



# Newsletter

# February 2004

Hello Folks,

An early Newsletter this month - because...

On the 15th February the Committee has arranged a Family Day as part of our Jubilee celebrations. (this was mentioned in the last Newsletter to give you warning).

On the 22nd February we have the 3rd of the Swim Escorts - always a great outing and one that attracts kayakers of ALL skill levels. Do come and support the Club, whilst meeting all those folks that are currently "Names Only".

*Ian*

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Deadline for next month's newsletter: 9 March 2004

# Useful phone numbers and addresses

<b>Club address</b>	23 Spinnaker Drive Te Atatu Peninsular, Auckland				
<b>President</b>	Matt Crozier	817 1984	<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Roger Lomas	579 8799
<b>Vice President</b>	Lindsay Sandes	522 3344	<b>Safety &amp; Training</b>	Ken Marsh	828 0701
<b>Patron</b>	Su Sommerhalder	815 2073	<b>Storage &amp; Club</b>		
<b>Secretary</b>	Rona Patterson	834 3399	<b>Kayaks</b>	Lindsay Sandes	522 3344
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Edwards	820-8115	<b>50th Anniversary:</b>	Peter Sommerhalder	815 2073
<b>Membership</b>	Matt Crozier	817 1984	<b>Vine House:</b>	Andrew Frances	021 142 4857
<b>Trips Officer</b>	Morgan Lewis	620 4005	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
	Morganl@xtra.co.nz			IanCalhaem@xtra.co.nz	

The Club maintains two e-mail groups:

To subscribe to the discussion list, send a blank e-mail to: [auckland-kayakers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:auckland-kayakers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)  
For event reminders, send a blank e-mail to: [auckland-canoe-club-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:auckland-canoe-club-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## Where can you go to get training?

### **Auckland Canoe Centre, phone 815 2073**

Basic confidence course, Henderson Pool, Tuesday evenings  
- \$120 for four sessions.

One-on-One rolling, Henderson Pool, Tuesday evenings  
- \$149 for three sessions. \$55 for single 90 minute lesson.  
Multisport Grade 2 Certificate, white water, sea kayaking  
one and two-day courses run frequently.

### **Canoe and Kayak, phone 479 1002**

Sea Kayaking intro course – Friday pool session, plus Sat/Sun  
9 – 5, \$230

Rolling sessions, Northcote College Pool - \$150 for four  
sessions.

White water, Multisport, Advanced Sea Kayaking, First aid and  
First aid refresher courses available.

### **Fergs Kayaks, phone 529 2230**

Basic paddling skills – paddle strokes, rescues – Sunday  
morning, Okahu Bay - \$30 for Club members.

Learn to roll, one-on one, heated pool - \$60 per hour.

White water, and Multisport River Racing courses also  
available.

### **George Gerard, phone 814 8989 (hm), 367 0959 (wk).**

Pool Training, Kelston Girls, Thursday evenings - \$95 for  
first three sessions, \$10 thereafter. Intro Sea Kayaking,  
White water, and Down River Racing courses on request  
– courses are designed to fit what the participants want  
- \$100 per day (approx), plus boat hire (\$10 / day)

### **Outdoor Discoveries Ltd, Chris Gulley, phone 813 3399**

Intro Skills \$155, overnight Ocean Kayaking Course  
\$245. Surfing Courses also available. Courses run by  
professional SKOANZ Assessors/Guides. Details on  
website [www.outdoordiscoveries.co.nz](http://www.outdoordiscoveries.co.nz)

### **Positively Outdoors, Liz Maire and Christine Mcleod, ph 473 0027, fax 473 0731.**

Two-day OSH certified outdoors first aid course - \$140

10% discount if four or more club members enrol for a course.

There are also a few club members that are experienced  
instructors and with a bit of encouragement (bribery  
and/or arm-twisting!) might be coaxed into giving a training  
session...

Ian Calhaem, Rebecca Heap, Ken Marsh, John Maynard,  
Mike Randall.

