



October 2012

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Early morning kayakers on the busy Waitemata Harbour

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

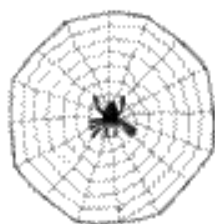
subscribe@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

Officers

<i>Patron</i>	Jim Mason	
<i>President</i>	Ian Calhaem	579 0512
<i>Secretary</i>		
<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

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vinehouse@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
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 SUBS, STORAGE, HIRE, OTHER (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.

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome

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

Kathy Engelbrecht,
Shane Jordan,
Ricarda Schmidt,
and Craig & Gudrun Stott-Barth.



Deadline for Next Newsletter

20 October 2012

Regular Events

Vine House – Last Weekend of Every Month

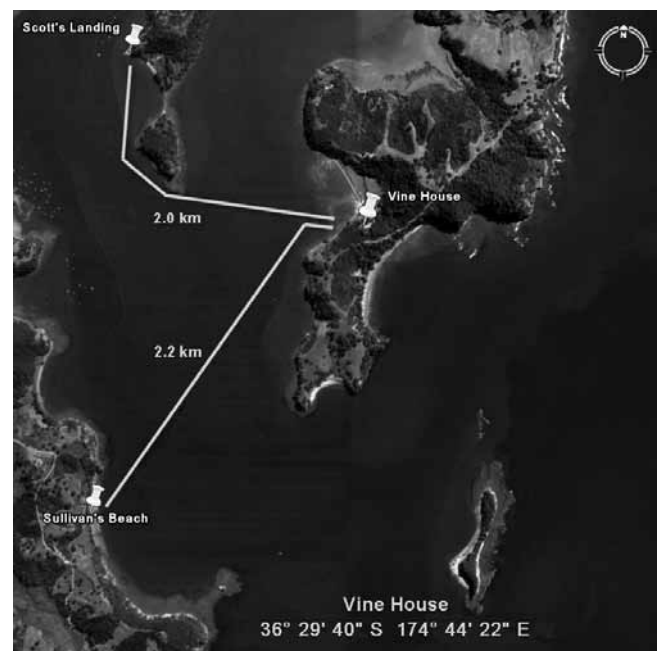
On the last weekend of each month we have the use of Vine House.

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).

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.**

Sunday 14th October French Bay to Puketutu Island

Join Erica to the head up the Manukau Harbour with the incoming tide, explore the beaches of Puketutu Island and have a picnic before using the outgoing tide to return to French bay.

Please contact Erica by Thursday with expressions of interest and to get details. By phoning **021 043 8118** or **812 8010**, or emailing lawe@ihug.co.nz

Labour Weekend 20th – 22nd October Coromandel

Wally and Sue have offered to host ACC members at their home /garden in Coromandel Township.

There is room to camp in the garden and a few mattress opportunities on the floor of their home. First come, first served!

There are a variety of paddling opportunities from Coromandel and these will be determined on the day depending on the weather and sea conditions. Coromandel offers many activities if anyone wants a break from their kayak one day.

Depending on numbers there are several local campsites that you can check out <http://www.coromandeltown.co.nz/tent-sites--powered-sites.html>

The top 10 resort is a few minutes from Wally's and Sue's house.

Please contact Wally to book and get location details on **07 866 8833** or email mapagilmer@hotmail.com

Friday 26th to Sunday 28th October Vine House weekend

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

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

November sees the start of the Masters Swim Series

Once again there will be two swims before Christmas, both in November.

The last two longer swims are in February.

Please put the dates in your diary as it's a great time to see Club members out on the water supporting the swimmers.

We will not be advertising alternative trips on the same day as these swims unless linked on after the event.

Without the kayak support these swims cannot go ahead. We need to guarantee a specific number of

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Up-coming Club Trips and Events

Continued from page 4

available kayaks on the water depending on the swim distance. So take the opportunity to enjoy a few hours on the harbour supporting the swimmers, then enjoy one of Roger's barbecues.

Please note, there may be a change in format for the swims this year.

