



# Newsletter

# September 2004

Hello Folks,

It was great to see so many kayakers out on the water recently. Last Saturday the Kayak Shed was well used with people coming and going all morning.

Remember to check your safety gear, particularly if you have not paddled for a while over winter. The minimum should include some means of emptying the kayak, bailer, pump etc; plus and some means of getting back in when you fall out.

Note that I say, when and not if, you fall out. It happens to all of us and it is good as it extends your knowledge of your kayak. To get back into your kayak after a small adventure you will need either a buddy (the best solution), or a paddle float (and the skill to use it).

I will see many of you on the Whangau River trip,

Til then...

Regards,

*Ian*

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

# Useful phone numbers and addresses

<b>Club address</b>	23 Spinnaker Drive Te Atatu Peninsular, Auckland	<b>Safety &amp; Training</b>	Ken Marsh	828 0701
<b>Patron</b>	John Watts	444 4006	<b>Storage &amp; Club Kayaks</b>	
<b>President</b>	Matt Crozier	817 1984	Lindsay Sandes	522 3344
<b>Vice President</b>	Lindsay Sandes	522 3344	<b>50th Anniversary:</b>	Peter Sommerhalder 631 5344
<b>Secretary</b>	Rona Patterson	834 3399	<b>Vine House:</b>	Andrew Frances 021 142 4857
<b>Treasurer</b>	Des Matthews	575 5804	<b>Committee</b>	Margaret Thwaites 818 9609
<b>Trips Officer</b>	Gavin Baker	528 5188	<b>Committee</b>	Wayne Fitzsimons 298 5087
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Roger Lomas	579 8799	<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	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](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 and Kayak, 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.odnz.co.nz](http://www.odnz.co.nz)

**Positively First Training Ltd, Jo Piggins and Chris Gulley,**  
ph 09-813-9494 email [www.pft.co.nz](http://www.pft.co.nz) Check our  
website for details.

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, Ken Marsh, 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 capsize 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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## Saturday Morning Paddles

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**Saturdays Morning Coffee at Café 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](mailto:gavinbaker@clear.net.nz)**

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## October

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**Oct 29 - 31 Waiheke and Ponui weekend.** A weekend camping and paddling. Meet at Omana Regional Park near Maraetai at 6.30pm on Friday for a 7.00pm departure. We'll cross the channel to Waiheke and camp overnight at Whakanewha Regional Park. Then in the morning take the ebb tide out through the passage between Waiheke and Ponui to explore the islands east of Waiheke. When the tide turns in the afternoon we'll follow it south along the eastern side of Ponui Island, exploring the many deserted beaches there. Camp for the night will be at Tawhitokino, a gem of a bay. Sunday is free; some can return to the cars early, others can have the whole day on the water. Alternative dates in the event of bad weather will be Nov 12-14. This trip is suitable for all paddlers in calm weather; distances are moderate. All those intending to come please **contact Colin Quilter 630 2219 or [c.quilter@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.quilter@auckland.ac.nz)**

**30th October - Mangahao Dam No 2.** A reminder to be at the Mangahao Release on Oct 30 if you want to enjoy this grade 3-4 run. **see details from Alan Bell, for NZRCA, [www.rivers.org.nz](http://www.rivers.org.nz)**

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## November

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**9-14 th of November. WHANGANUI RIVER JUBILEE TRIP.** Forty people so far have registered to come on this scenic cruise. It is a five day trip where you bring your own kayaking and camping equipment with food. We are also offering a shorter 3-day option. See details on page 6. For information contact **Peter Sommerhalder on phone 631-5344**

Paddling will be 3-4 hours per day only. This a brief outline of the Whanganui River Trip:

- Tuesday, 9 Nov:** Set up first camp at Ohinepane, 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**.



