



## September 2012

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*Paddling with the big tides. About to run the Orakei Basin floodgates.  
See story on page 9.*

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

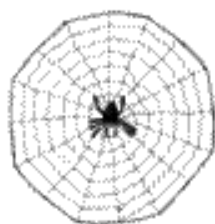
[subscribe@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:subscribe@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)

### Officers

<i>Patron</i>	Jim Mason	
<i>President</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
<i>Secretary</i>		
<i>Treasurer</i>	Matthew Crozier	817 1984
<i>Trips</i>	Jackie Hillman	634 5042
<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>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512

### Email addresses

[patron@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:patron@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)  
[president@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:president@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)  
[secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)  
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[newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)  
[webmaster@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:webmaster@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)



## Club Website Access

**Password** Rotopiro

## 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

<i>Bank</i>	BNZ
<i>Branch</i>	Newmarket
<i>Account</i>	02-0100-0023453-000
<i>Name</i>	Auckland Canoe Club
<i>Particulars</i>	Your FULL name (Initials are not enough to identify some members with common names)
<i>Code</i>	Either <b>SUBS, STORAGE, HIRE, OTHER</b> (depending on what you are paying for)

If your payment is for several items, then please make **separate** payments for **each** item.

### 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.

## 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.

## UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

Please can everyone update their contact details, especially home and mobile numbers as many are now obsolete on our list.

**Phone Matt on 817 1984 or  
email [treasurer@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz)**

## NEW MEMBERS



### Welcome

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

**John Callaghan,  
David Colman,  
Michael Gresham and Karen Johns.**



## Deadline for Next Newsletter

**20 September 2012**

## Regular Events

### Vine House – Last Weekend of Every Month

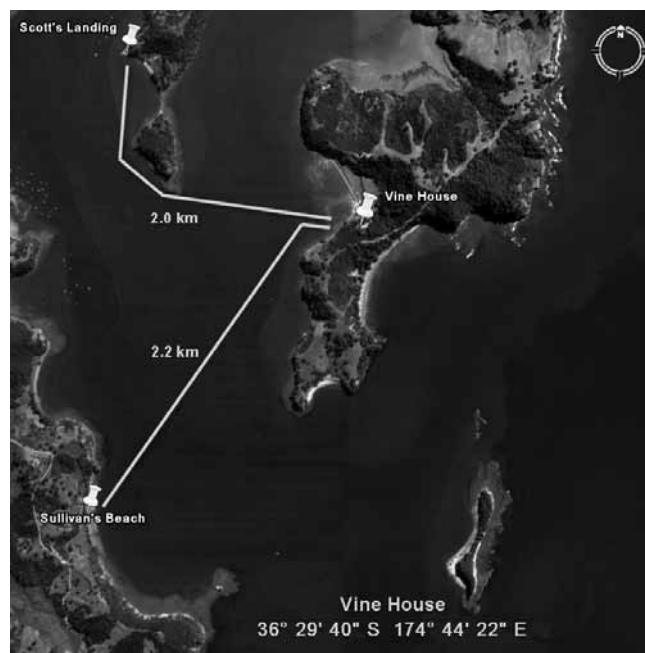
On the last weekend of each month we have the use of Vine House.

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>

## Up-Coming Club Trips and Events

If anyone has trips they have always wanted to do but don't know how to go about it – we can find someone to co-ordinate for you or help you if you just need a bit of extra support. Just Get Involved – it's what makes it fun.

I would be interested to hear if people are keen on doing some moving water (river trips).

### Car Sharing!

Due to the rising cost of fuel we should be smarter when going on Club trips. If you are interested in car sharing please contact the trip co-ordinator early to advise whether you are able to take another kayak or need a lift. This would enable the trip co-ordinator to put people in touch to share costs and/or driving.

Happy Paddling – Jackie – phone 634 5042.

### 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.

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

**For more information, go to:**

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

### Tuesday Group

A group of retired kayakers (Colin, Rona, Mike & Peter) are meeting every Tuesday morning; you are welcome to join us. We decide what to do at breakfast time on Tuesday morning. If it's fine with light winds, we paddle, usually meeting at Kohimarama Beach at 9.30am. Destination Rangitoto, Browns Is or Motuihe. If it's too windy for kayaking, we cycle. Distance 30–40km, destination anywhere there's good coffee. We don't approve of rain, head winds, heavy traffic, battery chickens or the Republican Party.