## Safety Policy for Club Trips.

- 1 Any Club member who has any doubt about whether or not their skills are sufficient for a particular trip MUST contact the trip leader ahead of time to discuss safety issues.
- 2 It is your responsibility to wear a buoyancy aid, to be suitably dressed for the conditions, and to carry any other personal safety equipment necessary for the trip.
- 3 You must make a realistic assessment that your strength and endurance are sufficient for whatever is planned.
- 4 You must be able to re-enter your kayak (with help from another paddler if necessary) after a capsized in deep water.
- 5 With night paddling it is everybody's responsibility to provide their own large lens flashlight, or fixed all-round white light on a one metre high pole, in working order and mounted on the outside of the kayak where it can be seen at all times.
- 6 Use a craft appropriate for the trip. A kayak with water-tight bulkheads is essential for open sea kayaking. Sit-on kayaks are usually too slow to be able to keep up with sea kayaks, therefore, are not recommended on trips planned for sea kayaks.

# Trips and Events Calendar

Remember to contact the trip leader before you set out. This is important because the leader needs to know the capabilities of those who are coming and to be able to contact you if the plan changes. Please be aware that you paddle on a Club trip at your own risk. Read the safety policy (page 2). If there is any chance that you may be a liability to the rest of the group or to the leader be sure to inform the leader of this before you set out.

## TRIP CANCELLATIONS

The Club is now using "Newstalk ZB" cancellation service. This can be listened to on 1080AM or 89.4FM.

The service runs on Saturday and Sunday from 7:00am.

This should eliminate the multitude of phone calls to trip leaders when the weather looks suspect.

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## Regular Evening Paddles

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Remember... you MUST have either an all-round white light on a pole, or else a large-lens (eg. Dolphin) torch, in good working condition, mounted on the outside of your kayak. This is actually a legal requirement, so, no light, no paddle. As discussed in a previous Newsletter, the Coastguard, do not recommend the use of flashing lights. It is apparently difficult to judge their distance and they are also used to signify danger. Also, it is advisable before going out on an evening paddle that you attend a basic skills course and ensure you are fit enough to be able to paddle for one hour.

All paddlers MUST provide their own night-lights. All skill levels welcome. Meet at Okahu Bay by 5:30pm, ready to be on the water by 5:45pm. An experienced paddler will be rostered on to look after new/novice/slow paddlers. Fitter and more-experienced paddlers can form their own group(s). Trips usually last 1 – 2 hours, destination dictated by tide, weather conditions and skill levels. Club boats can be hired at the subsidised rates of: \$5 to club members, and \$10 for non-members/guests. ( At all other times, Club boat hire is \$20/day or part day , for members and guests.)

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## NEW Saturday Morning Paddles

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**Saturdays Morning Coffee at Caf'e at Kohi.** Meet at Okahu Bay by 9am, all skill levels welcome. Paddle duration will be about 2 hours, a great chance for new/novice/slow paddlers to mix and mingle with older/ experienced club members. Club boats can be hired. **For more details please phone Morgan Lewis on 6204005 or email [morganl@xtra.co.nz](mailto:morganl@xtra.co.nz)**

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## February

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**6th February 2004-Rangitoto Evening BarBQ.** A 6pm departure from Narrow Neck beach for an easy ( 1hr Max) paddle to Mackenzies Bay by the lighthouse. Have a swim and then cook your steak & snarlars on my gas barBQ. There should be moonlight for the return journey-watch out for phosphorescence!. **NIGHT LIGHTS A MUST HAVE. Phone organiser, David Ward 4453639.**

**15th February - Family Day Sullivan's Bay, Mahurangi.** This is planned to be a great day for all. You don't even need to own a kayak! Bring something to share for lunch and plenty of water as it could be hot. - see details on page 4

**22nd February - Swim Escort.-** St Heliers Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club, Assemble 7:45am at St Heliers. 30-35 kayaks required. This is one of those events where the Club provides a sumtuous BBQ afterwards. See details on page 5.



