



June 2010

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Winter Lecture Series – Colin Quilter will tell us about his recent Stewart Island adventure
Marine Rescue Centre, Tuesday 15 June, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. **See page 4**



Loading Colin's kayak at Bluff!

PHOTO C. QUILTER

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>	Eddie de Vries	480 5623
<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>		
<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
president@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
treasurer@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
trips@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
publicity@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
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

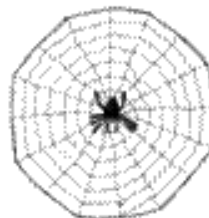
All major banks have set up Auckland Canoe Club as a registered payee for internet banking.

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 May

Password Waihou



Deadline for July Newsletter

15 June 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

Crosswind # 2 For Sale

\$1,800.00

Good Condition Orange colour
2 used ex-Club Spray Skirts available if required.

Phone Gavin Baker on 528 5188

Email Addresses

During the renewal of memberships, I normally send out a “Thanks for rejoining” email with some information about the Swim Escorts that are coming up.

I am finding that a number of email addresses no longer work and the emails bounce back.

If you have changed your email address any time over the last 2 years, I would appreciate it if you could send me an updated email address to **secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz**

Your privacy will be respected and we normally only send messages regarding the Swim Escorts over summer.

Regards, **Neil Scott**, Secretary

Regular Events

Vine House – Last Weekend of Every Month

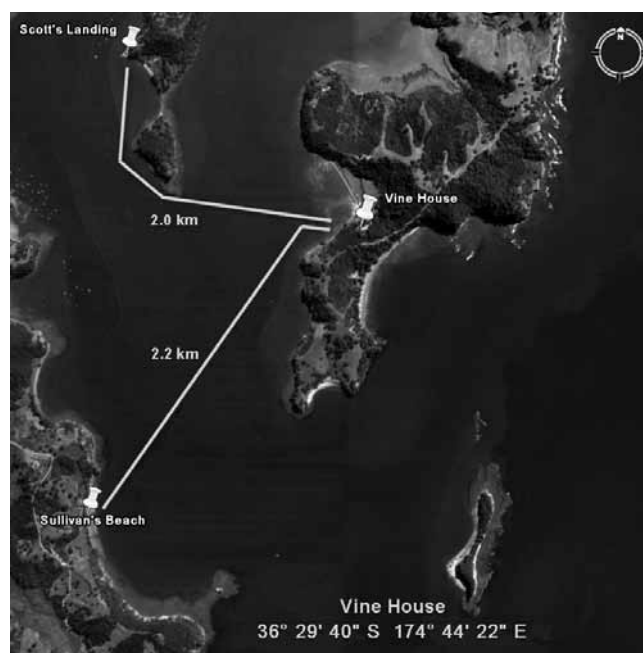
On the last weekend of each month we have the use of Vine House.

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.



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 Annual Report

Yet again it is my pleasure to thank everyone for making 2009/10 such a successful year.

The Auckland Canoe Club consists of members from all walks of life with many different skills and aspirations. Our activities during the year have reflected this diversity.

A number of you have volunteered your expertise to organise trips and Will has been able to coordinate these so that we have had activities most weekends.

Roger has continued his winter series lectures which have become a show case for the more adventurous activities that some of our members enjoy.

The Club is held together by a dedicated group – the Committee who ensure that everything works smoothly together. Each and every one of them deserves a sincere vote of thanks from the membership at large.

Our treasurer, Gerard has worked hard to keep the accounts up to date and manage the banking, Will Hendon has made sure that your trips calendar was full each month, training was looked after by John Maynard, and the club equipment and lockup was

managed by Gavin Baker. The merchandising was controlled by Neil Scott who also took on the role of secretary. Vine House was managed by Trevor Arthur and the Newsletter was put together each month by our editor Claire O'Connor. All of these people deserve our sincere thanks.

As you will have read in the last newsletter, we were donated a large stand at the recent Hutchwilco Boat Show in recognition of the support we have given over the years with their safety message. My sincere thanks goes to Peter Sommerhalder for organising a team to setup the display and to provide the people to man it. I believe it was very successful. One of Peter's team really went overboard to ensure that the Club was noticed – reports are that he has recovered well, but his publicity did involve a trip with a flashing light!

