



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2000

Another year. Another century. Hope you're all having a good one so far. Hope you all had a good Christmas - seems a long time ago now, doesn't it?

It's great to get back into the swing of things and I'm sure you're all looking forward to lots of paddling.

If you're doing your paddling in Club kayaks, please remember to respect them. I've been hearing some awful tales about boats being dragged over the ground from the boat shed to the water. Remember, our spies are everywhere.

Please also could you be aware that boat hire is not the primary objective of our Club. What I mean by this is that you are only supposed to hire our boats a couple of times, while getting used to the idea of kayaking, and then you should really get your own boat. Club hire is not intended to be a long term proposition. Apart from anything else this puts too much strain on our fleet.

Also you'll be aware that Committee members who help out with hireage and also spend a considerable amount of time repairing and generally maintaining the kayaks are only volunteers and are not at your continual beck and call. No, Bruce cannot be at the boatshed to help you get your boat out, and no, he cannot come to your house to deliver your chosen craft. Contrary to some beliefs, the Club does not possess a trailer which can be used to transport boats around.

We have decided to change the hire system slightly. The new system is that full payment must be made to Bruce Bugbee before hire is possible. Full payment must be made to secure a booking - this does not apply to Club nights - more on that later. You can phone Bruce first to ensure a kayak is available tel 570 1134. This is his work phone number, so please no calls in the evening or at weekends. His address for remittances is 1 Mason St, New Lynn.

On Club nights hire is still on a first come best dressed basis with payment to be left in the shed. However please do not hog your favourite boat too much, and regard use of Club boats as an interim measure only.

Hire rates have been simplified as follows:

* Club nights \$5 per seat.

* Saturday- anytime finishing before noon \$10 for the duration, anytime starting after noon \$10 for the duration. If your hire crosses noon then you pay \$20 for a full day, no exceptions.

On sea swim escort days - Feb 20 and March 12 this year, all boats are reserved for swim escort purposes.

Yours in paddling

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Bugbee'.

Dawning of the new Millennium By Rona Patterson

Auckland Canoe Club members, families and friends started arriving at the clubrooms from 9 pm on Friday 31 December 1999 with kayaks, bedrolls, food, drink streamers and anything else deemed necessary to see in the new millennium. Some of us had planned to base ourselves in the clubhouse and walk to other venues during the night, but the weather played havoc with most of these plans. The next 12 hours were spent centred on Okahu Bay.

We were not alone. Thousands and thousands of people moved into the area and propped themselves wherever suited best. A Waka was sitting proudly on the beach waiting for the dawn and two maori were taking much pride guarding it, each armed with a taiaha.

The weather continued to be so bad that most of us had decided it would be foolhardy to even consider taking our kayaks out to join the flotilla at four in the morning. At around 11.30 pm we strolled to the western end of the boat ramp and watched the magnificent fireworks display. I have since heard from others that the display was not visible from many of Auckland's vantage points, so we were indeed fortunate.

It was now the year 2000 and we returned to the clubrooms, wet and bedraggled, to get some sleep. Wrong! More people were arriving, food and drink appeared, and the party began. It was 2.30 am before people started creeping into their sleeping bags but sleep was elusive for most. All of a sudden the word was out that the wind and rain had dropped and the race was on to get boats onto the water. More club members had joined us and we set off on what was an almost eerie experience, paddling over to Torpedo Bay in the silent darkness. Any craft coming near us, stopped - even the Quick Cat.

More paddlers joined the group at Torpedo Bay, and in the dark we were not to know who they were. By this time our group was very large and we headed around North Head to wait for the Waka. We waited, and waited. It was daylight and we were still waiting. The Waka did not appear, so we hastened back across the harbour.