**November 14th - Herne Bay Swim Escort** - see details on this page

**November 20th & 21st - VINE HOUSE - weekend** Come over at any time. High Tide around 2:50pm Saturday afternoon. Let me know if you need to be guided over. We usually take off from Sullivan's Bay. For a map of the area, see <http://www.geocities.com/tofska/VineRoute.gif>. Vine House is in Lagoon Bay. Just paddle to the green shed at the right hand side of the bay coming in, and walk up the track. It's best to aim for high tide as the bay is quite tidal, or bring trolley wheels if you have them. It's a twenty minute paddle from Sullivans to Lagoon Bay. Bring a pillow case (probably a roll mat, just in case) and carry bags. Equipment required for sealing tank: Overalls/old clothes/shoes/clean gumboots (bitumen product will be difficult to remove once dry) **Contact Matt Crozier 817 1984 or matt@vsl.co.nz**

**November 28th PADDLE WHANGAPARAPOA PENINSULA** A paddle around the Peninsula. Start at Silverdale on the high tide and make our way to Shakespear National Park for lunch, then around the Tiri Tiri Passage at low tide and on to the Orewa River. (A short car shuttle can be arranged). This is a 30Km + trip and if you want, you can arrange to be picked up either Shakespear Park, or at Army Bay. Should the weather be unfavourable on the day we may decide to paddle on the lee side of the Peninsular. **Contact John Cryer (09) 426 1169 or Phiip Noble 575 3493 to register and time of departure**

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## December

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**December 5th - Chelsea Sugar Swim Escort-** see details on this page



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## February 2005

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**February 6th Waiwera to Motuora** Start at Waiwera and paddle up the coast to the Mahuragi, out to Saddle island then (weather permitting) out to Motuora for lunch. **Contact John Cryer (09) 426 1169 or Phiip Noble 575 3493 to register and time of departure**

**February 13th - St Heliers Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club Swim escort** - see details on this page

**February 27th - Eagle Technology Rangitoto Swim Escort** - see details on this page

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## Swim Escort Dates

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The first swim date clashes with the Whanganui River trip.

If you are NOT on the Whanganui Trip PLEASE plan on supporting the swim escort.

**1st Swim HERNE BAY SWIM 1.2k**

Herne Bay Beach to Curran Street

Sunday 14th November 2004

Time: 7:45am-9:45am

At least 20 kayaks required.

Meet at Curran St, be on the water by 8:15am to paddle to the start. Bring kayak trolley wheels if you have them.

Race starts at Start 8.45am Tide 9.24am



**2nd Swim CHELSEA SUGAR SWIM 2.36k**

Curran Street to Chelsea

Sunday 5th December 2004

Time: 12:00pm-3:00pm

At least 40 Kayaks required.

Meet at Curran St 12pm, be on the water by 12:45pm. Bring kayak trolley wheels if you have them.

Race Starts at 1.00pm Tide 2.10pm



**3rd Swim EAGLE TECHNOLOGY BAYS SWIM**

St Heliers Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club

Sunday 13th February 2005

Assemble 9.15am Start 10.15am Tide 11.49am

**4th Swim EAGLE TECHNOLOGY RANGITOTO SWIM 4.45k**

Rangitoto to St.Heliers Bay

Sunday 27th February 2005

Assemble 5.45am Embark 6.45am Sail forRangitoto 7.15am

Arrive Rangitoto 7.55am Start 8.30am Tide 10.38am



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! Also to keep an eye out for swimmers exiting the course (they must instead board a coastguard vessel). 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!

- All club kayaks are reserved for the swim escorts, and are available free of charge.
- If you have a VHF radio, please bring it. Initial comms are on channel 86.
- Listen to the cancellation service on Newstalk 1ZB (1080Hz AM) in the morning if the weather looks dodgy.
- Please STAY in the area until the last swimmer arrives, in case a search is needed.

**Please make sure you email Matt Crozier (matt@vsl.co.nz) or ring 817 1984, even just to leave a message,** if you intend to come. If you require a club kayak, contact Ken Marsh 309 1000. We just need to get an idea of numbers and this will help avoid a panic!