Auckland Council requires the organisers to supply a risk management plan. Depending on these requirements, we will make the necessary adjustments. Please keep your eye on the email notices.

Sunday 4th November **Herne bay swim – 1.2 km** **Herne Bay Beach to Curran Beach**

Meet at 9.00 am at Curran Beach where we will paddle to Herne Bay for the 10 swim start.

Sunday 11th November **Kawakawa Bay to Ponui Island**

Join Philip for this popular paddle around Ponui Island. There will be stops for breaks and a picnic lunch.

We will use the outgoing tide to reach the Ponui and the incoming tide to bring us home.

If nearer the time the weather forecast is looking poor on the Sunday, Philip may reschedule to Saturday so please watch out for an email announcement or phone Philip for confirmation.

For details and to express interest, contact Philip on **575 3493** preferably by Thursday evening.

'Thursday evening' – 15th November **It's now the season so** **Let's go scalloping!**

A very low tide on the Manukau Harbour means it's possible to reach the scallop beds without diving. So if the weather is suitable the plan is to meet at Jenkins Bay at 5.15 pm to leave by 6pm

Maximum scallop catch is 20 per person.

I plan to bring a pan to cook some on the beach, so how about a picnic? BYO picnic and drinks.

For expressions of interest, please call Jackie by Wednesday on **021 808 436** or **634 5042**.

Sunday 18th November **Chelsea Swim – 2.36 km** **Curran Street to Chelsea**

Meet at Curran Beach at 9.30am for the swim start at 10.30.

24th – 25th November **Vine House weekend**

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

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

Friday 30th November **– Sunday Dec 2nd.**

A last opportunity to join Waitemata Canoe and Multisport Club to kayak on the Mohaka river.

Mangatutu to Dave's Landing.

There are two options.

The first 24 kms is for experienced grade 2 kayakers only and only suitable for rigid plastic sea kayaks or white water boats.

The lower section (27kms) is suitable for those with some river experience.

We will be camping this weekend.

It's a stunning river to paddle, so call Jackie ASAP if you are interested to find out further details **634 5042**.

A reminder to join the club email notification

Some members have commented they have tried to join up via the web site and had difficulties. If you have tried please contact Jackie or Matt and 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.

Masters Series Harbour Swim Dates;

See page 10.

Extra notice re Vine House **Christmas booking at Vine House** **29th – 30th December**

The council is keen to offer this weekend to the public who have booked the bach the dates either side of our weekend booking.

If we are not intending to use Vine House over this period it's an opportunity to strengthen our partnership with the council by being flexible.

If anyone is considering going to Vine house for our December weekend please contact Trevor ASAP.

Maraetai to Waitawa Bay, Saturday 25th August

Gavin Baker



After a week of unsettled weather accompanied by equally unsettled weather forecasts it all came together and Saturday dawned with the clear skies and light winds that had been promised. At 10:30 Erica, Rosemary, Suzanne, Lester, Paul and Gavin left Omana Beach boat ramp headed for the unnamed (to my knowledge) beach tucked into the Western side of Koherurahi Point near Kawakawa Bay. We meandered at a leisurely pace for the 3.4 nautical miles to a great "Cupofteabeach" under the Northern side of Whakakaiwhara Pa on the point of the same name. This beach had a wonderful log especially placed there for kayakers and it accommodated all six of us with room to spare.

It is a well known and documented fact that Logs and Kayakers go together like a Horse and Carriage



and generally on a fine day, wherever there is a log on a beach one will find a Kayaker(s) claiming rightful possession of said Log.

Having partaken of Tea we set off for what I referred to as Waitawa Bay for want of any official name. In fact, Waitawa Bay is actually part of Kawakawa Bay on the Eastern side of Koheruahi Point. This leg was approximately 2.8 nautical miles with a flat sea and a gentle Easterly breeze. The destination was virtually unrecognizable when compared to previous visits. The beach is a lovely crescent of white sand with a headland at each end backed by a low ridge, thus forming a natural amphitheatre. This made it an ideal sheltered location for the storage of explosives as any accidental explosion would be well contained by the geography of the bay. It had a number of concrete magazines housing the explosives and the headlands and the ridge were covered in pine forest giving it a very picturesque aspect.