There in front of us were hundreds of craft lining the outside of the wind break and guns were being fired from Bastion Point. By this time I was overcome by the whole experience - we were so tiny beside the other craft and it was silent all around. We slid through between all manner of craft and moved right up, almost to the beach. *What a sight!* Thousands and thousands of people, a haka in process, speeches, maori in ceremonial dress, and then the sun peeped over the hill and remained out for about ten minutes. (Wouldn't you know it - a magical moment and no camera)

Once it was all over there was nowhere to land. Our boat ramp was a seething mass of people - right down to the water. However, once they had gone, it was time for us to get the barbecue fired up and start yet another celebration.

What a night!

What a celebration!

What a club!

New e - group

Auckland Sea Kayakers Internet Discussion List

An email discussion list called 'Auckland Sea Kayakers', pertaining particularly to sea kayaking in the Auckland area, for sea kayakers in the Auckland Sea Kayak Network (ASKNet) and the Auckland Canoe Club has been created on the Internet. As a member of either of these organisations, you are invited to subscribe to this list. This has been done using eGroup.com and will make it very much easier for communication amongst sea kayakers.

A discussion list provides for email communication between all subscribers on the list. Any member can post a message to the list, and that message will be sent (or optionally made available) to all list subscribers. Any member can send a reply back to the list which is again sent to all members. All messages are available on the Auckland Sea Kayakers website:

<http://www.egroups.com/group/auckland-kayakers>

Another major facility is the events calendar. All trips are posted on the calendar at the Auckland Sea Kayakers website. Any member can view the calendar and view a list of upcoming events. An reminder for some trips will be automatically sent to all subscribers a couple of days before the event (so you know what's happening on the weekend).

There are a number of other benefits such as on-line chat or talk with members, poll surveys, a library of relevant files, and links to other websites. There is no charge for all this however egroup.com gets its payback by allowing advertising (although this does not seem to be intrusive).

We do hope you decide to subscribe to the Auckland Sea Kayakers community and enjoy meeting fellow kayakers on-line, as well as on the water. You can do this by sending a blank email to this address

auckland-kayakers-subscribe@egroups.com

or visit the Auckland Sea Kayakers information page (<http://www.egroups.com/group/auckland-kayakers/info.html>) and press the Subscribe button.

Happy paddling,
Matt Crozier and Vincent Maire.

DIPS N DUNKS

Your Editor

My name is Julia Thorn and I can be reached at 447A Riddell Road, Glendowie, 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?

Lost thermos

Rona has mislaid her stainless steel thermos, either during the Tiri trip or at the Clubrooms on New Years Eve. If anyone knows where it is please contact Rona on 834 3399 or 302 1355 (w) as she would like it back.

CALENDAR FEB - MAR

Just a reminder Please can you make an effort to contact trip leaders before you pack up your stuff to go on a trip.

20 Feb Swim escort number three from Mechanics Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club. Meet at Okahu Bay clubrooms at 6.45 am. Yes it's early but you're needed.

We are on the water at 7.15 am to paddle up to meet the swimmers at Fergussons Wharf. We will escort them down to Tamaki yacht Club then paddle back for a barbecue (any excuse will do) and a latte at Fergs cafe next door. See, we're getting civilised.

Please please ring Trevor with numbers available and hire boats required. Tel 817 357.

26 Feb Browns Island Come over to Browns Island for lunch. Meet at Okahu Bay at 8.30 for a 9am departure.

Leader is Rona Patterson, tel 834 3399.

25/26/27 Feb Alderman Islands encore Please contact the leader for information - Justin, tel 278 8090.

27 Feb Paddle the Bays See Roger's note about this on a later page.

March 5, Sunday. Picnic at Puketutu Island. Join us for morning tea on one of the Manukau Harbour's nicest (and least-visited) beaches. Access is only possible for small boats at high tide. Meet at 9.30am on the waterfront reserve at the intersection of Goodall and Frederick Streets, Hillsborough. Bring a thermos and something nice from the hot bread shop. Paddling time is about 40 minutes each way; we'll be back by mid-day. In fine weather this trip is suitable for novices; if it's windy, ring Colin Quilter 630 2219 between 6.30 and 8.30am on Sunday morning for confirmation.

