

AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB NEWSLETTER

October 1998

This is a cautionary tale for those of you who leave your kayaking until the very end of the weekend!

It had been a month of excuses in my kayaking life. First I had that problem with my foot so I couldn't go out on the water. Then there were babysitter excuses and travelling husbands and that sort of thing. So it was with a spirit of unshakeable resolve that I aimed to be on the water last Sunday.

As the moment of departure, Sunday morning, grew closer it appeared that the excuses might win again. I had decided to paddle from Okahu Bay through to Hobson Bay and as luck would have it high tide wasn't until 7 pm. I elected not to go over that way and get stuck on the sandbar by Judges Bay, although that too would have made a good, if boring, story. By late afternoon the sun had disappeared and the wind had come up; more reason not to venture out. But the tide would be right so out I went.

The traffic along the Waterfront was awful so by the time I got to Mission Bay I thought it would be more fun to watch the poor cars from the water than to be among them. Have you tried recently to unload a kayak and gear in the Mission Bay car park late on a Sunday afternoon? The cars are jam packed so close together that you can barely open your car door let alone swing a kayak off the roof and onto the ground. I dragged my kayak along the roof of my car, since there wasn't space to lift it off the side as I would normally do, and carried it across to the beach, intending to put it on the wall first so I could get a breather. Lifting it onto the wall I knocked several innocent ice cream lickers to the ground. Well, they'd be more comfortable lying on the beach.

I did make it eventually to the sea and set off. The water was a bit rough and I unfortunately capsized on embarkation. Such a large crowd of onlookers too.

I headed into the wind as far as Okahu Bay and then went under the bridge into Whakatakataka Bay and Hobson Bay, making the transition as a train passed overhead. I can't remember whether any passengers fell out of the train into my cockpit.

There were a few waterskiers in the bay and one of them had great fun skiing right up to me. Not such a skilled dude, though. He fell over as he bounced off my hull and it was only my dexterity in grabbing his ski rope that kept him afloat.

Down the other end of the Hobson Bay the fishermen were out in force and in trying to navigate my way under the bridge, rather than ploughing into it, I got tangled up in about five fishing lines. It was a nasty mess. I hope the fish had time to get away.

Then I had a wonderful quick paddle back to Mission Bay and the joys of the car park. A car had earmarked my spot and waited patiently the whole time I loaded up the car, loaded the kayak back on the roof (this time without violence) and changed my socks. As I pulled out I saw another car duck neatly into my spot. I didn't care to wait around and see what happened.

All sorts of things can happen when you go out for a paddle. But next time I'll pick a quieter time of the week.

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 OCT - NOV

24 October Picnic with Neal Join Neal Wilson for another of his successful day trips, geared to the novice and intermediate paddler. Destination will depend on weather and participants. Bring lunch.

Neal can be contacted on 846 1429.

25 October Waiwera Estuary An ASKNET trip. Meet at the Waiwera Holiday Park at 9.30 for a 10.00am departure to take advantage of the tide which peaks at 11.32. Have a soak in the hot pools on the return.

Contact Peter Sommerhalder at Auckland Canoe Centre tel 815 2073.

31 October (Saturday): Picnic at the Manukau Heads Last summer we had some great trips to the Manukau Harbour entrance. They were so much fun we're going to go there again. This is the first of two possible dates; (the second is November 15). We meet at Cornwallis Wharf at 9.45 am for a 10.00 am start. The outgoing tide will be running strongly, (HW at 0732) and will carry us out to **Whatipu** on the northern side of the harbour entrance. There will be time (an hour) for morning tea ashore and (for those inclined) a climb to the top of the nearby headland which gives fantastic views out over the **south head** and bar. Then it's back into the boats and across the channel to a sheltered landing beneath **South Head**. Fifteen minutes walk up the hillside is a lunch spot with panoramic views. After lunch those who wish can carry on up over the top of the hill, cross the paddocks to the south and then make an interesting descent of the steep sandy cliffs before following the shoreline back to the boats. By early afternoon the tide will be flooding strongly and we'll be swept back up to Cornwallis in style.

This trip depends on fine weather, (no more than 15 knots of wind). A final decision on going won't be made until the night before. If the weather is uncertain we'll wait and try again on the 15th of November. The trip is suitable for intermediate and experienced paddlers. Please register your interest with Colin Quilter 528 0747.

Bring: lunch and snacks, plenty to drink, walking shoes and a camera.

7 November Sea Kayak Race 5 km and 10 km courses. Meet outside our downstairs Clubroom (behind Fergs Kayaks on the ramp) at 8 am for registration, briefing and handicapping. Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability or type of sea kayak. There'll be a barbecue afterwards. Cost is \$5.

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

This is to be repeated on November 21.