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## **Paddling companion wanted.**

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Anyone planning a holiday in the Bay of Islands at New Year, and wanting a paddling companion, could phone Dr Peter Boot on 021 525252. He is particularly keen on an overnight trip out to Cape Brett, maybe on Jan 01 or thereabouts.

# Whanganui River Jubilee Trip



I know I said that the last newsletter was the last containing information on the Whanganui River trip, but just in case you mislaid the details, here are the suggested menu and gear lists again.

## Suggested menu - Whanganui River Nov 2004

	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Spare</u>
<b>Breakfast</b>	Travelling to Ohinepane	Porridge Bread Jam/Honey Juice/Tea	Cereal Bread PeanutButter Juice/Coffee	Porridge Cabin Bread Jam/Honey Juice/Milo	Cereal Cabin Bread Jam/honey Juice/Coffee	Porridge Cabin Bread Jam/Honey Juice/Milo	
<b>Lunch</b>	Transit	Soup/Bread Sweet Corn Cake Cordial	Instant Noodles Soup/Bread Baked Beans Cake Coffee	InstNudles Cheese Biscuits Cordial	Soup/Bread Salmon Cake Cordial	Salmon Cheese Biscuits Refresh	Fishcakes Dried mixed veges
<b>Dinner</b>	Spaghetti Bolognaise Salade	MashedPota Sausages Salad Cucum/Banan	Macaroni Cheese SmokedFish Coleslaw	Chicken RiceRisotto DriedPeas Cashews	<i>TiekeMarae Shared dinner</i>	<i>Take always Ohakune Ice Cream</i>	Polenta Onionsauce CornBeef Beans
<b>Pudding</b>	Custard Bananas	Chocolate Dumplings	InstantPud Custard	Apple Crumble		Pineapple Mousse	InstantPud TinFruit
<b>Snacks</b>	Scroggen:	Mix peanuts, sultanans, chocolate, dried fruit Choc Bars, Mueslibars, fresh fruit, chocolate					

## Suggested Gear list - Whanganui River 2004

### Paddling

Kayak/canoe, paddle, spraydeck, buoyancy aid/lifejacket, tow/throwline, drink bottle, whistle, bailer/pump, sponge, knife, torch, ROPE (to tie your kayak to a tree!)

### Clothing

Three sets of shorts and tops (polyprop rather than cotton t-shirts) work well. 1 set for paddling (getting wet, 1 set for sleeping, 1 set spare).

Paddle jacket or parka (water proof, it rains most days on the Whanganui), Polyprop tops, polyprop longs, shorts, sandals or running shoes, booties, sun hat, beanie, long sleeve sweatshirt or woolen jumper, socks, balaclava, clothes pegs, towel.

### Sundries

Medication. sunblock, insect repellent

Toilet gear, camera/film, binoculars, toilet paper, trowel/spade for toilet, dry bags, rubbish bags, maps, torch/headlamp, candles, matches, pocket knife, book, radio/walkman (weather forecast, music) first aid kit, repair kit, duct tape, survival blanket.

### Cooking

Camping cooker, fuel, pots/billy, matches/lighter, can opener, plate, mug, cutlery, dishwash liquid, scrubber, tea towel, thermos, drinking bottle, 3 litre (or more) water bottle (spare), food for 5 days.

### Camping

Tent, sleeping mat, sleeping bag, dry bag, fly sheet (emergency shelter).



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# Prez Sez

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## Club Rooms

Many thanks to the Hauraki Kayak Group for the use of their clubrooms; and thanks to Roger for liaising and organising this. We have had one club meeting there already, for planning the Whanganui River trip, and film show. This will be where we are likely to meet for any non-paddling events for now.