12 March Rangitoto swim escort This is swim escort number 4, biggest and best, from Rangitoto to St Heliers, and over one thousand swimmers anticipated.

We need over 60 kayaks. Beg or borrow an extra kayak and bring your competent friends along. Trevor is sure there are doubles sitting under houses and catching plums as they drop from trees. We need them on the water.

Option 1: Saturday. Meet at Okahu Bay at 5pm Saturday 11th. Paddle over to Rangi bach for a shared dinner. Sleep in the mozzie free zone of the bach or opt for the great outdoors and be treated to the sunrise for an alarm clock as you snooze on the kiosk verandah.

Option 2: Meet at St Heliers beach western end at 9 am Sunday for a 9.30 departure for a group crossing, or come earlier for breakfast.

Please ring Trevor 817 7357 to confirm numbers and placement of extra bums in seats. Also let him know if you have a spare kayak with no bum in its seat yet.

17 March Coastbusters Extensive info about this event further on in this Newsletter

25/26 March Wet 'n' Wild Waiwera An annual event in its second year. Features a selection of long and short courses to be raced on the first day, followed by a day of sprint races. Starts at the Waiwera holiday park. There will be excellent spot prizes and medals for race placegetters.

Entry forms are almost out. You can contact Auckland Canoe Centre for further details tel 815 2073.

8 April Surprise come out for a morning's paddle with Rona. Meet at the bottom of Beach Road, Te Atatu Peninsula, at 8am for 8.30 departure. This is a morning trip, with a stop for morning tea at Point Chevalier and you'll be home for lunch. Ideal for the kayaker who doesn't want to go too far.

Contact Rona Patterson, tel 834 3399.

CLUB NIGHT PADDLES remain unchanged - Tuesdays and Thursdays at Okahu Bay at 5.30pm.

Sea Kayak Racing

By Roger Lomas

Our Saturday morning Sea Kayak racing series will get underway in Autumn but at the end of this month there is a good event right at our club doorstep that we can all enter.

It's called Paddle around the Bays and is run by Rod Lewis and his wife Carol. The race is open to all forms of paddle powered craft which means the fast K1 and Multisport Kayaks will be there as well as Outrigger Craft. But it is also ideally suited for our single and double Sea Kayaks as most of the course is on the harbour.

Starting and finishing on the beach at Judges Bay the 16km course runs along the coast to St Heliers and back with a short loop in Hobson Bay to make up the distance. A large part of the course will be familiar to our regular Saturday series paddlers.

Good trophies are presented to the winners in the various categories and yes there will be awards for both single and double Sea Kayaks. A tasty BBQ with something cool to drink is part of the entry fee and everyone has a chance to win one of the many spot prizes.

The race is on Sunday 27th February, starting at 1pm and you can enter on the day for \$15 (no late fee). Everyone starts together and its a good value for money event that some of the other race organisers could learn a lesson from.

Entry forms at Kayak Shops.

The Waiheke Island House and Land Giveaway

By shopping at the Auckland Canoe Centre you get a chance to win



valued at up to \$400 000

Tel. 815 2073

Coastbusters 2000

Sea Kayak Symposium

Programme and Registration Form

The eighth Coastbusters Sea Kayak Symposium will differ from previous events. It emphasises practical sea kayaking, it is more relaxed and informal and Sunday will be spent on the water visiting Motuora Island.

It is also limited to just 100 delegates.



When: Friday evening to Sunday afternoon
March 17th to 19th, 2000.

Where: Puriri Park, Orewa plus Sunday at
Motuora Island in the Mahurangi

Theme: Practical sea kayaking with an
emphasis on risk management,
making and doing things, planning,
going places plus demonstrations
in the pool.

