



October 2011

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A group of club kayakers paddling along the North Shore Bays.

PHOTO R LOMAS

Auckland Canoe Club Information

Postal Address

P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland

Clubrooms

Marine Rescue Centre, Mechanics Bay

Website

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

Email event reminders

send blank email to

subscribe@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz

Officers

<i>Patron</i>	Jim Mason	
<i>President</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
<i>Secretary</i>	Matt Crozier	817 1984
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gerard Fagan	832 9720
<i>Trips</i>	Eddie de Vries	480 5623
<i>Publicity</i>	Roger Lomas	846 6799
<i>Storage/kayaks</i>	Gavin Baker	528 5188
<i>Assistant</i>	Roger Lomas	846 6799
<i>Vine House</i>	Trevor Arthur	817 7357
<i>Newsletter</i>	Claire O'Connor	521 1769
<i>Webmaster</i>		

Email addresses

patron@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
president@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
secretary@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
treasurer@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
trips@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
publicity@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
merchandise@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
vinehouse@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz
newsletter@aucklandcanoeclub.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.

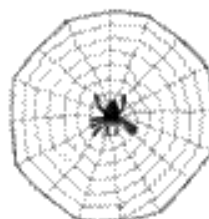
Internet Banking

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

Password Rotopiro



Deadline for Next Newsletter

20 October 2011

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

CLUB KAYAK FOR SALE

**CROSSWIND DOUBLE SEA KAYAK
For Sale at \$1800.00**

As is where is

For more information please phone
Gavin Baker on 528 5188

Regular Events

Vine House – Last Weekend of Every Month

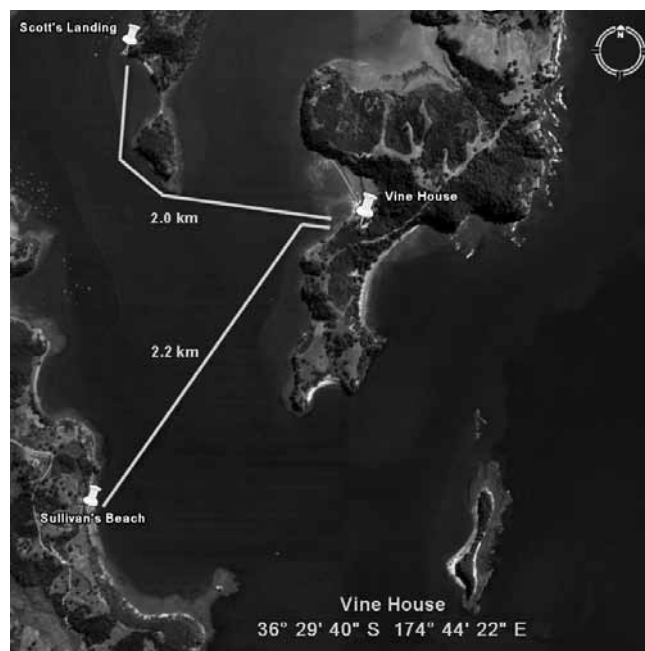
On the last weekend of each month we have the use of Vine House.

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!

For more information, go to:

<http://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/127561>

Whanganui River 1967

By Roger Lomas

Back in 1967 my brother David and I were invited to be part of a kayak expedition group to paddle the Whanganui River. Our goal was to paddle from Taumarunui to the sea during the summer holidays. We both had a reasonable amount of kayaking experience from down in the South Island. We were now living in Wellington and needed to build some new kayaks for this adventure. Back in those days it was the usual practice to build your own kayak out of wood. Our new kayaks were of a design ideally suited for our intended 14 day journey on the river. They had a lightweight wooden frame that was covered with a canvas skin. The kayaks were as long as a Beachcomber sea kayak and about as beamy as a Seabear.