## Swim Escorts

With summer just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about and prepare for the annual swim escorts. These are four swimming events held throughout the summer, organised by the Auckland Central Masters Swimmers, and our club for many years has provided the essential role of close escort over the course. They are very well patronised, especially the last swim from Rangitoto wharf to St Heliers beach.

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 - we don't want to be the weakest link that could disappoint a large number of entrants.

Because the distances are small, the pace very slow, and under the watchful eye of the Coastguard - 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!

The first of these is on Sunday November 14th (see the calendar). If you are not traveling on the Whanganui River, then please try to make this event. It's important for us to get an idea of how many paddlers are expected to come, so we can try to source others if necessary – so please email me or leave a message (817 1984) even if you are just thinking of coming.

See you there!!

## Vine House

With Spring in the air, it's a good time get back into action on Vine House. Despite the dodgy weather, the October working bee still saw nine keen souls turn up and we made good progress – including some outside painting between the showers!

All of the major work has been done, and it's looking very swish! We're mainly focusing on completing any exterior work (the water tank and steps) and more on the interior now, and mindful of weed control. Keep an eye on the calendar for details. We're aiming now to start visiting on a monthly basis.

## New Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to new members: Neil Russ, Nigel Wilde and Emma Oliver.

Happy paddling,

M@ (matt@vsl.co.nz)

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## DoC extends facilities for sea kayakers

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In January this year KASK made a submission to the Department of Conservation on recreational facilities in a number of conservancy regions. The submission was part of a DoC instigated consultation entitled 'Towards a Better Network of Visitor Facilities' and KASK was one of 97 submitters in the Auckland conservancy.

The Department has published its report and the wishes of sea kayakers have certainly been taken into consideration. Key developments are as follows.

### Great Barrier Island

Basic campsites (five tent sites maximum) have been proposed for Miners Cove and Rangihakaea Bay, which are located on the west and east coasts of the northern end of the island respectively. These locations are where sea kayakers start and end a trip around the top of the island and have been off limits to sea kayakers. Camping will be by permit only. Also of interest is to put in more tracks in this wilderness area.

## **Rangitoto / Motutapu islands**

The idea of a campsite at Islington Bay was rejected by DoC as it would likely attract drunken hoons who would pester visitors and vandalise the batches. Instead DoC will be establishing a basic campsite at Boulder Bay on the northern side of Rangitoto. This is a bad location for yachts and runabouts and therefore ideal for sea kayaks.

## **Waiheke Island**

The report says: 'KASK asked if the department manages any land on Waiheke that would be suitable for overnight camping. This would facilitate links with kayaking opportunities in the inner Gulf and western Coromandel Peninsula coast. While the department supports this proposal in principle further investigation will be required prior to a final decision.'

## **Motuora Island**

The report states: 'There is clear support for a new hut on Motuora Island to replace the current booked accommodation.' It seems likely the new hut will be located up the zigzag track as the Motuora Island Restoration Society wishes to use the current cottage for its members. This hut is likely three years away.

In the summary the report states: 'Providing further basic overnight camping opportunities for sea kayakers is supported by the national sea kayaking organisation, KASK, and aligns well with the Auckland Conservancy Recreation Strategy. The overall cost of providing backcountry-standard campsites will not be significant.'

The report also talks about establishing a 'sea kayak trail in the inner Hauraki Gulf' which is encouraging.

## **Coromandel**

KASK also made a submission to the Waikato Conservancy supporting the proposal that a low impact campsite be established on Mahurangi Island, off Hahei. This has been accepted and the Waikato report also states: 'This user group (sea kayakers) is well established on the northern Coromandel coast and appreciative of campsites. There is an expressed need for more designated sites (similar to freedom camping) to expand their recreation into multi day trips and or overnight trips. A diminishing coastal camping opportunity is linked to recent land sub division trends and closure of private and Territorial Land Authority campsites. The decision to proceed with the low intensity overnight shelter on Mahurangi Island addresses this need in part. Further low cost opportunities need to be investigated.'