For more information please visit our web site
www.coastbusters.co.nz

Inquiries - After Hours Only ♦ Rebecca (09) 473 0661 ♦ Kerry (09) 478 9952



VENUE

The venue this year is Puriri Park Holiday Complex at the north end of Centreway Road in Orewa. It is a lovely, peaceful location, with bush walks and a dairy/takeaway. It is only a short drive from Auckland now that the motorway goes all the way to Orewa. Delegates have the option of commuting, or staying in the Park.

Puriri Park has a modern conference centre for our slide presentations and workshops, as well as a bar and dining area. A

feature of the Park is a 25 metre pool where we will have our practical demonstrations. There is also a large barn where home-built kayaks and other DIY goodies and gadgets will be on display.

Orewa itself offers a wonderful beach (5 minutes walk from the Park) and shopping areas. It is strategically situated near the beautiful Mahurangi region and only a short drive to Sullivans Bay where we will depart for Motuora Island on the Sunday.

COST

There is a flat charge for Coastbusters 2000 of \$89 per person. This covers: all symposium activities, including morning tea and lunch on Saturday, and dinner Saturday evening, plus the barbecue on Motuora Island. There is no daily or event rate - one charge fits all!

Please note too that you are responsible for your own breakfasts Sat/Sun, and your own accommodation. Tent sites are available at Puriri Park (no booking required) for \$10 per night. Cabins may also be booked, phone (09) 426 6396.

Payments for camping, and cabin bookings/payments must be made directly with Puriri Park management. You must check into the Puriri Park Office when you arrive, and indicate that you are attending Coastbusters. Then check in with us at the Conference Centre where you will receive your name tag plus your Saturday evening dinner ticket, plus further information.

Coastbusters is a non-profit, incorporated society dedicated to promoting safe sea kayaking.

For more information please visit our web site

www.coastbusters.co.nz

Inquiries - After Hours Only ♦ Rebecca (09) 473 0661 ♦ Kerry (09) 478 9952

PROGRAMME

Friday Evening

Registrations/happy hour start at 6.00pm followed at 8.00pm by slide presentations by Max Grant and David Herrington on the Chatham Islands; followed by Ross Hickey and Donna Hammond on Stewart Island.

Saturday Workshops

- **The 'bugger file':** hear about near disasters, and what can be learnt. This session will be led by Colin Quilter, with Paul Caffyn and others.
- **Risk management:** how to avoid your premature obituary. An interactive workshop led by Cathye Haddock.
- **Cooking:** recipes, equipment and plenty of great ideas. Learn the tricks with Margaret Thwaites, Trish Maire, Nicola Wright and Ann Schofield.
- **Places to go:** secret locations, favourite spots, maps, information. With Clive Hookham and Matt Crozier.
- **Gear and gadgets:** be amazed. What to take on a trip, how to take it. With the famous Rebecca Heap.
- **Expedition planning:** what do you need to know, and how do you find out. Learn from the masters Paul Caffyn, Colin Quilter and others
- **DIY:** building your own sea kayak. The mysteries of stitch and tape. Also make your own paddle. Led by Dianne Michels who has built four kayaks.

Saturday Pool Demonstrations

All those things you wanted to see in action - self-rescues, assisted rescues, rolling, towing, safety gear, pumps, stirrups, sponsons and more. See the action pool-side! Orchestrated by Gerry Maire.

Saturday Evening

Conference dinner, plus slide presentation by Paul Caffyn on Greenland. Paul is possibly the world's greatest long-distance sea kayaker. He will talk about his recent trips with Conrad Edwards to the west coast of Greenland.

Sunday

All-day trip to lovely Motuora Island in the Mahurangi on Sunday.

(For this trip you must be a competent paddler, capable of paddling for over an hour at a time and against the wind. In good conditions paddle time is about 1 hour. The one way distance to



Motuora Island from Sullivans Bay is about 3 nautical miles, or 6 kilometres). Clive Hookham is marshal. Bring your own boat.