Our 12-strong group gathered at Taumarunui all excited to begin their river adventure. Our trip leader, a veteran of 13 previous Whanganui trips divided us into 4 groups of 3 for logistical purposes. Each group would share a tent and be responsible for their own cooking. Our heavily-laden kayaks were soon on the water and we departed from a place called Cherry Grove. This used to be the top terminus for the old riverboat service that once plied the river all the way up from Wanganui.

In the upper reaches the rapids came at short regular intervals. It wasn't long before disaster struck. One of the less experienced members of the group managed to get his kayak sideways to a boulder and capsized. His kayak filled with water and the power of the river current snapped it around the rock. He managed to scramble atop the boulder

and dislodge the crippled craft. It was towed downstream to a flat river bank where we set about repairs. Willow saplings were tie wired over the broken timbers and when straightened out a large canvas patch was sewn over the ripped skin. The kayak was soon ready to paddle again but it leaked and needed a bail out every couple of hours. We all pitched in and shared the load of the gear from the leaky kayak.

We stopped early on the first day and this gave us an opportunity to fine tune our camping routine. There was always a scramble to find the best tent site and then we set about preparing our evening meals. These were all cooked over an open fire. Down the river we enjoyed a variety of dinners and these included beef stew, Irish stew, curried mince and corned beef. Lunch was usually something light like sandwiches or crackers and cheeses. Breakfast was tea, toast, porridge or beans. Sometimes we were able to supplement these meals with fresh food. One of the group was a crack shot and had brought along his hunting rifle. He managed to bag quite a few wild goats. Goat stew and grilled chops were a welcome addition to the menu. We also caught river eels. Some of these were monsters. After a bit of experimentation with cooking methods, we decided that the small ones tasted best especially when grilled over hot wood embers. Once when rounding a bend in the river, the group at the front spotted a large wild boar on the riverbank. Our sharpshooter was too slow and we missed out on pork chops.



Swimming at the lower Ohura Falls,

We were very lucky to have a talented young master chef on our trip. He was able to bake nice fresh bread for us all every couple of days. This was done on a bush oven made out of one of those old biscuit tins that the grocer used to get his supplies in. It was modified to fold down for transport and was heated by hot wood embers.

Our trip down the river was leisurely and we stopped many times to partake in shore excursions. Our trip leader knew where all the interesting places were. He carried in the cockpit of his kayak a large hand drawn roller map. This was in a waterproof box and he rolled it along as we went

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One of our river kayaks at the lower Ohura Falls.

downriver. Adjustments and amendments were made as required on each trip. Without our leader's knowledge and his map we would have paddled blissfully past most of the interesting places.

On these shore excursions we stopped to look at old riverboat day relics, bridges, caves and old Maori settlements. In the gorges we got out to clamber up the steep banks to view spectacular scenes. We explored a couple of caves and heard of their Maori history. We also visited an old abandoned Maori settlement, Many of the buildings were still standing but were overgrown. Nearby we found two large Maori canoes in the overgrowth high up on the riverbank. At another place we visited an old waterwheel powered flour mill. Its was in ruins and we found some old mill stones in the long grass outside.

About halfway down the river we had a layday. We camped on the sandbank beside the big Autapu river rapid just above Pipiriki. We spent the day swimming, riding the rapid and exploring a local

cave. Swimming was a big part of our time on the river. In those pre-ozone hole days we were lucky to have warm sunny weather most of the way. We would usually have a swim a couple of times each day. When we camped at Marae Kowhai further up the river some of us swam at the lower Ohura Falls. The conditions needed to be right to do this safely and we were lucky. In the oxygenated water at the base of the falls it was like swimming in champagne.

In the evening we would sit around the camp fire and talk of the days adventures. As darkness closed in the sounds of the river and the bush surrounded us. Many times the tale of the wild boar on the riverbank was retold. Each time its tusks got bigger. At a campsite lower down the river we saw the tell tale signs of recent wild boar ruttings. That night a small group of us snuck up on the other tents and made wild beast noises. You feel pretty vulnerable in a tent at night and there were a lot of nervous torch lights flashing around for some hours afterwards.