**Lake Taupo Feb 23 -27** if anyone is interested contact me as this is a defininte and there are some beaut spots to see.We will be paddling right around but skipping some big bays such as kinloch so total paddle will be approx 130km and we will all go self sufficient as in food and tents etc. **Contact Evan Pugh ph 07 883 6898 [sheepskinsstuff@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sheepskinsstuff@xtra.co.nz)**

**28 - 29 February, A Jubilee Event.** An overnight trip North of Whangarei, starting from Tutukaka on Saturday morning, traveling north to the Doc campground at Whananaki for Saturday night, and return to Tutukaka Sunday. The distance is only about 15km in a straight line on the map, but the rocky coastline make's this a full days paddle. Can get some big swells coming into the Harbour entrance at Tutukaka if its not suitable, then Whangarei Harbour is about 20km drive away as an alternative. **Contact Ryan Whittle 4192672 (H) or 6303554 (W).**

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# Jubilee News

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So far over 60 members and friends of the Auckland Canoe Club have registered and are keen to participate in different Jubilee activities.

## **Family Day at Sullivans Bay**

February 15th - meet at Sullivans Bay, Mahurangi Regional Park, from 11 am. Bring your kayak and a shared lunch. Relax at the beach and paddle across to Vine House for a visit. This event is suitable for non-paddlers. Look for more information in this newsletter.



## **Jubilee Dinner**

Mark Saturday, 22 May, in your calendar NOW. The Jubilee dinner will be at Romfords Restaurant, Tamaki Yacht Club. Tickets will be available from late February. Final arrangements and menus are being discussed now.

## **Whanganui River Trip**

This will make a great finale for our Jubilee Year and will take place in *November* this year. It will give us more time to organise it properly. Our trip calendar for late summer already offers a variety of trips.

## **Jubilee Publication**

The club committee agreed to proceed with a Jubilee Publication. Debbie Dunsford will be interviewing founder members of the club and "dig" for club history.

## **More activities**

Trips to destinations where the Auckland Canoe Club used to go will be on our calendar. Orakei Korako has been suggested. We welcome more suggestions and would like volunteers to take us to unforgettable places.

## **Peter Sommerhalder**

Auckland Canoe Centre  
502 Sandringham Road,  
Sandringham,  
Auckland 1003  
New Zealand  
Phone: (09) 815-2073  
Fax: (09) 815-2074  
Email: ACC@kayak.co.nz  
www.kayak.co.nz

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## Swim Escorts 2004

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Date	Event
<u>Sunday</u> <u>22nd</u> <u>February</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>EAGLE TECHNOLOGY BAYS SWIM</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Heliers Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club</li> <li>• Assemble 7.45am @ St Heliers</li> <li>• Start 8.15am</li> <li>• Tide 9.52am</li> <li>• <b>30-35 kayaks required</b></li> </ul>
<u>Sunday</u> <u>28th</u> <u>March</u> <u>2004</u>	<u>EAGLE TECHNOLOGY RANGITOTO SWIM 4.45k</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rangitoto to St.Heliers Bay</li> <li>• Assemble 8.30am @ St Heliers</li> <li>• Depart <i>for Rangitoto</i> 9am</li> <li>• Start 10.15am</li> <li>• Tide 12.26pm</li> <li>• <b>55-60 kayaks required</b></li> </ul>



The Auckland Volunteer Coastguard controls operations for the swim escorts on the water, and has stipulated minimum numbers of kayaks to be available before events will proceed. So now it is more important than ever for us to have your support for these events.

Because the distances are small and the pace very slow, there are no other trips the club does that are more suitable for novices. Our job on the water is to guide swimmers if they veer too far off course and to flag down a roaming rubber boat if a swimmer needs to come out - simple! And it's a great social occasion to meet many other paddlers. Not to mention that the income we receive (based on kayak numbers) helps us keep your subs so low!

