out or Kayaks and Paddle Persons from Take Out to Put In.

Stage 1: Sunday August 2nd
Karapiro to Hamilton. Approximately 25km
Meet 10:00am. Cambridge. Superloo Corner
Trip Leader Peter Sommerhalder / Mike Hayes
Phone Auckland Canoe Centre for further information. Ph: 815 2073

Stage 2: Sunday August 16th
Hamilton to Ngaruawahia Approximately 23km
Meet 10:00am. Hamilton Harriers Club House, Cnr Grantham St and
Hillsborough Terrace, down on the riverside towards the Victoria Bridge.
Trip Leader Mike Hayes / Peter Sommerhalder
Phone Auckland Canoe Centre for further information. Ph: 815 2073

Stage 3: Sunday August 30th
Ngaruawahia to Rangiriri Approximately 27km
Meet 10:00am. Main Street Ngaruawahia
Trip Leader Peter Sommerhalder / Mike Hayes
Phone Auckland Canoe Centre for further information. Ph: 815 2073

Stage 4: Sunday September 13th
Rangiriri to Tuakau Approximately 30km
Meet 10:00am. Carpark Rangiriri Hotel
Trip Leader Mike Hayes / Peter Sommerhalder
Phone Auckland Canoe Centre for further information. Ph: 815 2073

Stage 5: Sunday September 27th
Tuakau to Port Waikato Approximately 25km
Meet 10:00am Tuakau Port Waikato Bridge (Public Park)
Trip Leader Peter Sommerhalder / Mike Hayes
Phone Auckland Canoe Centre for further information. Ph: 815 2073

The cost of participating in the Auckland Canoe Centre "Tour of the Waikato" is \$6.00 per paddler per stage, which will be used towards the cost of shuttle vehicles, shuttle bunnies, tour toy boys, and a barbecue at Port Waikato after stage 5 on Sunday September 27th.
Tee Shirts certifying the wearer as a "River Rodent" Waikato 98' will be awarded to paddlers completing a minimum of 4 of the 5 stages.

DIPS N DUNKS

Your Editor

My name is Julia Thorn and I can be reached at 14 Paunui St, St Heliers, tel 575 3099. Give me a call or drop me a line when you have something to tell or ask.

Subscriptions...

Many thanks to those of you who have renewed so promptly. Club subs are due now for the year ending March 1999. There's a membership renewal form at the back of this Newsletter.

You old hands probably remember Club policy but here's the story for newer members: you'll be getting two more Newsletters regardless of whether you have re joined the Club, but after that the supply is cut off unless you have paid your subs. Please please pay your subs as soon as possible, so the Club can continue with its good work.

... and membership cards

By the way, the Committee has decided to dispense with membership cards for the current year. This means that you will still receive a receipt for your subscription payment if you request one, but no membership card as in previous years. If you make a purchase at a retailer who offers Club members a discount, you merely need to tell the retailer that you are an ACC member and are entitled to the appropriate discount. No Member has been knocked back yet.

Companion Wanted

We have received the following letter:

" I'm interested in kayaking in the Bay of Islands area and would like to know if anyone in your Club is planning a paddling trip there next summer 1999. I'd like to accompany a group or individual if possible.

I'm middle aged and have some experience in the Abel Tasman and Marlborough Sounds areas. Yours, Giselle Clements. "

Contact address: RD 1, Trass Valley, Wakefield 7181, Nelson.

Attention recreational canoeists

Attention white water paddlers and anyone interested in conservation/access to New Zealand's rivers and lakes. The Club has received membership application forms from the New Zealand Recreational Canoeing Association Inc and we would like to know who would like to join this association and show their support.

The NZRCA, previously the NZCA, is the national organisation representing recreational white water canoeing and kayaking in New Zealand. Their main aims are conservation of NZ lakes and rivers, ensuring public access, safety and education. They produce a quarterly newsletter outlining current issues, plus many trip reports.

Members of Auckland Canoe Club can join the NZRCA for \$10, or \$15 if you want their newsletter mailed directly to you. Non members can join the NZRCA for \$30.

If anyone is interested in joining the NZRCA please contact Margaret Thwaites tel 3098900 (work) or 292 7883 (home).

AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

☐ New Member

☐ Rejoining

Surname:

First Name (s) (IF FAMILY, PLEASE LIST ALL NAMES):

Address:

Phone (HOME): (WORK):

Occupation:

Do you own a canoe? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes — please list type (s):

Briefly state your experience in canoeing?:

Please circle the branches of canoeing you are most interested in:

Slalom

Whitewater

Surf

Polo

Touring

Sea Kayaking

Flatwater Racing

Long Distance Racing

Nominated by: Seconded by:

FEES FOR YEAR ENDING 31.3.99 — PLEASE CIRCLE THE FEE BEING PAID!

Junior \$15

Senior \$25

Family \$30

Associate member \$15

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$

To comply with the Privacy Act 1993, the Club is required to get permission from members to gather and publish personal details such as names, addresses, phone numbers etc. This information will only be used in newsletters and published on the current member phone list. Therefore could you please read and fill out the form below.

I agree / 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 the National Canoe Association. I accept responsibility for correcting this information where applicable.

Signed: Name (PLEASE PRINT):

Date:

Please return to: The Treasurer, Auckland Canoe Club Inc., P.O. Box 3523, Auckland.