Please join me in showing our thanks to our great committee members who have made my task so easy over the past year.

Ian Calhaem
President.

Winter Lecture Series – Tuesday 15 June

Our club's winter series of informative talks begins on Tuesday 15th of June. Colin Quilter will be along to recount his recent Stewart Island adventure.

In February Colin travelled to Stewart Island for some paddling and walking. Somewhat to his surprise, he ended up circumnavigating the island. He will show pictures from his trip, and suggest ways that other kayakers can see the best parts of Stewart Island in relative safety.



Campsite at Flourcask Bay
PHOTO C. QUILTER

The winter series is held at our clubrooms at the Marine Rescue Centre which is next to the harbour side heliport. It provides the ideal venue to catch up with fellow club mates and is also the perfect place for newer members to become more involved. A variety of club merchandise will be on display and available for purchase.

This year's series will run from June through till September and is scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month. Our usual format is to meet at **7 pm for a 7.30 start.**

The Winter Lecture Series is open to everyone so feel free to bring along friends. A small door charge of \$2 will cover your supper and a gift for the presenter.

The company of fine friends and the useful knowledge garnered at these evenings is priceless.

**For further information
contact Roger Lomas: 846 6799**

My introduction to being a trip leader

Eddie De Vries

“Eddie, will you be the trip leader for a trip this month? We are short of club trips and I think you will make a good trip leader.”

The call from Will took me a little by surprise. Yes, I am a keen paddler. But I have only been on two club trips and not been involved in leading any of these trips. I do not have the vast knowledge about the area the others seemed to have. And just a week earlier on a Saturday morning paddle when I had proposed to take a few mates through the harbour along a route I had been shown by Roger, I managed to get the group going down a wrong stretch of water and almost split the group by making late corrections from the back. Would I make do as a trip leader? What if it went completely wrong?

But Will was waiting for an answer. I decided to do it. Jump in and swim! One has to learn.

A while ago a mate and I went from Army Bay round Tiritiri Matangi. We really enjoyed it. Was a bit of open sea at the back. Good rock gardening. Not too far. A good choice for a club trip. And options to go along the Whangaparaoa coast should the weather not allow a trip across the channel.

The tide chart showed an outgoing tide in the morning on the date I chose, making for a south of Whangaparaoa start. Shakespeare Park should do. There are ablutions, enough parking, seemed an ideal place to launch and retrieve.

By Friday before the trip nobody had responded to the notification in the newsletter. Was this because the weather forecast was for North Easterly winds rising to 35kph? But I had the option of going down the Whangaparaoa coast line.

I had picked up a bout of flu. My throat was sore. “Is it wise to go?” my wife asked. “Nobody is coming.” But what if some paddlers just turned up in the morning? Do they always confirm to the trip leader? I had no experience to draw on. So it called for an early night. Only one Super 14 game to watch. And I was ill.

Saturday morning the excitement woke me at 5. Probably because I wake at 5 most mornings. Got going nice and early and was at Shakespeare Park at 8. The water at Army Bay looked very rough. And the wind was forecast to pick up during the morning. No good to try that side. The southern side it would be. Luckily the weather forecast – Metconnect – had indicated no rain for the day. Just wind. NNE. 25 – 35 kph. The land mass would shelter us.

I realized there were two beaches at Shakespeare Park! As I was early I checked at both to see if anyone else was this early – no one was of course – and decided to park the car at the turnoff opposite Army Bay so I could not be missed by the others. I had fortunately bought a paper along the way. I tried to read this, but every car entering the park broke my concentration. Would this be a paddler? No, no kayak. People coming to walk their dog(s). More cars, no kayaks, but more dogs.

8:30 came and went. It is still early. 8:45. People should now be arriving. The message stated on the water at 9! o'clock. Still no one! Was this true? Why? My heart sank. 9:10 I decided to leave. Took a longing look at the water off Army Bay. White caps everywhere! I wanted to be out there. But it would not be wise by myself. I turned and went back to Shakespeare Park. I was going to paddle, even if it was by myself. Sunday I wanted to do a 40km paddle and a short paddle would be good to get the muscles loose.