Sometimes our trips last most of the day, sometimes just the morning. None of us want to get encumbered with organising these outings in advance, so they won't be advertised by email.

However if you would like to join us on a particular Tuesday then **phone Colin Quilter 360 6271 between 7.00 and 8.00am on Tuesday morning.**

### Saturday 8th September Clevedon to Kawakawa

Explore the winding river from Clevedon village and the sandy beaches along the hidden coast, finishing at the 'all tide' boat ramp.

**For details call Owen Sprosen on 575 5088**

### Sunday 23rd September Christmas Beach to Lucas Creek (Albany)

Join Trish and Neil Beken to cruise with the tide to Albany for coffee/lunch. They have checked out the café & picnic options for you.

Meet at Christmas Beach, Herald Island. Trish and Neil will be paddling to the beach from their property so will meet you on the water.

Paddle to Albany and return with the outgoing tide.

**Please call Trish for details on 483 7323**

### Sunday 23rd September Cambridge to Hamilton Race

Peter Sommerhalder confirms he is entering this event, as he and Su have a long history with this race and wants to invite as many ACC paddlers to join him. If you have never done this race, it's a fun two hours of paddling on moving water, along the stunning Waikato River.

You have to enter online – race entry \$40.  
<http://www.enteronline.co.nz/index.cfm?page=EventDetails&ID=4830>

Give Peter a call if you want to go. Once you have entered we can try and link up to share transport and car shuttles.

**Call Peter on 631 5344**

### Sunday 30th September Clarkes Beach to Waiuku

Another attempt to do this trip, hoping the weather will be kind this time. Come and explore this area of the Manukau Harbour that we do not paddle often.

Use the incoming tide to leave Clarkes Beach paddling up the inlet to Waiuku.

Picnic at Waiuku, then return with the outgoing tide.

**For details please call Rosemary on 267 5087 either Thursday or Friday before 9pm**

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## Up-coming Club Trips and Events

Continued from page 4

### Friday 28th to Sunday 30th Vine House Weekend

Take the chance to get away from the crowds for a relaxing weekend with good company and good food.

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

### Sunday 7th October St Heliers to North Shore beaches

Join Joe Scott Wood and members of the Alpine Sports Club for a trip along the beaches. There will be stops for coffee and a picnic. If the weather is not suitable plans will be adjusted – maybe paddle along the beaches or towards Tamaki.

Meet around 9.30am.

Please contact Joe on 575 5388 for details

### 2013 KASK Forum

Will be held at Raglan  
the weekend of March 8, 9 and 10  
Registrations will open in August  
Or contact Evan Pugh  
sheepskinsstuff@xtra.co.nz

### Last-Minute Paddling Opportunities email notifications

You can be notified by signing up for the Club emails.

Contact Jackie on 634 5042 to get onto the emailing list.

Mike Randal has kindly offered to look out for last-minute paddling opportunities for beginners, so look out for any email posts on Thursday/Friday advertising a Saturday or Sunday paddle.

Or If you are planning a trip and want company, send details to Jackie who will send an email.

### Having problems joining up via the website?

Some members have commented that they have tried to join up via the website and had difficulties. If you have tried and failed, please contact Jackie or Matt – we can help.

There are a lot more trips notified this way so it's a good way of finding out what's happening or last-minute changes to trips.

## Club Trip Reminder

As a club we are fortunate to have dedicated members who plan, arrange and participate in trips so that the less experienced can enjoy the environment we live in. My thanks go out to these dedicated people who support the club so willingly.

It is important that as a club we do not take their services for granted and in particular we need to ensure that they are not out of pocket when expenses are incurred.

Recently a couple of trips have involved the use of car shuttles to get participants from the destination back to the starting point where the kayaks had been left. It is disappointing that the participants on these trips did not think to offer even a token payment for petrol.

If our members are to continue to arrange these trips it is important that their expenses are covered where appropriate.

Considerable discussion has occurred amongst your Committee members, and I also contacted one of the drivers for direct input.

The overwhelming feeling is that the participants should be responsible for their own trip.