8 November Clevedon Caper Come and support YOUR CLUB'S race! We all know the wind was abysmal last year but this year conditions are bound to be perfect. Entry form is attached to this Newsletter. Offers of help with running the event would be gratefully received by Laurie and Bruce Bugbee and Matt Grant tel 524 2108. Matt needs at least 5 helpers.

14 November Evening on Rangitoto Leave Okahu Bay at 4pm for a paddle across to Rangitoto and a walk to the summit. Then enjoy a shared dinner by the wharf. BYO drink. Return around mid evening. Night light is required for the return trip.

Contact Trevor Arthur, tel 817 7357.

~~**15 November (Sunday): Picnic at the Manukau Heads.** The second of two possible dates. Details are the same as for 31 October, but we'll probably reverse the itinerary, (landing at South Head then Whatipu). Contact Colin Quilter 528 0747.~~

15 November Sea Bears Picnic

To celebrate 5 years since setting up Paddling Perfection, we are having a get together for Sea Bear and Paddling Perfection kayak owners. Meet at Auckland Canoe Centre Adventures, Sea Kayak Dock, Waiwera Holiday Park, Waiwera (past the hot pools) at 9am, to start paddling 9.30ish. Paddlers can make a choice of morning destinations and paddling speeds but the aim is to converge on Wenderholm for lunch, then return to Waiwera for a hot swim and barbecued nibbles (courtesy of Paddling Perfection) afterwards. A discounted concession is available for the pools (\$11 per person). How many Sea Bears can we raft up together?? Join the fun with the buried treasure hunt. For more information please contact Peter Sommerhalder or Mike Hayes at Auckland Canoe Centre Ph 815-2073, Ron and Nancy Augustin Ph 818-7241, or Glyn Dickson at Paddling Perfection Ph 818-7380.

15 November Tiri Tiri Matangi An ASKNET trip. Meet at 9.30 for a 10 am departure from Army Bay. Head across to this magnificent island for a day of exploration by foot or kayak.

Contact Kevin or Debbie Dunsford tel 410 3696.

21 November Sea Kayak Race 5 km and 10 km courses. Meet outside our downstairs Clubroom (behind Fergs Kayaks on the ramp) at 8 am for registration, briefing and

handicapping. Everyone is welcome, regardless of ability or type of sea kayak. There'll be a barbecue afterwards. Cost is \$5.

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

22 November 100th Albatross Celebration Calling all Albatross. Come along for a 100th Albatross celebration at 9.30am at Okahu Bay, behind Fergs. More details later. Contact Grant Stone 473 6658.

27/28/29 November Tiri Tiri Matangi Island Join us for the legendary annual Auckland Canoe Club trip to this lovely island and stay in the 16 bed lodge. First come best dressed, so register your interest with Trevor asap, tel 817 7357.

29 November Weiti River Matt Grant is planning to repeat his gentle paddle along the Weiti River from Arkles Bay to Silverdale. Meet at Arkles Bay at 12.30pm for a 1 pm departure, and you should be back by 5 pm.

Contact Matt on 524 2108.

29 November Te Kapa River An ASKNET trip. Meet at 11am at the Auckland Canoe Centre Sea Kayak Dock at the Waiwera Holiday Park. Be on the water at 11.30am to take advantage of the 4pm tide.

Contact Peter or Mike at Auckland Canoe Centre tel 815 2073.

Saturday mornings on the Manukau Who is interested in joining Trevor for a paddle on the Manukau Harbour on a Saturday? He would love to hear from you, tel 817 7357.

Midweek paddling We've heard that there are a number of Club members who would be interested in a midweek daytime paddle, but it hasn't yet been possible to get you all together. So if this sounds like you, why don't you get in touch with your Editor and I will try to coordinate something or find you a suitable leader. I'm contactable on 575 3099.

REGULAR EVENTS

Evening paddles occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5.30pm from Okahu Bay. With daylight saving we're expecting numbers to increase from the winter lows. 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.

Organised Club Sunday morning paddles from Okahu Bay don't seem to be drawing much of a crowd these days so we've decided to can them until the summer.

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

Obituary - June Bugbee

It was with much sorrow that we received a phone call from Laurie on Monday 12 October, telling us his wife June had died. Her three month battle with cancer was finally over.

Most Canoe Club members knew June from her involvement at the Cambridge to Hamilton and Clevedon Caper Races. She was the person who prepared the soup the day before and was found cooking the sausages and buttering the bread usually with the help of her extended family, when tired paddlers arrived at the end.