The site was occupied by ICI and then Orica and was only accessible by boat. In the last few years the magazines have gone, along with the pine forest and the place looks a bit of a mess. Auckland City has now taken over the land and is turning it into a regional park and, even better, will put in facilities so that it will become a stopover for the proposed Auckland Kayak Trail which is intended to run from Auckland to Thames – so – YAY!!

While enjoying our lunch the breeze got up a touch from the NE giving us a slight chop for the return leg to Whakakaiwhara. A quick rest break out of the

breeze on the southern side of Whakakaiwhara and then it was into the final leg back to Omana. The breeze increased to 10 to 15 knots from just east of north which meant we had lovely wind waves on the beam for the ride home to Omana.

The conditions could not have been better and I had a thoroughly good day and I trust the rest of the participants enjoyed the trip as much as I did. Thanks for coming.

Gavin

Poet's Corner

*They are such slim and sturdy boats
Designed in such a way to float
On stormy and humungous seas
Enough to satisfy and tease
The most adventurous of us
The rest would rather go by bus
The kayak's made for just these climes
It's really kept up with the times
With fibre kevlar composites
And any other bobs and bits
All these thoughts occurred to me
Along with thinking cups of tea
As I was paddling in our harbour
That always seems to raise my ardour
For salty winds and friendly water
Though sometimes when I didn't oughta
It came to mind an oracle
With visions of a coracle
How would the coracle have fared
Assuming paddlers would have dared
To face our South Pacific coast*

*A trip round Rangī could be toast
My Celtic ancestors I note
Thought coracle a corker boat
Cork would have been the better stuff
To make these boats float in the rough
They were made for a calmer sea
When fishers caught their fish for tea
But Inuit and Eskimo
Preferred a boat with sharper bow
Happily we favoured this
Giving rounded hulls a miss
Coracles are still in use
Not wanting ancient skills to lose
My heart goes out to all you folks
Who choose a paddle board and those
Who use a board with kite or sail
They welcome kayaks' bane the gale
Which brings me back to my boat of choice
To paddle them is just so noice.*

Mike Randall

INTERESTED IN A TRIP TO THE ALDERMAN ISLANDS?

The proposal is for a trip to The Alderman Islands approx 14km out from Tairua.

We would be using the charter launch *Taranui*, a 38ft Pelin. We have used her before and she is a comfortable kayak-friendly boat with a top notch skipper. One of the few charter launches that will tie kayaks across the chrome railings. Towing is not an option.

The Aldermans are a group of sanctuary islands with **NO LANDING PERMITTED**. The launch would serve as a base while we explore the many and awesome caves, outstanding rock formations, hopefully see a tuatara sunning itself on the rocks, snorkelling in the beautifully clear waters and generally paddle around the group and explore to our hearts content. We can even catch a feed of fish if you like. Rods for hire or take your own.

The options are:-

#1 Drive down Friday afternoon for a 6pm ish departure returning late Sunday afternoon. 2 nights aboard. Cost \$300.

#2 Sat morning departure, late Sunday afternoon return. \$270

#3 Saturday early morning departure, late Saturday afternoon return. \$120

We went with #1 last time and there is no shortage of things to keep you busy out there if the weather obliges.

We would want to pick a weekend with low tides mid dayish to give better access to more of the caves.

For the overnights, the skipper can provide a catered menu or else we would need to plan and co-ordinate our meals to minimise our clutter and number of chilly bins. He still remembers our foodie antics from last time. WAY too much gear!!

At the moment the skipper has some good gaps in his bookings.

Please contact me to register your interest and preference. The boat will take 8 kayaks so we may need to run 2 trips, maybe 2 formats. This could be later this year or up to April next year. Warmer snorkelling weather too.

Let's have your thoughts folks.

Trevor Arthur, phone **817 7357** or **027 27 88 018**.

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?

Watchman Island

Watchman Island, about 600 metres off the Herne Bay coast, must once have been larger but wind and waves are fast wearing it away. On early British Admiralty charts of the Waitemata Harbour the island is called "Sentinel Rock."



