

February 2010

Club Information	2
Club Trip/Event Policies	2
Club Banking Details	2
Website Password	2
Kayak Hire	3
New Members.....	3
Regular Events.....	3
President's Report	4
Club Trips.....	5
2010 Swim Escort Dates.....	5
Poet's Corner.....	6
Coastbusters 2010	6



What's happening to the club members when we stop seeing them paddling? ...	7
Coromandel	8
Advertisements	9
Stolen Surfski	
Fergs Kayak Sale	



*Taking a short cut through the mangroves at the mouth of the Henderson Creek.
Paddlers Tony Hannifin and Ian Smeeton.*

PHOTO ROGER LOMAS

Auckland Canoe Club Information

Postal Address

P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland

Clubrooms

Marine Rescue Centre, Mechanics Bay

Website

<http://www.aucklandcanoecub.org.nz>

Email event reminders

send blank email to

subscribe@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

Officers

<i>Patron</i>	Jim Mason	
<i>President</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
<i>Secretary</i>	Neil Scott	846 4004
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gerard Fagan	832 9720
<i>Trips</i>	Will Henden	550 3699
<i>Publicity</i>	Roger Lomas	846 6799
<i>Training</i>	John Maynard	626 4096
<i>Storage/kayaks</i>	Gavin Baker	528 5188
<i>Assistant</i>	Roger Lomas	846 6799
<i>Merchandising</i>	Neil Scott	846 4004
<i>Vine House</i>	Trevor Arthur	817 7357
<i>Newsletter</i>	Claire O'Connor	521 1769
<i>Webmaster</i>	Matt Crozier	817 1984

Email addresses

patron@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
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training@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
merchandise@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
vinehouse@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
webmaster@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

Club Trip/Event Policies

Visit the Club website for details of safety and other important policies.

Contacting trip/event organiser

You must notify the trip organiser in advance of your intention to go on a trip. Organisers need to know numbers and to be able to contact you if the plan changes.

You must also discuss with the organiser in advance any medical or other conditions (such as your experience and ability) that might affect the progress of the group.

Cancellation

If the weather looks uncertain call the trip co-ordinator.

Club Banking Details

Bank BNZ
Branch Newmarket
Account 02-0100-0023453-000
Name Auckland Canoe Club

IMPORTANT

If you are depositing money to the Club Account please ensure that you include YOUR name so that the Treasurer knows who deposited the money.

Internet Banking

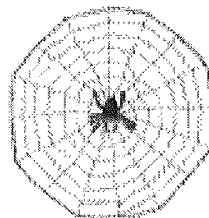
All major banks have set up Auckland Canoe Club as a registered payee for internet banking.

This means that you can pay to

Auckland Canoe Club

without having to enter the account number.

Check with your bank.



Club Website Access for February

Password Omana



Deadline for March Newsletter

16 February 2010

Kayak Hire

To book a kayak, enter details in the diary.
Check diary before taking a kayak.

Kayak Hire Rates

Single kayaks

Daily hire – out am, back pm \$20.00

Half day – out am, back am
out pm, back pm \$10.00

Double kayaks

Daily hire – out am, back pm \$30.00

Half day – out am back am
out pm back pm \$15.00

- Please enter details of hire in register and on an envelope.
- Put money in envelope and place envelope in honesty box.
- **No I.O.U.s!**
- Carry or wheel kayaks to water.
- No seal launching.
- Please wash kayaks before returning to rack.
- Report faults or problems on the faults/problems sheet.

Skills Practice

Skills / Rolling Practice – Okahu Bay

Come along to Okahu Bay on Sundays at 10am to brush up on your skills!!

For more information please phone
John Williams on 021 131 0516

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome

The Committee extends a warm welcome to the following new members ...