**Please make sure you ring Matt Crozier 817 1984, even just to leave a message, if you intend to come. This will help avoid a panic!**

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## Coastbusters 2004

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A small group of keen kayakers have been meeting over the winter months to plan the tenth Coastbusters Sea Kayak Symposium. This great event will take place over the weekend of March 5 to 7 and once again the venue is Puriri Park at Orewa, with the Sunday paddle at Sullivans Bay.

Guest speakers include world-renowned sea kayaker and author **John Dowd**. Born in NZ, John has spent most of his life in Vancouver and his on-water journeys include expeditions through the Caribbean and the Indonesian archipelago. He is also founding editor of *Sea Kayaker* magazine. Also from North America is **Shawn Baker**, an ACA kayak instructor from Montana and a member of Qajaq USA, a club devoted to Greenland style kayaks. Shawn will be demonstrating Greenland paddling and rolling techniques in the pool.

The event will open on Friday evening with long distance solo sea kayaker **Kerry Howe** giving a presentation on Pacific exploration and settlement. Kerry is a professor of History at Massey University, the author of a number of books including the highly acclaimed *The Quest for Origins*, and a world authority on the those intrepid maritime explorers, the Austronesians.

Workshop presenters include **Steve Levett** on navigation; **Steve Knowles** on weather; **Dr Mark Johnston** on health and injury prevention; **John Kirk-Anderson** on risk management and the KASK Bugger File; **Gerry Maire** on paddles and paddling techniques plus a presentation on the new KASK proficiency award and a showcase of DIY kayaks.

The programme will be circulated as widely as possible and will be posted on the Events page on the KASK website ([www.kask.co.nz](http://www.kask.co.nz)) in mid-December. KASK members receive a sizeable discount.

The event is limited to 120 participants and bookings will be on a first in first served basis.

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## Lockup Security

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Great to see the club kayaks being used during this summer period. A few tips to assist with general security and hire

- 4 singles & 1 double are available to club members, including spray decks, PDF's and paddles
- singles attract a set hire rate of \$20 per day, double \$30 per day. Hourly rates do not apply.
- complete the intention book for all hire stating your name, tel number, kayak number and where you intend going.
- this assists in the event of any general emergency relating to kayakers
- leave hire fees in a marked envelope in the security box situated on the wall beside the paddles.
- please pay for each hire - this is an honesty system
- wash all gear before storing away at conclusion of trip.

### Letter to Editor

Hi Guys,

I am very concerned regarding the security of the club, and other members equipment in the locker/garage. 4 times in the past 2 weeks I have had occasion to go to the locker only to find it unlocked, and yesterday (Sunday) late afternoon found the rollup door open, and it was obvious by the amount of rain that had driven in that it had been open for long time. There was no-one, nor cars around. This afternoon at 5.00pm I went back to find it unlocked again!!!!!!?????

Any suggestions, I think whoever is leaving it open does not know how to close the lock again. Three boats were out to-night, but these may not necessarily be the careless party.

Regards

Philip

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## Stolen Kayaks

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Hi

Can you help me? My kayak was stolen from my car port at 9 Aroha Ave some time between mid day on the 26<sup>th</sup> and some time on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

It is a very bright lemon Looksha purchased from Fergs about 3.5 years ago. Distinguishing features:

- I used a loop of black Velcro to hold the tiller down.
- It did not have the IV on it that a lot of Lookshas I have seen have.
- It black deck bag – in there was my very expensive dive torch
- On the front I had a home made sale fitting.

It had knee rests in it that were not appropriate for the boat. Impossible to use unless your leg was squished flat against the bottom of the boat.

It would not have been easy to steal as it weights around 27 kilos. If you have seen anything or know where it is can you contact me (Alissa) on 021 608 448 or 846 2622?

Thanks Alissa

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## More Stolen Kayaks

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Some time between Friday morning last and Monday evening, some "lowlife" broke into the **Whitewater Canoe Club HQ Christchurch** and stole a selection of polo boats and gear.