The pohutukawa tree at the left (eastern) end of the island has a precarious hold on a clay bank which is rapidly eroding. Like some of us paddlers, its time is nearly up!

Where to go. From any of the Tamaki Drive beaches, head west up-harbour past Devonport and the city wharves, beneath the harbour bridge, and there's little Watchman Island offshore from Herne Bay. The landing is onto a tiny shell beach on the N end; at HW very little of this beach remains, with room for just a few kayakers. A smooth rocky shelf nearby makes a comfortable seat in the sun, with shelter from the wind.



When to go. This is an excellent destination on those mornings (common in Auckland) when a SW wind is forecast to freshen by afternoon. You won't want to go out to Browns Island or Rangitoto because of the difficulty of sloggng home against the wind. However if you can get up to Watchman Island while the wind is light, you are guaranteed an easy return trip even if the wind rises. If HW is mid to late morning, so much the better. The flood tide will carry you up-harbour to Watchman Island, and the ebb will hurry you home. What's not to enjoy?

If the wind is northerly, then Watchman Island offers no shelter for a cup of tea, and nearby Kendall Bay (on the north shore of the upper harbour near Kauri Pt) is a better destination.

KASK Sea Kayak Forum

Raglan – 8, 9 and 10 March 2013

Speakers, paddles, flare demo and even some training available at this great spot on Auckland's back door.

Your registration covers everything from meals to accommodation and the sessions.

Go to www.kask.org.nz and on the events page is all the information and the registration form or contact Evan Pugh sheepskinsstuff@xtra.co.nz

Lucas Creek

Jackie Hillman

“Can you look for my pink sail stored under your house?” was the message on my answerphone the night before!

With high tide at 1pm and a forecast for slight seas with a maximum of 15 knots (unfortunately north-east which meant a head wind against the tide!) it meant a trip up Lucas Creek was a good option to reach the landing at Kell Park in Albany for lunch.

Trish and Neil set off from their Beachhaven home with a plan to rendezvous with everyone at Christmas Beach on Herald Island at 11am to make good use of the incoming tide up Lucas Creek.

We set off, but were instantly distracted by a glider doing loops in the sky above us. Once he'd finished we made our way across the channel where we were confronted by some impressive gusts.

Owen Sprosen was paddling a double with John, his friends Ron and Carol-Anne were paddling their double, Trish, Joe Scott-Wood and Jackie were paddling their single sea kayaks. Neil was using his rowing skiff which made easy progress in the breeze.

Neil had repaired the sail brackets on Trish's Squall, so she was hoping to practice her kayak sailing skills on the return trip (hard to shake the solo Tasman sailor out of her even when kayaking!)

Owen, Trish and Neil forged a path up the centre of Lucas Creek to make the most of the tide, while the rest of us took the more sheltered route along the left bank to avoid some of the breeze and wind against tide chop, but with less tide to assist our progress.

As we paddled further into the narrowing creek we saw increasing evidence of kowhai flowers on the water with more kowhai trees in bloom.

It took just over an hour to reach the Albany landing where most of us pushed on to reach the waterfall while we had the high tide.

Here we found a glorious scene with the tuis enjoying the kowhai flowers and making their distinctive calls.

We returned to the landing by squeezing under the fallen tree and noted the abandoned shopping trolley and discarded footballs along the way.

The area originally had the Maori names Okahukura or Kaipatiki, meaning 'place of rainbows' or 'place of butterflies'. It wasn't until 1890 that the area was officially renamed Albany after one of Queen Victoria's sons, Prince Leopold, the Duke of Albany.



The reason the name changed seems to have been influenced by some of the local people wanting to rid the town of its poor reputation of harbouring deserting sailors and illegal whiskey distillers!

Lucas Creek was named in 1845 after a Flax Miller called Daniel Lucas. Apparently Lucas was a whaler who came ashore and became a flax trader; the flax was collected in the area and taken from the wharf to Auckland. According to the plaque at Kell Park, there are no records of where Lucas came from, other than he bought the land in the 1840's alongside the creek which stretches west towards Riverhead. He didn't reside long in the area either as he left in 1846, his lands were abandoned and there is no record of him dying in New Zealand, it would seem likely that he may have left the country. Ref: *Google*.