At her Service last Thursday, the family friend who conducted it, commented that although Lauries interest in canoeing was very strong, he had never seen June in a canoe. At this, Nancy Augustin turned to me and we said quietly in unison "We did!" On 17th June 1990, not long after Laurie arrived triumphantly home with a 2nd hand orange "Southern Light" on his roofrack, June condescended to give paddling a try. Laurie duely created a comfortable padded seat to fit into the centre luggage compartment and June was taken on an Auckland Canoe Club cruise from Waiwera across to Saddle Island for a picnic, followed by a gentle paddle back to Te Muri and Wenderholm then along the coast to Waiwera. It was a very calm, warm day with crystal clear water. The conditions couldn't have been better. I think June enjoyed the trip, but still decided she preferred to support the Club from a distance rather than on the water.

June was a badminton player in her leisure and was devoted to her animals. The aviaries of Goulian finches she bred while she lived in Duncan Avenue, as well as her four cats, goldfish and Munro the dog, all confirmed this. She lived in Canada for many years, returning to New Zealand with her four young sons after her marriage dissolved. She was managing very well when, nearly 30 years ago, Laurie, together with son Bruce and daughter Helen appeared on the scene and swept her off her feet. At the time of her death, she was the proud grandmother of 16 grandchildren and one great grandson.

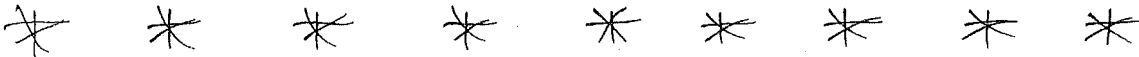
I am sure all Canoe Club members join in sending Laurie and his family our most sincere condolences.

Su Sommerhalder

DIPS N DUNKS

Your Editor

My name is Julia Thorn and I can be reached at 14 Paurui St, St Heliers, tel 575 3099. Give me a call or drop me a line when you have something to tell or ask. How about a trip report or suggestions for improving the Newsletter?

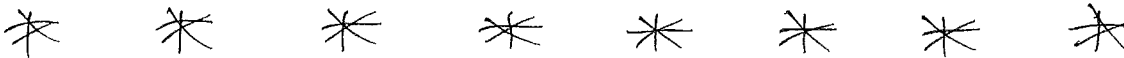


Are you a current member? Have we got your details correct?

Please take a close look at the address label on your newsletter. At the right-hand end of the label we have printed our record of your home phone number, (so we can ring you up occasionally to let you know of events which are not advertised in the newsletter), and the words "Current" or "Lapsed" which indicates whether or not you have paid this year's subscription.

**PLEASE ADVISE US IF YOUR ADDRESS OR
PHONE NUMBER ARE INCORRECT.**

And if your membership has lapsed, well you know the solution. Send \$25 for a Senior membership, \$30 for a Family, to the Treasurer, PO Box 3523, Auckland. That way your newsletter will keep coming; without it, it won't!



For Sale

Wing Blade paddle \$120. Call Matt Grant 524 2108.

X Factor

Paddling Perfection's new sea kayak is fully in production and intended as a fast responsive boat for strong or less strong paddlers, with a low profile and good stability. Available in kevlar or fibreglass. More info can be obtained from Paddling Perfection tel 818 7380.d

First Aid course

Positively Outdoors are running a 2 day certificated first aid course which was last year enjoyed by a number of ASKNET members. The certificate lasts for 2 years. Details are:

Course Fee:	\$120
Dates:	Sat/Sun December 5/6
Venue:	Silvern Park Den,
Contact:	Christine McLeod, Ph: 846 2123

If you want an independent opinion on this course contact Matt Crozier tel 276 7049 or Matt Grant 524 2108.

Administration Bay, Motutapu

By Roger Lomas

Friday morning late September and a group of keen Club members are busy packing their kayaks on the ramp at Okahu Bay. This is the vanguard for the Club trip to Administration Bay.

Trip leader and Club President Trevor leads us out through the gaps in the wave screen and down the Rangitoto channel. A strong southwest squall behind us a flood tide make good surfing waves. I learnt a lesson herein not allowing sufficient sea room for other kayakers in these conditions. My beloved Barracuda suffered the indignity of being pecked at by an angry Albatross. A quick stop at the island by the Rangitoto lighthouse for a duct tape bandaid and then more surfing all the way to Admin Bay.

All ashore and its up to the lodge and the big decision of which room to take. It was down to am or pm sunshine and clothesline or sea views. Not wishing to view Trevor's undies in the breeze I chose the afternoon sunshine and sea views.

Dinner that night was about five people trying to cook separate meals on four gas hobs. Ray was involved in a marathon effort of hob hopping as he prepared his famous chicken rissole dinner. Breakfast was a breeze when one enormous frying pan was used to cook bacon and eggs for everyone.