Justine Alley
Michael Commissaris
Johan Silas

Louise Egerton
Dan Furkert & Jenny Chamberlain

Regular Events

Vine House – Last Weekend of Every Month

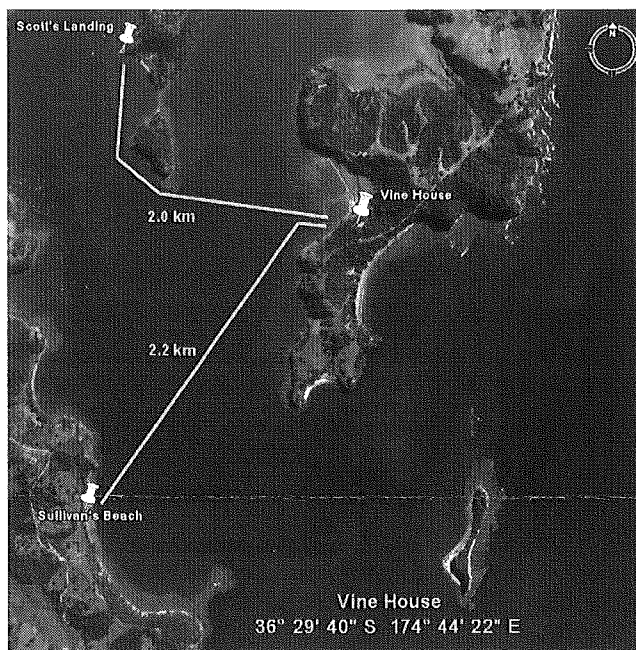
On the last weekend of each month we have the use of Vine House.

This gem in Mahurangi Harbour is a 2 km paddle from Sullivans Bay, which is the ARC park at the end of the Mahurangi West Road, first on the right past Puhoi.

The house sleeps 10 and has all creature comforts. Bring sleeping bag, pillow case and food. A shared meal and nibbles is the norm for Saturday night, so bring your goodies.

Lagoon Bay is very tidal, so bringing a kayak trolley is a good idea. The range of paddling is endless, eg Waiwera, Warkworth, Kawau Island, Motuora Island – your choice. Or just rest and read and enjoy this tranquil and special place. We recommend you take a carry bag to get all your gear up the track to the house. Secure parking is at Sullivans Bay. Leave a note on your dashboard reading “Vine House Volunteer” when you park in front of the ranger’s house.

Please ring to book a bed, and for detailed directions.
Trevor 817-7357, Matt 817-1984.



Tuesday Evening Paddles

A small group of informal paddlers usually meets at the Okahu Bay ramp at about 5:30pm on Tuesday nights.

Saturday Morning Paddles

If you are into good coffee, good company and usually a leisurely paddle then these are the trips for you.

A small but growing group meet about 9:00am on Saturday mornings to paddle to one of the beaches – St Heliers, Kohimarama or Mission Bay for coffee.

Note: Paddlers under 18 to be accompanied by a guardian!

President's Report

Hi Folks,

Welcome to 2010. I hope that most of you managed to get time off to paddle and enjoy our summer. Already it is starting to get busy and a lot has been happening that is of interest to kayakers.

You will have noticed that the Ramp at Okahu Bay has been sealed in front of the storage locker and this certainly makes it easier to launch our kayaks. Remember if you are using the Club kayaks that they are NOT indestructible and do not take kindly to being dragged over the concrete. Please lift your kayak down to the water's edge, asking someone to assist you if required.

I attended the Harbour User's Meeting this week where a number of items were discussed that I believe are of interest to Club members...

Department of Conservation

Pest eradication on Rangitoto

The Department of Conservation gave us an update on the work that it currently being done to eradicate pests on the Gulf Islands. You will be aware that Rangitoto was closed a couple of times last year whilst bait was dropped by helicopter.

The target pests were

- Rats
- Mice
- Rabbits
- Stoats
- Cats
- Hedgehogs

The bait drop was targeted at the rodents and recent surveys have indicated that the drop was successful. If no rodents have been found by the end of the year DOC will declare Rangitoto and Motuora to be rat free. Over a thousand traps were set up to catch stoats and rabbits. One rabbit was found, and no stoats. It is believed that the stoats ate the poisoned rodents. Hedgehogs and cats are still to be eradicated.

New arrivals on Rangitoto

Over summer several new bird species were observed on Rangitoto and this is thought to be due to the eradication of the pests. The Red Crested Kakariki was seen and are believed to be breeding, and bell birds appear to have migrated from nearby Raukino Island.

Protecting Rangitoto and Motuora

The Department of Conservation is particularly concerned that Boaties, and kayakers in particular, take the trouble to check their craft to ensure that they do not bring rats or mice back to Rangitoto. In an effort to assist this goal, the department has installed a quarantine area at the Home Bay camp site where people can unpack their equipment in a rodent safe enclosure. If a stowaway has been brought to the island then it will be confined to the enclosure and can be dealt with.