## **Northland**

KASK was one of 91 submitters to the Northland Conservancy.

Sea kayakers will have access to a new 22-bunk hut proposed for Deep Water Cove in the Bay of Islands. This is an ideal start / finish point for Cape Brett, but sadly, three submissions from sea kayakers calling for 'an informal' campsite at Whangamumu Harbour appear not to have gained support. This is the other end of the Cape Brett trip and also a very beautiful harbour.

Sea kayakers will also benefit from the upgrade in size and capacity of the recently built hut at Peach Cove on Bream Head.

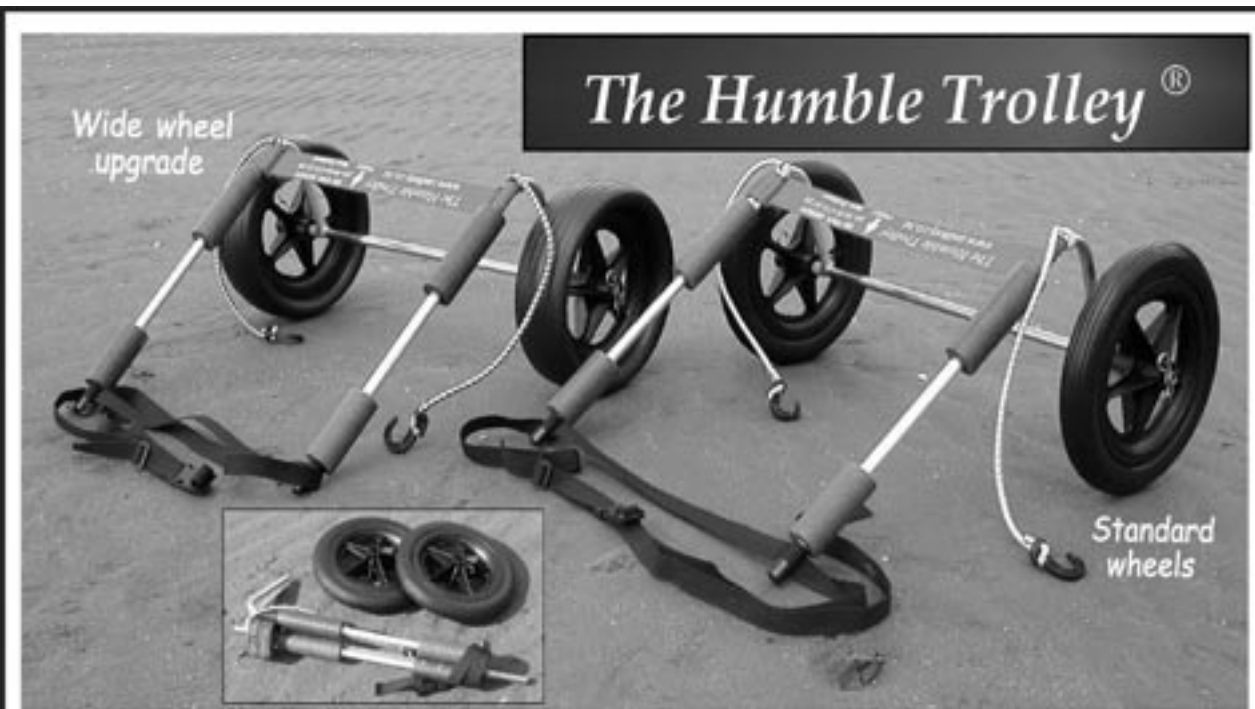
The reports can be viewed at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/Explore/DOC-Recreation-Opportunities-Review/My-Favourite-Place/index.asp>

## **Vincent Maire**

**Deadline for next month's newsletter: 9th November 2004**

Send articles to: [lanCalhaem@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lanCalhaem@xtra.co.nz) Please include "Newsletter" in the subject.





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