For more information please visit our web site

www.coastbusters.co.nz

Inquiries - After Hours Only ♦ Rebecca (09) 473 0661 ♦ Kerry (09) 478 9952

Registration Form

(No cheque no registration)

REGISTRATION

Please fill in the attached form (or the form on our Website) and send it to us, along with your cheque. No cheque, no booking. Since Coastbusters is limited to 100 delegates, bookings will be on a first in first served basis. Your registration will be confirmed when we have received your cheque.

Don't delay, post today!

WEBSITE www.coastbusters.co.nz

Check out our **wonderful website**, where you can also email a registration form, but you do still need to post your cheque to confirm your registration.

Registration Form.
Cut out and send to Coastbusters 2000, PO Box 155 Albany Village, Auckland.
(Please make sure you have the word 'village' in the address)

FIRST NAME.....

FAMILY NAME.....

POSTAL ADDRESS.....

HOME ADDRESS (if different).....

CONTACT NUMBERS:

Home.....Work.....Fax.....

EMAIL:.....TYPE OF BOAT.....

Please enclose cheque payable to Coastbusters for \$89

Full refunds will be given until 25 February. After that, 50% refund until 14 March.

For more information please visit our web site
www.coastbusters.co.nz

Inquiries - After Hours Only ♦ Rebecca (09) 473 0661 ♦ Kerry (09) 478 9952

The Ebb and Flow

By Roger Lomas

Our paddling padre has been called up. Father Neal Wilson is resuming his commission as army chaplain and is off to East Timor.

Fergs Kayaks has a new shop manager, David Oosterdijk, son of veteran Sea Kayaker Ron. He has settled in quickly and is on hand to help club members with our special club discounts. David was telling me that they now have the biggest selection of new and second hand Sea Kayaks on display in NZ.

Talking about new boats, Roy Meehan found a brand new slingshot under the Christmas Tree. The famous old red Nordkap has gone and Racing Roy is out to give a few of the younger hot shots a run for their money when our Sea Kayak racing series gets underway.

Another proud new boat owner is Jane Robinson who took possession of her X Factor when she returned from a UK holiday. Jane was often embarrassed by her old boat, a see through Looksha (there was nowhere to hide the moro bars).

Barracuda Sea Kayaks have started production at their huge new factory in Silverdale. Subtle improvements have been made to existing models and watch out for an exciting new model. Gordon Robinson heads the design and development team, which is also heavily involved in the production of ultra light helicopter componentry.

The globe trotting Brendan Smith is at it again. After a stint at Yak riding in Nepal he is now just back from a session with the high rollers at Vegas and I can't tell you about the Senoritas in Mexico. You will have to call into Canvas City to find out.

What was our well known suburban Canoe centre owner doing on his shop roof dressed in only underwear and a raincoat? Was he just being a flash retailer or was it some sort of kinky promotional stunt? Call in to find out and whilst you are there you can have a go at winning a Waiheke home.

The lovely Amanda Young and her luscious lime green Slingshot are off to the mainland. Back home to Nelson in fact.

We've all seen the new police boats zipping around the harbour, well now we have our own Kayak Cop. Brendan Greagon from the Avondale Crime Investigation Unit has joined our ranks. No stranger to Kayaks, Brendan already has a Coromandel Expedition under his baton and is a strong paddler who usually finishes near the front of the pack in our races.

Seen recently on the Coromandel. A Sea Kayaker (not a club member) camping with car and Kayak beside the no camping sign in the reserve at Opoutere. A huge campground is adjacent and the lodge with its campsites is just around the corner. It's our good name that's tarnished so this silly person can save himself \$10.

We can look forward to hearing from Margaret and Ray who have been checking out the South Island Scene for the last few months.

Ryan Whittle and Wal Gilmer who were last seen paddling out of Okahu Bay heading for Tauranga.

And I've heard a rumour that a group is planning to paddle to the Barrier via the remote Mokohinau Islands.