May I suggest that

***“On every trip where expenses are involved, the participants ensure that these expenses are covered and they do not become a burden on one member”.***

*Ian*

## More good places to go for a cup of tea

Colin Quilter

*It is accepted that one of the best things you can do in a kayak is to paddle somewhere for a cup of tea, and then paddle home again. Good cup-of-tea beaches share certain characteristics. They are small and secluded. They offer shade in summer but get the sun in the winter. They are protected from the wind. They are never crowded, so they are certainly not accessible by car and preferably not on foot. If they are on an island, so much the better. And if they are in a forgotten corner of the harbour you haven't noticed before, or haven't visited; well, why not?*

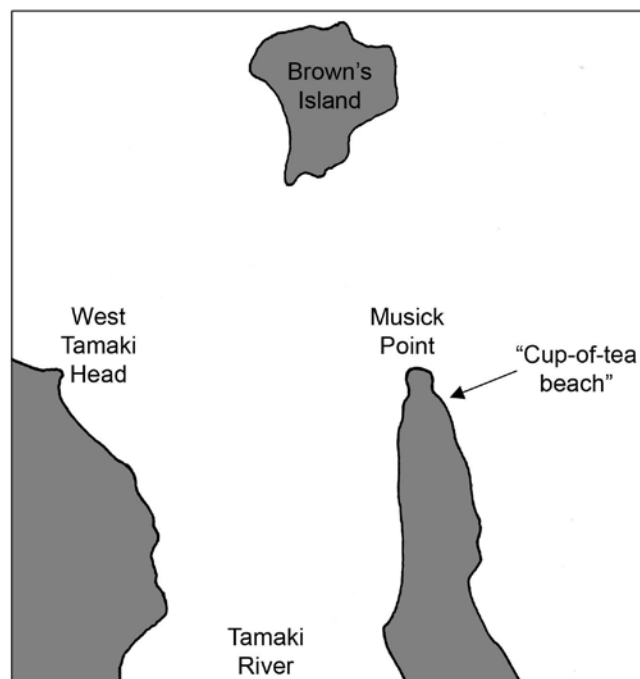
### Cove on the eastern side of Musick Point



**Where to go.** If starting from one of the Tamaki Drive beaches, eg. St Heliers, paddle eastward around Achilles Pt, across the mouth of the Tamaki River, to Musick Point. The headland is named after Captain Edwin Musick, the pilot of a Pan American Airways flying boat who was killed in 1938 when his aircraft crashed in Samoa. On top of the point are Art Deco-style buildings which used to house aviation and maritime radio stations; the buildings are now disused and are maintained by a Heritage Trust.

Paddle around the tip of the headland, and about 150 metres south of the tip, on the eastern side, there is a pleasant sandy beach backed by sandstone cliffs and pohutukawa trees.

**When to go.** The beach gets the sun in the morning, and is perfectly sheltered from southwesterly winds.



It is a bit shallow at low tide, but is good anytime between mid and high tides.

This beach offers an alternative to Brown's Island if you suspect that a rising SW wind might give you a hard slog home from the island.

If launching from Eastern Beach (the closest launch site) remember that Eastern Beach has extensive sand-flats exposed at low tide, which can mean a long carry back to the car. If launching from Bucklands Beach on the western side of the peninsula, remember that tidal currents are swift in the Tamaki River.



### ◀ Another cup of tea!!

#### Whakakaiwhara Pa

Gavin's Omana to Waitawa trip.

PHOTO: ERICA LAW

## Building a Foldboat

Kevin Sargent



purchased from a sign supplier in Henderson and the tricky job of making the skin was achieved by using duct tape and string to pull the material tight on the frame. Top front and rear panels, along with a keel rubbing strip completed the job,

Foldboats use sponsons (air bags), each side to make the skin tight on the frame and create a nicer overall shape. I had two spare 21 inch motorcycle tubes on hand, so each one was cut opposite the valve and the ends glued together to make two long 75 mm diameter sausages.

My brother has a company that signwrites the curtain sides of trucks.

Many years ago he gave me an old curtain to cover my trailer. The material is light, strong, flexible and can be glued successfully. It seemed the ideal material for a foldboat (folding kayak).

In 2009 my wife and I paddled the Danube in our Klepper double foldboat. I would like to return and paddle the river again and would need a single foldboat to take with me so I decided to try to build my own.

We saw single Kleppers on the Danube which were a lot shorter than our double, but seemed to be able to keep up.

I made cardboard patterns from the double, but left out the two central frames. This gave a length of 4 metres and a good volume for touring.

Signwriters use good quality marine grade ply for exterior signage. I jigsawed the frames out of used 12 mm thick sign ply. The stringers were ripped on my bench saw from old timber house framing and brass screws and hinges were used to allow the frame to fold. I could not replicate the Klepper clips that are used to hold the frame together so fastenings were made from aluminium angle that would hold the frames together with "R" clips. A stringline from the bow to the stern was utilised for the final assembly in an effort to get the frame as straight as possible.