Daniel Lucas

Continued on page 10 ➤

Lucas Creek

Continued from page 9



Kell Park is a fabulous reserve with plenty to entertain families and picnic tables to make the most of the water views. Tracks criss cross the reserve with bridges over the creeks indicating plenty of paths to explore if time allowed.

After a picnic lunch and a café stop for some, we parted with Owen's party having to head straight back while the rest of us explored the other arm of the creek until a rock weir prevented further progress.



The wind had settled so Trish unrolled her sail and set off, the wind was swinging further east making it hard to maintain the sailing for long periods. We had an attempt to raft up to increase the stability but we didn't have enough wind to keep this up for long so resorted to paddling again.

Clearly a little more practice is needed before long sailing kayak trips are planned.

You never think you are making fast progress until you glance at the bank and appreciate the outgoing tide and wind assistance.

All too soon we were at Salthouse Boatyard where we took a look at the moored wakas that had returned after completing a re-creation of the historic Pacific voyages.

A really enjoyable paddle, well worth another visit. Thanks to Trish and Neil for co-ordinating the trip.

2012–13 Harbour Swim Dates

Confirmed dates and times for Auckland Central Masters Harbour Swims 2012–13.

<p>1st HERNE BAY 1.2k Herne Bay Beach to Curran Street Sunday 4th November 2012 Assemble 10.00am Start 10.00am Tide 11.54pm</p>	<p>3rd EAGLE TECHNOLOGY BAYS 3.78k St Heliers Bay to Tamaki Yacht Club Sunday 3rd February 2013 Assemble 10.30am Start 11.30am Tide 1.29pm</p>
<p>2nd CHELSEA SUGAR 2.36k Curran Street to Chelsea Sunday 18th November 2012 Assemble 9.30am Start 10.30am Tide 11.37am</p>	<p>4th EAGLE TECHNOLOGY RANGITOTO 4.45k Rangitoto to St Heliers Bay Sunday 3rd March 2013 Assemble 7.00am Embark TBCam Sail for Rangitoto 8:30 TBCam Arrive Rangitoto TBC0am Start 10.20am Tide 12.21pm</p>

CLARKS BEACH TO WAIUKU ON THE MANUKAU – 30 SEPTEMBER

Philip Noble



Clarks Beach.

I think Rosemary must have had good communication with the weather gods as we had great weather for her planned trip from Clarks Beach on Sunday.

Ten of us, Rosemary, Helen, Rosie, Kevin, Karon, Linda, Erica, Lester, Sue and Philip met at 8.00am, were in the water exactly at 8.30 as planned and headed up the Waiuku estuary with a strong current assisting us. The plan was to go up the west shoreline on the way up and return down the east side.

With a few fishing boats already returning to the beach, we were soon back in the rhythm of paddling and just happy to be out in the warm sun doing what we love. For Sue and me, it was great, after a few months away, to be back in the water and to catch up on the news from friends we hadn't seen for a while.



Passing Glenbrook Steel Mill.

Soon we were passing the Glenbrook Steel Mill with the usual clouds of steam belching out of the chimney stacks and after passing a few inlets and bays the Waitangi Falls came into view. After the obligatory photos of the pretty waterfall we headed up to the Waiuku Boat Club for a leg stretch. From here it was a short trip up to the Waiuku village by which time the tide had fully flooded in. We returned to the soft grassy reserve next to the boat club for lunch and a cuppa.

On the return trip down the eastern side of the estuary we were fortunate to see a flock of about 30 Royal Spoonbills on a white sandy island. They were somewhat uninterested in our presence, however, did take a short return flight when one of the group got too close. Evidently this colony is one only a few around the country and they nest either in tall trees, with the risk of losing their eggs or chicks in storms, or on the ground with the risk of predators. It was encouraging to hear that their numbers seem to be on the increase.

Rosemary's estimate of timing was spot on and we bid each other farewell at about 2.30 and headed back home satisfied with a good day's paddling.



Waitangi Falls.