



Newsletter

July 2004

Hello Folks,

You will find several interesting trips coming up in August. Our previous visit to the Auckland Stardome was very interesting so we are expecting another interesting evening on the 24th August. (I am told that the program changes depending on the time of the year).

In this issue you will also find the preliminary details for the Wanganui trip being organised for the 9th to 14th November. A number of the Club members are familiar with this river trip so if you have questions just ask one of us.

Regards,

Ian

In this issue

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Useful phone numbers and addresses | 2 | Pool Training - Every Thursday | 4 |
| Where can you go to get training? | 2 | Jubilee Cruise - Whanganui River - November 9-14th | 4 |
| Safety Policy for Club Trips. | 2 | Prez Sez | 5 |
| Trips and Events Calendar | 3 | News from the Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust | 5 |
| TRIP CANCELLATIONS | 3 | Motorola Satellite Rental Phones | 6 |
| Regular Evening Paddles | 3 | Where did that Mystery Harbour Paddle go? | 6 |
| Saturday Morning Paddles | 3 | Kayaking in Jeju-do | 7 |
| July | 3 | Plastic sea kayak wanted | 7 |
| August | 3 | Kayaks for Sale | 7 |

Deadline for next month's newsletter: 10 Aug 2004

Useful phone numbers and addresses

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Club address | 23 Spinnaker Drive Te Atatu Peninsular, Auckland | Safety & Training | Ken Marsh | 828 0701 |
| Patron | John Watts | 444 4006 | Storage & Club Kayaks | |
| President | Matt Crozier | 817 1984 | Lindsay Sandes | 522 3344 |
| Vice President | Lindsay Sandes | 522 3344 | 50th Anniversary: | Peter Sommerhalder 815 2073 |
| Secretary | Rona Patterson | 834 3399 | Vine House: | Andrew Frances 021 142 4857 |
| Treasurer | Des Matthews | 575 5804 | Committee | Margaret Thwaites 818 9609 |
| Trips Officer | Gavin Baker | 528 5188 | Committee | Wayne Fitzsimons 298 5087 |
| Publicity Officer | Roger Lomas | 579 8799 | Newsletter Editor | Ian Calhaem 579 0512 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
For event reminders, send a blank e-mail to: 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

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.

Regular Evening Paddles

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.)

Saturday Morning Paddles

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 Gavin Baker on 528 5188 or email gavinbaker@clear.net.nz**

July

Saturday 31st July - Auckland Canoe Center Auction. Please note a revised date for the 6th annual Auckland Canoe Centre auction. Now being held on Saturday 31 July, from 12pm at the Auckland Canoe Centre, 502 Sandringham Rd.

August

Tuesday 3rd August - 6:00pm Social Dinner - Cost \$28 per head. Another Social event is being organised at Wolfgang's. Wayne has donated venison that Wolfgang is using as the basis for this feast. Rona is taking the bookings since the numbers are limited because of the size of the restaurant. . For more information **contact Rona on 834 3399**

August 21st - 22nd Motuihe Island Project. Over the years many Auckland Canoe Club members have enjoyed the ambience of the Waitemata Harbour and its Islands, and now here is an opportunity to put a little something back through the Motuihe Project. The Island is at the Canoe Clubs back door, this 180-hectare Island is just a short paddle away from Auckland City, it has beautiful sheltered beaches, fascinating Island walks, either around the foreshore or through the farm park, and there is a minimum-facility campground with water and toilets, many of us canoeists have had pleasure in using it. So please join us, helping to plant native tree's, either on the Saturday or Sunday or stay the entire weekend and enjoy a little social evening on Saturday night. For more information please **contact the trip coordinator Rona Patterson on 834 3399**

Tuesday 24th August - Auckland Stardome. Night navigation for sea Kayakers, for an experience that is truly out of this world, sit back in the Observatory Planetarium, an all-sky, 360* panoramic theatre and enjoy a multimedia experience featuring 3500 brilliant stars, delivered by special effects projectors linked with stunning digital sound, learn about what a Kayaker should look for when paddling at night, how Celestial navigation works, about the Moon, Sun and tides, there affects etc, etc, etc.