Skiffs

A number of complaints have been received concerning the skiffs operating out of Okahu Bay travelling at unsafe speeds. The meeting had a lively discussion about these skiffs and several of the mooring owners said that the skiffs were travelling too fast in the Bay. Whilst people thought that most of the skippers were experienced and could steer their craft much closer than we might feel comfortable with, it was felt that the skippers were not allowing for mishaps such as a capsized. Fullers' Ferries said that the skiffs were a problem for them as the ferries could not alter course quickly yet the skiffs were appearing in unexpected places. Fishermen also complained that the skiffs were not adhering to Maritime Rules. The Harbourmaster said he had received a 4 page email detailing an incident involving skiffs and had also received a complaint from a kayaker.

The result of the discussion was that the Harbourmaster agreed to send the Sailing Club a letter reminding them of their obligations under Maritime Rules. In particular that all vessels had to travel at less than 5 knots within 200m of the shore, or within 50m of any other vessel, raft or person in the water. Racing rules allow two vessels that are competing to travel closer than 50m apart, but that exception does not apply to other non-racing vessels.

Hauraki Kayak Trail

I have left the best news to last...

Several of you might be aware of an initiative that was started over a year ago by the Regional Council. Several meetings were held and gradually the concept of a kayaking trail in Auckland became a reality. Before Xmas I met with Wayne Coulson, Chief Ranger for ARC and he gave me a copy of the final plans which were to be implemented. In simple terms the ARC is establishing a series of small campsites along the coast from Auckland into the Firth of Thames. The idea is to make this area accessible for multi day kayaking and waka trips suited to people who can kayak for 2 hours non-stop paddling. Water and shelters will be provided in much the same way as they are on the Whanganui River.

Several of the campsites will also connect to existing walking tracks so people can combine several activities.

This project has now passed through all the planning and approval stages and is currently being implemented. Whilst this is preliminary information I am sure that the ARC will be making public announcements in the next few weeks. Meanwhile I have copies of the report and can let interested members have more details.

I hope to organise a trip down the coast soon to check out the various campsites. If others are interested let me know.

Happy paddling, *Ian*

Club Trips – February 2010

Please phone Wednesday or Thursday to express interest.

Please contact Will on 550 3699 if you are available to take a trip to your favourite destination or one of the following.

Note: Trips will start at the time announced. Ensure you are on time or you will be left to catch up.

Saturday 13th or Sunday 14th February Kawau Island or Motuora Island

Meet at Martins Bay, from there we have several options depending on the wind direction. A northerly or easterly wind will suit a circumnavigation of Kawau Island or we can explore the western side. But if it's a south-westerly we will head to Motuora Island and have a tailwind back. Either way we will get a paddle.

Phone Gerard Fagan 832 9720 Mob 021 0715 917

Saturday 20th February

Swim Escort St Heliers to Tamaki Yacht Club

Swim escort No. 3 for the season. St Heliers to Tamaki Yacht Club.

Meet at St Heliers at 10:00 sharp for escort briefing, swim race starts at 10:30.

Coastbusters 2010 and International Kayak Week

Friday evening, February 26 to Sunday, February 28

See details on page 6.

Saturday 27th or Sunday 28th February Tiri Tiri Matangi

Paddle from Whangaparaoa Peninsula over to Tiri Tiri Matangi. Then either paddle around or take a walk amongst the regenerating forest and thriving native bird life. Bring lunch, togs and snorkelling gear. Leave behind rats cats, and pesky stowaways.

Phone Phillip Noble 575 3493

Saturday 6th or Sunday 7th March Camping at Motuihe

Come camping at one of the Hauraki Gulf's beautiful islands. Motuihe is a relatively easy paddle from Auckland, an island with great beaches.

Phone Phillip Noble 575 3493

Seaweek – 6 to 14 March

A national celebration of the importance of the sea.

An opportunity for people to take action to enhance beaches and sea.

For information on events: www.ecoevents.org.nz

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th March. Camping at Tutukaka

Paddling out and around from there.

Phone Will 550 3699

What does it mean to be a contact person for a trip?

It means exactly that, a person who people contact. In a recent write up of a trip on Kaukapakapa River, it was written how successful the trip went even with the absence of the person who was "taking the trip". It was a case of club members knowing where to meet and at what time, so they could enjoy each other's company and go paddling together.