As I left the bay I could see the big swells on the horizon to the east! That looked exciting! Had to go see this! Veered to the left along the coast. As I came closer to the channel I could feel the swells growing in height as they came round the corner. The wind forecast was nowhere correct. Wind must have been a lot stronger. At the edge of the channel I caught the full force of the wind. Massive seas in front of me. No place to be by yourself for an average paddler like myself. I turned and enjoyed the rides back. Past Shakespeare Park, staying a bit further out to ride the swells. On to Gulf Harbour. Then Matakatia Bay. Time for a drink and something to eat. Sitting there the water was beautiful and flat. “Where the bloody hell are you?” This Aussie slogan kept going through my head.

From Matakatia Bay I ventured a little further west. Caught up with a another paddler. A sit on. He had caught his quota of fish and was just heading home. So I turned back too. Stayed a little further out again. Thought of going south of Kotanui Island. But there was more wind. Thinking of the 40k the next day thought it wise to conserve energy and stay out of the wind. But there was no way out of the wind as I turned into the bay at Shakespeare Park. A head on wind being funnelled through the gap from Army Bay. White caps everywhere. Water splashing over the bow. Exciting, but hard work. By know I was glad there were no other paddlers. Thinking of previous two club trips I realized some paddlers may have

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Around the big volcano

Colin Quilter

We Aucklanders are used to paddling around volcanoes. For us a circular trip around Rangitoto is routine: morning tea at Gardiners Gap, lunch at McKenzie's Bay, keep the mountain on your left, and 4 hours later it's done. There is one other place in New Zealand where you can have a similar experience, and that is Banks Peninsula. In March this year I spent a few days exploring the coast there. This is an account of my trip.

To understand Banks Peninsula from a kayaking perspective, you need to know a little bit about its geology. Banks Peninsula began as an island formed by two overlapping volcanoes. The Lyttelton volcano erupted first, about 11 million years ago; then the Akaroa volcano about 8 million years ago. Subsidiary eruptions occurred so that perhaps more than just two volcanoes were involved; but the result was a volcanic island about six times larger than Rangitoto, circular in shape, with two major craters. As time passed the two volcanoes were eroded to about half their original height, and the streams draining their flanks carved deep valleys in a distinctive radial pattern. These valleys were flooded by the ocean, (making the present bays and inlets) and about 6,000 years ago so were the two volcanic craters. The northwestern crater formed Lyttelton Harbour, and the southeastern crater Akaroa Harbour. At some point the alluvial plains on the eastern side of the Southern Alps extended outwards to touch the volcanic island, and it became a peninsula, joined to the South Island by the flat gravel plain on which the city of Christchurch is now built.

The result of all this geology is that a paddler expects to begin in one flooded crater and end in another; and follow two-thirds of a circle in between. I decided to paddle from Akaroa to Lyttelton; but first had to wait out some wicked weather. As I arrived in Akaroa an active cold front marched in across the harbour, lashing the water white with spray. The manager of the campground offered me his prime site, on a grassy promontory with a fine view, but in that position only a tent made of sheet iron would have lasted for long. Anything made of fabric and cord would have been blown across the hills to Lyttelton within minutes. I searched the campground and found a sheltered place with a thick hedge to windward, and there I stayed for the next two days. It was no hardship, because there is plenty of good walking to be done on the crater rim that surrounds Akaroa; and of course one can also wander among the trendy cafes and boutique shops in the village.

On the third morning, after an early start, I paddled out to the mouth of the harbour. It was a cold grey

day with a biting southeasterly wind, and – more significantly – there was also a heavy swell left over from the gale of previous days. I hesitated at Akaroa Head, watching the waves explode on the black cliffs below the lighthouse, but decided to continue because if necessary there were several pull-out points ahead. So I worked my way slowly northeast along the rugged coast. The swells reflected off the cliffs to generate a very confused sea (clapotis), and concentration was necessary. Nor was there much of a view; the cloud ceiling was low, so that the hills on my left were hidden in mist. Black cliffs, black headlands, grey cloud and grey ocean were my lot.