Brown paper patterns were made for the bottom two panels of the skin. All the curves made it a challenge to get the shape right. Curtain material glue was



The tubes were inserted each side between the stringers and worked well when inflated at taking some of the creases out of the skin.

A seat and back rest were cut from spare sign ply and it was time for the launching. My brother had no faith in my creation and advised that I use a good quality life jacket. The kayak floated and paddled OK. There was a very slight righthand bias to the paddling, but overall it went well. I made up a light aluminium skeg for the next test.

The kayak was light and easy to carry down the steps to my local beach.

The skeg did the job of providing straight line paddling but bent out of shape.

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## Building a Foldboat

Continued from page 7

Back to the workshop for strengthening. The next paddle consisted of a circumnavigation of our local flat island and some cruising along the coast.

Overall 6 kilometres covered with no dramas, a good result.

All I have to do now is get permission to return to Germany for the final test.

Glue, brass screws and hinges were all that was purchased for the project.

The curtain material and sign ply used were all donated off-cuts.



## Poet's Corner

*Into the wind Erica and I  
Down by the ferry terminal  
A big pod of dolphins  
Happened close by*

*Kayaking bliss  
What luck and such joy  
To be with these water folk  
To happen like this*

*With a following breeze  
We turned and went with them  
Twenty or thirty  
Kept up with such ease*

*Were they just having fun  
Leaping in pairs  
And coming up close  
To the boats we did wonder*

*What it is that revives me  
To be with the dolphins  
A long ago kinship  
Our links to the sea*

*They left us at Kohi  
Took off to the East  
We pulled up the boats  
In for that cup of tea.*

Mike Randall



## Padding with the big tides

Roger Lomas

When the local paddling scene has become a bit ho-hum, there is nothing like a tidal boost to give your kayaking an adventurous lift. Easter 2012 was just such an occasion. A series of king tides were predicted to arrive. For the early morning kayakers who had decided to stay in town for the holiday weekend, a busy paddling programme was planned.

Good Friday saw a small group out on the Manukau. We paddled from Weymouth to Seagrove to visit the site of a long forgotten former WW2 airstrip. The coast along here is flanked by giant mud banks and is very shallow. We needed an extra big tide to venture into the area. Along the way we paddled past slender shell bank islands that were teeming with bird life. Our visit here was brief, because woe betide the tardy paddler. It wouldn't just be the Royal Spoonbills out wading in the mud.

Easter Saturday found us paddling through the volcanic rock channels of Meola Reef. The mangrove fringed creeks in the region encourage exploration and you can almost paddle right up to the Auckland Zoo on a big tide. A planned cuppa stop at Watchman Island was almost thwarted by the tidal surge. The little beach was awash when we arrived and our tea break was taken on a rock ledge perched above the swirling water.

Easter Sunday was a chance to attempt a unique paddle and portage. We were exploring the big sand spit near the mouth of the Tamaki Estuary. On the king tide, the salt marsh and mangrove swamp area at the back of the sand spit was flooded. As we ventured into the submerged salt bush it was like paddling through the treetops. We were able to skim

our way right up to the boardwalk track near the base of the sand spit. Here we made a portage back across to the seaward side, a mere 3 metres away.

Easter Monday was used to explore Hobson Bay. On the big tide a full coastal circuit was possible. A couple of small creeks that run up past Shore Rd were investigated. Near the top of the tide we were waiting outside the Orakei Basin floodgates in Purewa Creek. The big tide had the saltwater spilling over the tops of the floodgates, back flowing into the Orakei Basin. The small portage pathway beside the floodgates was also awash and was now like a mini spillway. Perfect for a sea kayak to make a spectacular entrance into the basin.

The king tides occur in cycles about four or five times a year. The tidal boost will see peaks of about 3.5–3.6 metres on the Waitemata and 4.5 metres on the Manukau. These tides will be even higher if a low pressure weather system is hovering nearby. More big tides are due in October and November. Look out for them and use them for your own paddle adventure.

Roger



Sandspit portage. ▲

Cuppa Stop  
near Seagrove. ►

◀ There is not much room for a cuppa on Watchman Island when the big tides come rolling in.



Occasionally there are opportunities for new paddlers to join the early morning group. If you are interested, contact me on **846 6799**.