A contact person is one who others can call to find out what time and place to meet for a trip, almost like a phone 'notice board'. This person may also have come up with the idea of the trip in the first place.

With no one keen to stick their hand up to take these roles, then club trips can't happen.

If anyone is keen or has trip ideas for the future, that are different to the trips advertised in this newsletter, please email Will – trips@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

Swim Escort dates for 2010

Saturday 20 February St Heliers to Tamaki Yacht Club

Sunday 21 March Rangitoto Wharf to St Heliers

Poet's Corner

I sent this to Club Members as a Christmas Greeting, but by cunningly changing some words have turned it into a New Year one, so at risk of boring the spray decks off Members, hopefully Claire will include it in the newsletter (if you are reading this, she has).

*On behalf of all Club Members
I write this little note
To all you lovely people
Who paddle kayak boats
Those who meet occasionally
Together on a cruise
It's just so nice to see you
I'm sure I speak for yous
Thank you to The Committee
Who run the Club like clockwork
Attending all those meetings
Where you sit around and talk
And what about the guys
Who've been championing the cause
Of keeping paddlers safe and sound
Without the need for Laws
The individual paddlers
Who do many kinds of things
Like looking after gear
Angels without the wings
Cooking up the sausies
After swim escorts and stuff
And making sure some paddlers
Feel safe when in the rough
Those folk who organise the trips*

*Who do it all for love
Priceless times we get for free
When we feel inclined to rove
And even if we rarely see
Each other in our lives
It's really nice to know you're there
Our common interest thrives
About those Acts of Kindness
I recall from down the year
For a Sentimental Bloke like me
They can almost bring a tear
The Literary Ones who do reports
Of expeditions rare
And put them in the newsletter
For all of us to share
To and from all Members
All included in this note
Partners and Spouses
Who keep our Club afloat
A Thank you and Kiaora
For that marvellous year oh nine
A GREAT NEW YEAR TWENTY TEN
May the Sun upon you shine.*

Mike Randall

Coastbusters 2010 and International Kayak Week

Friday evening, February 26 to Sunday, February 28

International Kayak Week – the rest of that week

Website: www.coastbusters.org.nz

Talk to your kayaking friends and spread the word!

Where: Auckland New Zealand (Coastbusters Symposium)

Auckland – Martins Bay (International Kayak Week) Rotorua – NZ Kayak Builder's Get Together

Who: Novice to advanced sea kayakers

Why: Local & international key note speakers

*Seminars, workshops & panels covering all facets of sea kayaking
Demonstrations & practical sessions on paddling skills & techniques
On-water activities to develop skills & competency
Leisure time to network & socialise with fun like minded individuals*

Benefit: Improved kayaking knowledge & skill base

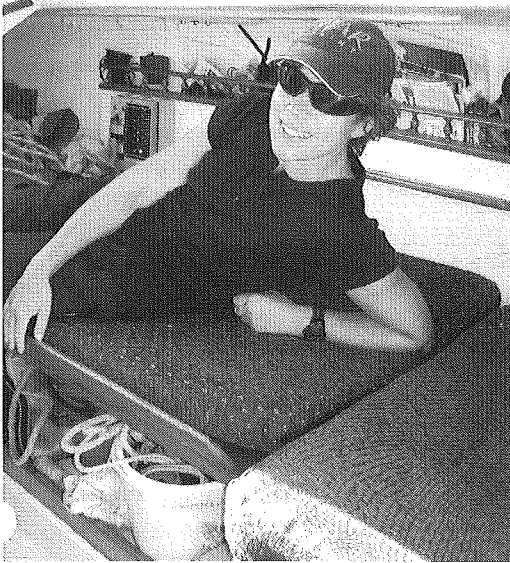
*Increased knowledge of the Hauraki Gulf & surrounding facilities
Kayaking network increased with local & international paddlers Entertaining fun social event*

The Red Team are currently scoping out the program and will have this locked down later this year. Now's the time for any content suggestions and ideas to assist in shaping the event. We're all ears.

Input to: redteam@coastbusters.org.nz

What's happening to the club members when we stop seeing them paddling?

Jackie Hillman



A club member tracked down was Trish Lewis who pulled her Squall out of the water when she decided to concentrate on pursuing another waterborne challenge.

Why not enter a small 25' Reactor yacht in this year's New Plymouth to Mooloolaba single handed yacht race. This nautical challenge is one of NZ's great sailing adventures. Having chatted to fellow sailors for years about this race she knew it was a challenge she wanted to fulfill.