P.T.O

This will be a great evening and is every much a rare event, so please make an effort to come along, the cost will be published at a later date, nearer to the time and there will be also an opportunity to purchase things at the Observatory shop. Be there at 6.45pm for a 7 o'clock start, there is seating available for up to 85 people. The Stardome Observatory is situated on the lower southern slopes of One Tree Hill.

Enter One tree Hill domain from the Manukau road, the Stardome Observatory is approximately 100m into the park. Please register your interest early, contact **Morgan Lewis on 6204005 or email [morganl@extra .co.nz](mailto:morganl@extra.co.nz)**.

Pool Training - Every Thursday

Thursday 7:30-8:45 G.I . Aquatics, 122 Elstree Ave.

A group of club members are conducting sessions to help each other with water confidence, support strokes, rescue and rolling sessions, using small river kayaks. Cost \$10.00 per session. Beginners positively encouraged.

Ph Margaret 524 6020



Jubilee Cruise - Whanganui River - November 9-14th

The date has been set for 9-14 th of November 2004. It will be the culmination of the club's Jubilee activities. As we expect a large party of paddlers to cruise the Whanganui, participation is offered to Auckland Canoe Club members and friends of the club who have already shown their interest in the Jubilee registration form. It is important that you register with Peter Sommerhalder, who is the cruise co-ordinator. Please phone him during the day on **(09) 815-2073, or by email: peter@kayak.co.nz**.

The trip will be similar the previous historic trips by the Auckland Canoe Club. Participants will bring their own kayak or canoe, food and camping equipment. We will appoint our own group leaders for guiding and safety. You will have to prepare a menu plan for six days.

Most people arrange for local tour organisers to look after their vehicles whilst paddling and these folks can arrange to deliver you back to the starting point at Ohinepane, 22 km downstream from Taumarunui and then collect you again at Pipiriki after the trip.

Fibreglass or plastic seakayaks (singles or doubles) and open canoes are suitable. Touring kayaks need to be large enough to carry all equipment for five days on the river.

Some costs to budget for are a DOC river pass for \$25 (last summer's rate) and charge for safe carparking and pick-up of people and canoes at the get out at Pipiriki with drop off to the parked cars.

This canoe trip is an adventure! There is so much to see and learn about on this historic river, which used to be the major transport route in early pioneering days. The plan is to make a leisurely trip down the river with plenty of time to explore. Places we would like to visit are Jock Ercegs river museum, Ohura River historic reserve, Ohuraiti, Whakahoro landing, Tamatea's Cave, Mangawaiiti, Bridge to Nowhere, Ngaporo, Autapu. A definite plan will be made after consultation with river operators and local Maoris helping us with the trip.

This a brief outline of the Whanganui River Trip:

- Tuesday, 9 Nov:** Set up first camp at Oinepane, 22 km downstreams from Taumarunui. Drive vehicles to safe parking (Taumarunui or Ohakune) and return with arranged shuttle back to Ohinepane.
- Wednesday:** Ohinepane-Maharanui, 31km, first day on river
- Thursday:** Maharanui-Mangapapa, 15km (passing Whakahoro at 5km)
- Friday:** Mangapapa-John Coull Hut, 32km
- Saturday:** John Coull Hut-Tieke Marae, 30km, Maori Welcome
- Sunday, 14 Nov:** Tieke Marae-Pipiriki, 22km, last day on river.

Arriving in Pipiriki early afternoon, shuttle (people and canoes) back to parked cars. Returning home same night.

For people wanting to paddle for three days only, a trip from Whakahoro to John Coull Hut, Tieke Marae and then Pipiriki is another option. This group will need to stay at Whakahoro on Thursday night and then join the main party at John Coull Hut for the **reminder of the tour**.

This is a brief schedule only. A definite plan will be made after consultation with river operators and local Maoris helping us with the trip. To help with your own preparation we recommend you buy the Whanganui River Guide, published by the NZ Canoeing Federation, available for \$12 from the Auckland Canoe Centre.