What made this paddle pleasurable was the wildlife I met. Four different pods of Hector's dolphins diverted from whatever business they were on to visit me. One group spent several minutes playing around the kayak, which I thought was unusual because when I've met these dolphins before (off the Kaikoura coast) they ignored me. And flocks of seabirds worked the coast, wheeling past like bullets in the cold wind. My favourite was the Buller's mollymawk, a small albatross with beautiful grey feathers on head and neck. Much larger was a Wandering Albatross which came slicing in at mid-morning to look at me. These birds travel crosswind in a series of graceful arcs at tremendous speed, (measured in another species at about 130km/hr), and all without a single wingbeat. It made my progress, labouring among the swells, seem pitiful.

Hours passed and I looked for a rest stop, but finding a landing was not easy. I passed one inlet after another, but they had beaches only at their distant heads. At the mouth of each inlet were sheer cliffs with none of the little coves I had hoped for. The small inlets such as Stony Bay and Paua Bay had dumping surf on the beaches at their heads. The deeper inlets were more protected but to get a landing I would have had to paddle several kilometres into the distant head of the bay, which I was unwilling to do. Eventually after 8 hours on the water I had seen enough of cloud and swell, and I came ashore through small surf at Okains Bay. About two-thirds of the journey to Lyttelton was behind me.

The campground at Okains Bay is among pine trees on a sandspit which separates the sea from an estuary behind the beach. All the land is low-lying and has historically been vulnerable to tsunami damage. In 1868 a tsunami created a tidal bore which advanced up the estuary and washed away a road bridge 3km inland. However I didn't worry about a tsunami; of more pressing concern was

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My introduction to being a trip leader

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needed help. Paddling became heavier still. Then my paddle struck the bottom. I had to veer more to the middle of the bay to deeper water. But to no avail. This was also shallow! I was getting nowhere. Out of the boat and drag her. Feet sinking 6 inches into the mud. Into the wind. What a slog. Luckily I do not have to explain to anyone that this is a shallow bay and not a place to land outside high tide. Eventually the water just gets too shallow to drag the boat. I will have to carry. But with a paddle in one hand and the wind buffeting from ahead and feet sinking into the mud and already being tired this was no good. I would have to walk out with only my paddle. Come back to carry the boat. A slog. Glad no one else is here. Nothing of this “Where the b.....”

Fortunately there is a tap on shore to wash the mud off the boat. To put the boat on car – what is normally no issue – is now a challenge. The wind wants to blow the thing off the roof before I get time to tie it down! But I managed. Good to be in dry clothes.

Home. Rest for tomorrow. I can feel my throat is sore from the flu.

Going through Silverdale the wind picks up more. And it starts raining! And more rain! What a downpour! One could only drive at 30kph! This is not what the weather forecast indicated! Luckily I am not on the water. I am in the car. Luckily there was no one for the club trip! Could have been a disaster out there in this storm. Some higher authority was surely looking after me. The Sunday paddle was postponed due to the weather. My flu should be gone by then.

Roger taught me the best way to learn an area is to go and paddle there. If I only paddled at places proposed by others I would not have known that Shakespeare Park is not a good area to paddle from. I learned that it is wise to check the charts for shallow bays.

I am looking forward to my next trip as trip leader!

Eddie

Around the big volcano

– continued from page 6

another cold front expected overnight. Sure enough, two days of bitter weather followed with the wind roaring through the pines overhead. A caravan near my tent had one of its windows blown in during the night, but I found a sheltered spot in the lee of a big pine, tied my kayak to the same tree, and rode out the weather in reasonable comfort.

When the wind eventually relented I found conditions on the water transformed for the better. The northern side of the Banks Peninsula is protected from a southerly swell, and I paddled out of Okains Bay in sunshine and calm seas. During the morning I worked quietly along the coast, able to relax and let my mind wander for the first time on this trip. The inlets here are long and narrow; I floated at the entrance of Pigeon Bay, half-tempted to paddle in for a tea break, but the beach at its head was 7km away and actually below my horizon! A 14km paddle just to get a cup of tea was too much even for me, so I paddled on. Late in the morning I entered Lyttelton Harbour, and just inside the eastern headland unexpectedly found a delightful bay, Little Port Cooper.

This is a lonely and beautiful spot. Nestled in the centre of the bay is a single building, a quaint schoolhouse which was built 125 years ago for the children of the signalmen on nearby Adderley Head.

Of the cluster of signalmen's cottages which once surrounded the schoolhouse, nothing remains. I had a leisurely lunch in the warm grass beneath trees nearby, and enjoyed the place so much that I decided to spend the afternoon walking and to camp there overnight.