So once her entry was submitted the real work began to prepare Wishbone and herself for the Trans Tasman challenge. She found she was the first NZ woman in 35 years to enter this historic race. With one of the smallest yachts she might spend up to 20 days alone at sea to complete the 1280 nautical miles.

Trish plans to leave Auckland in early March to sail around North Cape and down the West Coast to New Plymouth, gaining valuable experience on the trip and giving time to make any necessary upgrades before the start on Easter Sunday (4th April).

There has been no time for kayaking when every minute is taken up with the ever increasing list of tasks to be completed. Harken, Yanmar, Whiting Power Systems, Fyfe Sails, Donaghys, Fleming and Safety at Sea have provided product sponsorship and plenty of good advice in preparing the boat. The Health Sponsorship Council is using Trish to promote the sun awareness message and Kaweka foods have offered to provide some food. The animal nutrition company Alltech is a key sponsor and Mariner Insurance are also sponsoring Trish.

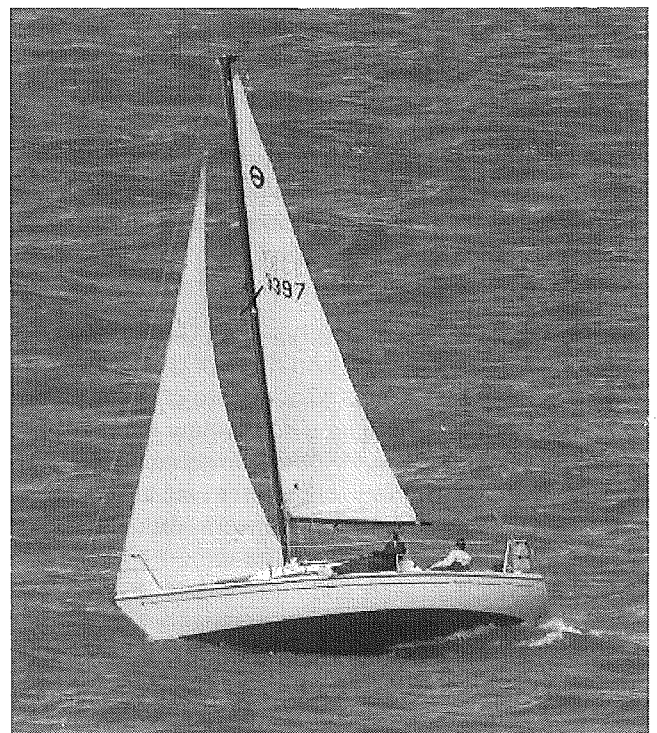


One of the challenges with single handed ocean racing is surviving on short naps and Trish has received guidance in sleep preparation from Dr Andy Veale of the NZ Sleep Institute.

The initial part of the race leaving New Plymouth, if the weather is 'kind', should be straightforward apart from being aware of other shipping. However nearing Australia the Rhum line takes a course between Lord Howe Island and Middleton Reef. In the 1978 race, Josephine was lost on the reef, ending Bill Belcher's race.

Shipping increases on the approach to the Australian coast, at a time when sailors are more sleep deprived. Trish plans to head north to take advantage of the southern current before taking a shorter route across the shipping channel to the finish at Mooloolaba.

Please visit Trish's website www.trishlewis.com and follow what she is doing. For more race info the official race site is www.solo-tasman.co.nz and this site will track the positions of all the yachts during the race. For those interested in Trish's big challenge, there is an option on the website to sign up as 'Cyber Crew' – an opportunity to become involved in the race without any risk of getting wet, tired or seasick!



COROMANDEL

Rona Patterson

This summer's excursion was to be to, and around Coromandel. I listened to comments and remembered previous trip reports, and decided this was too scary for me. Then I thought about it again, and decided to ask Peter if he would be happy to accompany me as far as the crossing point by Iris and Gerard, and we would return taking just a few days break.

Peter and I departed from Okahu Bay on a lovely high tide on Sunday morning 3rd January. We had a lunch break on Brown's Island before heading across to Motuihe Island into a 15 knot head wind. By mid-afternoon camp was set up as the wind became stronger and the sea looked nasty. Gerard and Iris were to meet us the following morning and the four of us were planning to paddle on to Rocky Bay on Waiheke Island.