Specifically

- 4 Q-Kayak Cyclones- Red or Black with "MCPA" inscribed in the deck
- 3 Q-Kayak Combatts- probably Red, Orange or Yellow with UCC inscribed in the decks
- 3 Perception Acrobats- Red or Yellow also marked UCC
- Up to 5 Down Under Freestyle Buoyancy Aids- yellow/purple, blue/magenta or purple/black all marked in felt pen with either "UCC" or "MCPA"
- Up to 5 paddles also inscribed with either "UCC" or "MCPA"

Please keep an eye out at local waterways, beaches, second hand stores etc for any sign of these & let either myself or the Police know the details.

Thanks Murray (phone 03 980 2354)

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## Merchandise

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The club has an excellent range of merchandise available with club logo. Assist the club by supporting this initiative

- short sleeve cotton t shirts \$20
- caps \$20
- long sleeve poly props - excellent for all year usage \$35
- sleeveless vests \$25

Call Lindsay for size, colour options 021 895 940

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## A drop of culture for lovers of the Waitemata Harbour.

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*Renowned New Zealand poet, Sarah Quigley, has given permission for this poem to appear in our newsletter. It draws reference to Waitemata Harbour, which is of course the place we love.*

**To Waitemata Harbour**

You have such  
clever hands.

You hold the islands  
on the tips of your  
fingers, lightly so

you never submerge  
them. Firmly enough that  
they don't float away.

If a person could hold  
another person like that -  
well, then

there would only be  
love.

To satisfy publishers:

This poem appears in Essential New Zealand Poems, selected by Lauris Edmond & Bill Sewell. The book was published in 2001 by Random House, New Zealand.

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## Reflections on the Gentle Art of Rock Gardening

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Wafting on a swell up a rock face and then back into the suck-hole, waiting for the next one while being jostled and buffeted by the surrounding white water or getting out quick. Eyes and mind never still, you're having a ball.

Then its looking through a chute reading the water at the other end and sliding through an impossible gap depending on the incoming wave to make it work.

On top of a rock, falling, stabbing with the paddle hoping it doesn't break then letting it go because you've grabbed at the rock with your hands instead and realizing you shouldn't have but your buddy is right there.

In line astern through gaps, around the sharp bits, all the while watching warily and measuring the conditions and yourself and still keeping an eye on each other and being ready to assist. Sharing the moment, showing you can do it.

A big one comes. You turn quick enough to face it but the boat still stands on its end. The next one pushes you sideways, skittering you towards a rock wall. You hope the cushion of water will minimize the impact while you keep the kayak between yourself and the hard bits.

You've had one of those moments that prove you are still alive but you back off for a while to get over it. Where is life without them.

[Brian.Strid@bluescopesteel.com]



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### Advertisement

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Hi Ian

I hope you are well. I kayak occasionally but don't have time for trips much now although I went up the Omaha River with a friend today and am going to Kawau Is. on Tues. I am actually putting my house up for sale this week, and hoping to return to England permanently by June or July to be with friends and family . Kevin the kayak will be coming with me to go on cold trips on the murky river Hamble near Southampton !!. I wonder if you could put a for sale notice in the newsletter as I will be selling lots of furniture, whiteware and bric a brac, such as beds, drawers, settee and many other things. Most of these are only 2 or 3 years old. If anyone is starting a new home or second home there may be some bargains to be had.

Phone Sue Bunce on 09 425 6399 in Snells Beach

Regards Sue Bunce Wings & Waves B&B, 25 Fidelis Avenue Snells Beach Warkworth NZ

Ph (0064) 09 425 6399 Mob 025 403 299 UK Mobile (July to Sept) 07812 070475

email: pinkperil@xtra.co.nz

**Deadline for next month's newsletter: 9 March 2004**

Send articles to:

lanCalhaem@xtra.co.nz

Please include "Newsletter" in the subject.





**Sender:** Auckland Canoe Club, 23 Spinnaker Drive, Atatu, Auckland