Prez Sez

We have been really lucky with well-timed idyllic breaks in the weather for a couple of our trips. One of these was the 'Waiheke Walkie' trip, for which you can view photos online at

<http://community.websites.com/album/157164284JGtcjo>

Marine Education

Two years ago I completed a Boatmasters course with the Coastguard, and this year I decided to further my marine knowledge by taking the next step – the Coastal Skipper course. The guts of this course centres around chartwork, passage planning, and the weather. I was very pleased to find that I'm not the only club member in my class, and can share the experience with Trish Lewis. And I saw Tony Haffinin doing a VHF course there as well. It's great to see club members take a keen interest in our recreational environment, even it seems more from the 'boaties' perspective.

Speaking of Coastguard, the following is stated in this year's Coastguard Northern Region Annual Report (Education Officer):

"There are still countless opportunities for our Maritime School to expand. This summer has seen several deaths in kayak accidents. These low-cost craft are appearing everywhere and over 10,000 new boats enter the water each year. Just a few skippers are members of organisations or kayak clubs that offer safety awareness and training."

Just as regular boaties need to become more aware of kayak usage in coastal waters, so should kayakers become more aware of how all users of the harbour are expected to interact with each other.

I would encourage members to do at least the Coastguard 'Day Skipper' course. This gives a basic education about sea conditions, navigation, and 'rules of the road'. Quite a number of members have been through this course. We would also encourage members to take the VHF course and obtain a VHF users license – especially if you ever intend using the club radios. You'll go through a period of spelling out license plates phonetically while waiting at traffic lights, and that can be fun. If anyone is interested in doing either of these courses, then let us know and we'll see if we can organise a group to go through it together.

Membership

Congratulations to Robert Peachman for obtaining Life membership. Robert joined the club in 1979 and has kept up his annual subscription since.

Remember that subscriptions are now \$30 for Senior Membership and \$35 for Family Membership. This is an increase in \$5 from last year.

New Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members, Stephen Barclay and Glenn Russell.

Cheers,

M@ (matt@vsl.co.nz)

News from the Motutapu Outdoor Education Trust

The trust has recently purchased seakayak doubles and singles which are placed on Motutapu Island.

The facility manager, Aileen Zell, advises us that these kayaks will be available free of charge for club members organising a pleasure weekend or training sessions at Motutapu Camp. This is a very generous offer. Condition for the use of the kayaks is that one leader with risk management training and leadership experience must be with the paddlers group. So our next crossing to Motutapu Island could be by ferry, regardless of weather conditions. The usual camp fees for accommodation apply.

For information and bookings contact Aileen on (09) 445-4486, or email her: zell@xtra.co.nz.

Motorola Satellite Rental Phones

Mentioning Iridium Satellite Phones and Peter Hillary and his expedition to the South Pole comes to mind. Iridium, having set up the very expensive satellite communication system, faced financial difficulties. However a new company, Wright Technologies Ltd, bought these assets and is offering satellite phones not only for sale, but more importantly, for rent.

Satellite phones are used by journalists in remote and dangerous areas, explorers, and often by missionaries working in far away places. For adventurers, kayakers, hunters they can provide virtually a lifeline in the event of an emergency, or just to let your next of kin know that your expected arrival will be delayed by some days.

Are satellite phones expensive? Yes, they are. To have your own will cost approximately NZ\$3000. There are rental charges and costs for each call. Wright Technologies offers satellite phones for rent. Charges are \$200 one week, \$350 two weeks, \$500 one month. A refundable deposit is requested, and insurance and air time charges of US\$2.50 per minute apply.

So before you disappear pig hunting or exploring Fiordland in your kayak, think about risk management and ways of getting help in an emergency. Share the rental cost with your mates - because you are worth it!

For information phone **Peter Sommerhalder** on **815-2073**.

Where did that Mystery Harbour Paddle go?