In the morning I had just a short paddle in glassy conditions into Lyttelton Harbour. At the yacht club I was offered a hot shower, and somewhere safe to leave my kayak while I travelled (by bus) back to Christchurch and then out to Akaroa to get my car.

In retrospect, I think that in settled weather this would be a really pleasant and undemanding two-day paddle. Even better, make it a 3 or 4-day paddle with as many landings as possible. My memories of the trip are mostly of wind and swell and grey skies; but that is to be expected given the weather I encountered. In kayaking, as in life, one can only agree with Dolly Parton who observed that, “If you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain.”

Happy paddling!

Colin

Poet's Corner

Winter's upon us
But the Sun's coming back
In three or four weeks
Even though there's a lack
Of the evidence yet
But do not despair
Sit back and reflect
Try to remember
The sun on your back
Those long days of summer
A following sea
Slap slop of the waves
That earned cup of tea
So I sit and I dream
Of adventures I've had
And those yet to come
Oh how soon I forget
There's only today
No tomorrow or past
So put down the book
Get out of here fast
Jump out of my nook
Be done with the dreaming

The faraway look
Go check out my boat
Rudder housing has had it
There's a hole in the hull
The cockpit is shabby
Gelcoat looks dull
The winter's just perfect
For messing about
With those odd jobs
We paddlers
Just love to engage in
But hold on a sec
I'm forgetting again
Though there's work to be done
Don't make it a pain
I'll get out and paddle
Or a bike in the rain
A swim in the briny
There's so much to gain
From a winter in Auckland
That's my lot in this vein.

Mike Randall

Club Trips – June 2010

Please phone Eddie on phone 480 5623, mobile 027 271 4679 or email Eddiev@blacktop.co.nz Wednesday or Thursday to express interest in any of the trips listed below.

Tuesday 15 June

**Winter Lecture Series, Marine Rescue Centre
7.00pm for a 7.30pm start**

Colin Quilter will tell us about his recent Stewart Island adventure.

A small door charge of \$2 will cover your supper and a gift for the presenter.

**For further information contact Roger Lomas
on 846 6799**

Saturday 19 or Sunday 20 June

Mystery Paddle

For details contact Eddie de Vries

Weekend of 26–27 June

Mid-winter Pot-luck Dinner at Vine House

Prepare your favourite meal and enjoy good company at Vine House!

For information contact Trevor Arthur 817 7357

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.

AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



- New Member**
 Rejoining

Surname: _____ **First Name:** _____
Family Name(s) _____

Address: _____ **Suburb:** _____ **City:** _____
Phone (home): _____ **Mobile:** _____ **Fax:** _____
Phone (work): _____ **Email:** _____

Rate your Experience: I have completed a basic skills course.

- No Experience**
 Novice (confidently forward and backpaddle, paddle for 30 mins without rest)
 Intermediate (able to brace, perform a deep water entry, paddle for at least 2 hours or 25 km)
 Advanced (self rescue in all situations, off-shore paddling experience)

Do you own a kayak? **Yes** **No** **If YES list type(s):** _____

Please select the types of kayaking your are most interested in:

- Sea kayaking Touring Sea kayaking racing
 Whitewater Surf/rodeo/polo MultiSport

Kayak trips: Are you interested in co-ordinating kayak trips? **Yes** **No**

To comply with the Privacy Act 1993, please read and complete the form below.

I Agree **I Disagree**

To let the Auckland Canoe Club publish my name, address phone Number or any other information concerning me in the Club Newsletter or to National Canoe Associations. I accept responsibility for correcting this information where applicable.

The Auckland Canoe Club and its officers take no responsibility for any injury any person may suffer, or any damage to equipment, while participating in the Club's kayaking activities. Any Person, who does participate, acts at his or her own risk.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Fees for the year ending 31 March 2011

- Member \$30** **Family \$35** **Life Member**

Post to: Auckland Canoe Club, PO Box 9271 Newmarket, Auckland

Print Form

Submit by Email

Total Payment

- Cheque** **Bank Transfer**

Bank: BNZ, Newmarket
Acct: 02-0100-0023453-000
Name: Auckland Canoe Club
Particulars: **Your name & initials**
Code: **Subscription**