This is the first time on our summer excursions that we have had to alter our plans. Gerard and Iris did get to Motuihe in horrific conditions – very strong wind and heavy rain. It was definitely not the time for us to continue on our trip. We had to spend two full days on the island while we watched the wind whip up the sea. During this time Iris was far from well and slept almost continually. She had contracted a viral infection as well as damage to her rotor cuff. By the Wednesday when the sea had calmed right down to ten knots variable, Iris was no better so we contacted Coast Guard to collect her take her home. I was quite envious because six burly men came out to collect her.

It was almost 11 am before the three of us set off with revised plans as this was to be the perfect day to cross the Firth of Thames. The day was perfect and we had an idyllic trip along the coast of Waiheke and stopped at Otakawhe Lodge for the night. Peter knew both the owner and the guests so he was able to spend time catching up with old friends. Here we met Brendon (previous multi-sport man) and he met us on the rocky beach and helped us get our boats up onto the grass.

During these few days together both Gerard and Peter discussed the pros and cons of doing the crossing to Coromandel. Minds were changed time and time again. Then; just when I knew I would be crossing back to Orere Point or Kawakawa Bay, we were at the end of Ponui Island and was told the conditions were perfect and we were about to cross. It took a few minutes for my mind to come to terms with the change of plan and it did look a very long crossing. However, it was a very pleasant crossing with ten knots variable coming from the side and we touched land just three hours later.

Once on the water again, we set off up Te Koupu Harbour in search of the motor camp. How were we to know that the Te Koupu motor camp would be in the Coromandel Harbour. Not daunted, we found a lovely little bay with a plateau at one end which was sheltered by a large pohutakawa and this is where we made camp. The tide was well out but it was time for a swim to cool down and this was when a man came out of the bush carrying a very small kayak with the plan to go fishing. Peter did the right thing and went over to talk with him and asked permission to camp on his land.

The following morning, the wind was up and we had to make it back to Coromandel Harbour. This was easy until we headed around the corner from Te Koupu Harbour back into the open sea. The sea got steadily rougher until rounding the corner into Coromandel Harbour and then (for me) it became terrifying for a while. As we inched along the harbour, the water became more manageable and once past the mussel farms, we crossed over to the other side of the harbour where we hoped to shelter from the wind. After stopping for morning tea, Gerard decided he had not had enough of the rough stuff so went out around some of the islands while Peter and I carried on up the harbour. The weather deteriorated during this time and the end of our trip was in heavy rain and strong winds.

Once on shore, we then had to find out where the camp ground was and this entailed quite a walk through what seemed like hundreds of holiday makers who had nothing more important on their minds than where they were going to eat lunch. (Not the easiest to negotiate with laden kayaks)

The camp ground was very well appointed and by the time Gerard finished his paddle, the rain had stopped. And this is where our trip stopped. Peter and I had only set out for three or four days and we had stretched it to six days and as Gerard had previously paddled around Coromandel, he also decided to call it a day.

2 DRY BAGS FOR SALE

Seal Line Baja 20 hd – yellow

Ortlier size small – red

Both in great condition

\$70 for two or \$35 each o.n.o.

email mariandob@gmail.com

STOLEN SURFSKI



EPIC V10 SPORT

PLEASE be on the lookout for my ski, stolen from my yard in Burnside, Christchurch.

This unique Epic V10 Sport was made by Kayak Centre, South Africa; has "Kayak Centre" printed on the nose & tail. White in colour, 6m in length, had "Men's Health" & "Discovery" stickers on it plus an entry number 8060.

Please contact us if you see the ski or know anything about it.

Clive 021 772 679 or Nicole 021 872 679

Or Papanui Police Station 03 374 1700 case 4737468

reward offered for returned ski.



Fergs Kayak Sale

As you may have heard in the news recently, Fergs Kayaks have incurred a massive fine. This was a result of court action taken after an unfortunate mishap at their Wellington indoor climbing wall facility. The upshot of all this is a need to release capital tied up in stock at the two kayak shops to pay off the fine. A major kayak sale will take place.

The Okahu Bay shop will be awash with heavily discounted kayaks and associated gear. It will be a good opportunity for club members to upgrade or renew their kayaking needs.

Our good neighbour Fergs have been very supportive to our club over the years. Why not call in and see if you can help them and maybe pick up a bargain at the same time.