Saturday morning dawned bright and clear, no wind and not a cloud in the sky... perfect kayaking weather for a winter morning paddle. Sixteen Club members gathered at the Okahau Bay ramp where Peter Sommerhalder explained that the trip was going to proceed up the harbour keeping to the lefthand side. We proceeded leisurely up the harbour making sure that we did not interfere with the shipping (not that there was much activity apart from the usual ferries), until we reached the Hilton Hotel. Our destination was then in sight ... The Maritime Museum approached from the water!

We carefully exited our kayaks and lefted them onto the jetty along side the other Museum exhibits.

Our approach was watched with great interest by the people enjoying their cups of coffee at the tables bordering the wharf, but we all managed to exit our kayaks without getting wet!

We enjoyed an escorted tour of the museum examining the various polynesian vessels, and the yachting hall with samples of early P class boats and the progression to the America Cup boats.

Later in the tour we found a Kayak! This



was the early kayak used by Paul Caffin in circumnavigations of New Zealand.

After a cup of coffee, we all managed to get safely back into our kayaks and paddled leisurely back to Okahau bay.

Thanks Peter.



Kayaking in Jeju-do

By Ian and Alison Calhaem

Yes, I too had to open the atlas and find Jeju-do. It is an Island about half way between the tip of South Korea and the southern part of Japan. It is being promoted as a tourist destination for Koreans and currently is still quite rural. There are two large towns, Jeju and Seogwipo, and a large volcanic mountain, Hallasan, surrounded by 368 secondary craters, and a dramatic rocky coastline. The island is about 100 km long, by 70 km wide. It is not an easy place to kayak as there are so few places to land, but it is a spectacular kayaking destination for the experienced. In many places the coast is bordered by basalt cliffs up to 40 meters high and some of these are composed of large hexagonal crystal columns, similar to the Giant's Causeway in Ireland.

Our brief stay in Seogwipo was dramatic as we were there when a typhoon came through. Several days before it arrived we observed the changes in the sea conditions. It is always rough but I observed a gradual build up of a long wavelength swell that increased in height as the typhoon approached. Weather forecasts were accurate and peak waves were predicted at 11:00am on Saturday morning. At that time the typhoon was passing about 60km off the coast but the waves were over 20 metres high. They were impressive and NO I did not venture out in a kayak - or even think about it! The waves were larger than anything that I have seen before. Standing at the top of the 40 metre cliffs it was hard to imagine that only a couple of days before I had been paddling in the now treacherous whirlpool below. The 20 metre waves were causing spray to come over the top of the 40 metre cliffs.

The typhoon passed as quickly as it had arrived. Two days later I was paddling again. The sea had calmed down and the swell was now only 5 metres - and what a swell! the waves were about 70 metres apart giving a great surfing ride.

I am told that July and August is the usual season for typhoons but September and October are usually quiet times and calm seas means that kayaking is great at these times. I was not able to explore the many caves because of the swell, but they looked interesting and were easily large enough to kayak into. Maybe I will have the opportunity to revisit Jeju-do during a quieter time.

Plastic sea kayak wanted

Second year Outdoor Recreation Leadership student at AUT wishes to buy a plastic sea kayak (not a sit-on). Contact **Edwin Farrell**; home Ph: 445 1082; Mob: 021 188 5737; email: fazza55@hotmail.com. Dollar value would be somewhere between \$700 and \$1200.

Kayaks for Sale

Here are the details of what we have to sell:

- 1 mango Looksha IV kayak, purchased from you in April 2002, hardly used, price \$1600 ono
- 1 yellow Looksha IV kayak, purchased from you in May 2002, hardly used, price \$1600 ono
- 1 North West Passage, glass shaft SK paddle, price \$80 ono
- 1 paddle, price \$50 ono
- 2 spray skirts, both hardly used, \$100 ono
- 1 Thule kayak Cradle-Old style (TH546), \$100 ono
- 1 Humble Trolley, brand new, \$150 ono

Thanks.

Ute

Ute Engel [engele@paradise.net.nz]

Deadline for next month's newsletter: 10 August 2004

Send articles to: IanCalhaem@xtra.co.nz Please include "Newsletter" in the subject.



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