The remainder of our weekend group, the Friday nighters, had wisely waited until Saturday morning and when they had arrived, unpacked and refuelled it was all off to the Noises. This little group of islands out past Rakino is within easy reach when you are based at Admin Bay. On the way some said they were feeling slightly queasy from the greasy breakfast and Margaret, Trevor and Gordon were quick to get the trolling gear out in anticipation of a burley trail to work in. Margaret hooked one without the aid of the burley.

A pleasant hour or so was spent around the back of the Noises, well sheltered from the southwest winds. Dave P did a disappearing act in his Sabre up a very narrow cave. Matt G investigated a suspicious package on a rock (Will we read about it next week in the Herald?).

A small sheltered cove appeared and it was lunchtime, after which we called in at the main beach to visit the cottage, and noted that it was in a tidy condition. The sea was starting to rough up and it was a brisk paddle back butting into the squally seas. As we neared Admin Bay our thoughts were on some nice hot showers and then the pot luck dinner planned for the evening.

A well coordinated kitchen routine this time and the Club's usual high standard of cuisine was soon being enjoyed. Margaret's fresh fish disappeared in the first course. We all politely declined Gordon's Nutella delight and moved on to a superb baked lasagne that Dave M served. Curries, stirfries, salads and an amazing repertoire of disgusting jokes served up by Dave P made for a fun evening.

After a quick clean up next morning it was back to the big smoke. Ryan, Gordon and I, not keen to hurry back, chose the longer scenic route via Billy Goat Point and Home Bay. On arriving at Okahu Bay we were surprised to find most of the early group lingering in the warm mid afternoon sun reluctant to go home from a wonderful weekend. Out came the snacks and flasks and mugs and we sat there planning the next trip away.

Be In The Draw To Win

THE EXTRAORDINARY NEW



From: PADDLING PERFECTION

SIMPLY: Purchase a new Paddling Perfection sea kayak by Christmas 1998 from any Paddling Perfection kayak retailer, and you'll be in the draw to win a fabulous new Kevlar X Factor! All kayaks ordered and paid for by 24/12/98 qualify.

FINEST QUALITY HANDCRAFTED KAYAKS.

Who did what where...

September was a busy month for many Canoe Club members.

Laurie celebrated his 71st birthday.

Nicky Wylder went to England to be "Mother of the Groom" at her son's wedding.

Rona Patterson also went to England where she was present at the birth of her grandson.

Liz and Peter Godfrey went to Australia to be "Parents of the Bride" when daughter Catherine married.

Heidi Lewis (Sommerhalder) visited NZ after an absence of four years together with husband Steve and baby Alex to help Peter and Su celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary and Su celebrate her 50th birthday.

Club Nights

The arrival of daylight saving brings to an end the current format for our Club Nights. The series of talks with slide shows was a great success, and a big Thank You to all the Club members and their friends for supporting the evenings. The thunderous applause at the end of each talk was a true indication of our enjoyment and a big Thank You to our guest speakers: Kevin and Colin for the expedition talk taking us up around the western and northernmost extremities of the North Island, Pelham for the journey back in time, and finally to Laurie and Peter who made us scratch and squirm as they told of the perils of the wild Canadian wilderness.

Next winter's talks are already being pencilled in and in order to maintain the high standards of the evenings "Picnic on the Puhoi" has been put aside to allow for talks on trips to Alaska, Australia and the Great Auckland Canoe Club trip the the South Island (1960s).

Thanks to all the helpers, especially Rona and Trevor, and a huge Thank You to our famous chef Wolfgang and his De Niro's Restaurant in Mount Eden village.

Roger Lomas and Ray Clark

Sea Kayak Races

The Club's sea kayak races are going well and we have now held four.

Recent convert to the sport Neal Wilson was surprised to discover that a Sea Quest could compete with top of the line performance kayaks like the Sabre, with the inclusion of a simple handicapping system. Racing Rona is back and ready to take on Grant Stone's new high speed Mustang. Matt Grant fresh from his race director and BBQ duties at the last race is keen to be back on the water in his Slingshot to duel with the likes of Ray Clark in the famous yellow Puffin. The catch is that Matt must beat Ray by at least 8 minutes in a 10 km race to claim a victory.

It's all good fun and run on a selection of coastal courses that put sea kayakers in their element. Come on down even if it's just for a cuppa or to help run the barbecue.

You'll have seen details of upcoming races in the Calendar - next ones planned for Nov 7 and Nov 21.

Roger Lomas

- >Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson went on a camping trip. As they lay down for the night, Holmes said: "Watson, look up and tell me what you see."
- >Watson: "I see millions and millions of stars."
- >Holmes: "And what does that tell you?"
- >Watson: "Astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Theologically, it tells me that God is great and that we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it tells me that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you?"
- >Holmes: "Somebody stole our tent."



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.