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Riding the waves at Autapu.

Below Pipiriki the river took on a different aspect. The river road now paralleled us on the left bank and the gorge gave way to a more open river valley. Small settlements came and went, farmland appeared. There were still plenty of rapids and places of interest to visit.

All too soon we were approaching Wanganui and our last day on the river. We were soon in the tidal reaches and as luck would have it, we had to contend with both an incoming tide and a headwind. Soon the Aramoho Railway Bridge hove into view. This was the first bridge across the river since Te Maire, just below Taumarunui on the first day. An unofficial race got underway. Our kayaks were now riding much higher in the water minus two weeks supplies and we surged ahead. Eventually it was down to two paddlers and I guess it was to be my first kayak race victory.

Our finish point was at a rowing club ramp just upriver from the Town Bridge. It was also very near to where the old river boat steamers had their downriver depot.

Our journey was complete. Before we left the river we partook in a little ceremony to farewell the damaged kayak. It was beyond practical repair for future use. We filled it with river rock ballast and scuttled it in deep water.

Our kayaks were used to explore many more rivers in the lower North Island over the next couple of years. We also used them for sea kayaking and we paddled the coast around Wellington. In 1968 I watched from the shoreline as the Wahine sank near the harbour entrance. A few days later my brother and I paddled out to and around the stricken vessel. We lived not far from Lyall Bay and took our kayaks out in the surf a few times. They surfed well until the waves steepened and then curled. We would usually be flung from the large open cockpit and the kayak would be tossed in the air and swept ashore. In 1969 I headed off overseas for an OE and David went off to University.

We both donated our kayaks to a local scout group to enable other young people to have an adventure.

Roger

Club Trips – October 2011

Saturday Morning Coffee Cruise

If you are into good coffee, good company and usually a leisurely paddle then this is the trip 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.

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For more information, go to:

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Sunday October 30

Paddle Rangitoto

Join Philip and friends to paddle around this great geological phenomenon of the gulf. We'll paddle anti-clockwise, but need to time our trip to get to Gardner Gap at high tide or face a portage.

Bring lunch, camera and fishing gear.

Phone Philip at 575 3493 on Thursday or Friday evening to register interest and time & place of departure.

October 29 and 30

Vine House Weekend

With the good weather on its way, take the chance to get away from the crowds for a laid back weekend with good company and good food.

Call Trevor 817 7357 to book a bed and for detailed information.

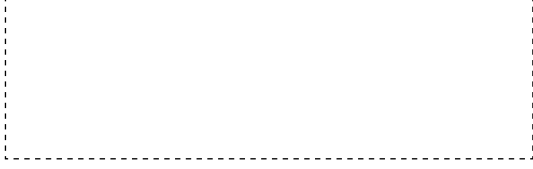
Swim Escort Dates 2011 / 2012

The Auckland Central Masters Harbour Swim Committee has confirmed the dates for next season's harbour swims.

Date	Swim	Start	Approx Duration	Tide
Sunday, 27 November 2011	Herne Bay Beach to Masefield Beach (Pt Erin)	9.00 am	50 mins	9.30 am
Sunday, 11 December 2011	Masefield Beach (Pt Erin) to Chelsea Sugar	7.30 am	75 mins	8.40 am
Sunday, 12 February 2012	St Heliers to Tamaki Yacht Club	10.00 am	90 mins	11.40 am
Sunday, 26 February 2012	Rangitoto Wharf to St Heliers	10.00 am	120 mins	11.45 am

Please put these dates in your diaries. As these are popular days where large numbers of our members get together, and we earn some funds for the club, we would like to see as many of you as possible at these events.

Eddie



If address is incorrect, please return to:
Auckland Canoe Club, P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland

From: Auckland Canoe Club, P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland



To:

