

Auckland Canoe Club Information

Postal Address

P.O. Box 9271, Newmarket, Auckland

Clubrooms

Marine Rescue Centre, Mechanics Bay

Website

<http://www.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>		
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(for kayak hire, or any related questions)

storage@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
(for questions about storing kayaks in the locker)

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.

Regular Events

Vine House Weekends



On one weekend each month we have the use of Vine House. This gem in Mahurangi Harbour is a 2 km paddle from Sullivan's 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 or Matt 817 1984.**

Saturday Morning Coffee Cruise

Most Saturday mornings some club members do a short paddle from the club lock up at Okahu Bay.

We set off from the lock up at 9.00, returning by 12.30. The level is fairly easy and you can nearly always hire a club kayak. The route depends on the tide and the weather. We often paddle out to Bean Rock lighthouse and then stop at Kohi Beach for coffee in a local cafe before paddling back.

Join us for a relaxed paddle. It's a great way to meet people in the club.

Be aware: People don't go every week. You might go one week when no-one else happens to turn up.

You should have basic paddling skills to join this group, you will be responsible for yourself.

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

For more information, go to:

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

NEW MEMBERS



Welcome

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

Ollie Hawes
and Ben Sanders



Deadline for Next Newsletter

15 August 2013

Queens Birthday Weekend – Hahei

Jackie Hillman



A comfortable Bach with a large lawn to put kayaks on and a beach 5 minutes walk away was the start of a great weekend. The extra day of a long weekend and a forecast of clear sunny skies and minimal breeze meant it was likely to be spectacular.

These weekends are always fun especially when shared with other foodies.

Seven of us spent the weekend at Hahei and after a lazy start we set off on Saturday morning on a high tide towards Hot water beach exploring the caves and bays on the way. Will found the Y shaped cave which when reversing in allows a different exit out, with such calm condition even the most nervous paddler could be confident checking out caves.



It was an easy landing tucked up in the northern end of Hot Water Beach. Just a slight swell with the old dumping wave but easy to pick the one to ride in on. It was a relaxing spot for lunch looking out towards the Alderman Islands.

Chantal had spotted the huge blow hole on the way there which the rest of us missed so we set off to find it.

I managed to loose my sunglasses while looking up at the hole. So frustrating spotting them in the clear water but knowing only a deep dive would get them back. The visibility in the winter is incredible. It's hard to calculate quite how deep the water is.

By 3.30 the sun was dropping making paddling without sunglasses a challenge. The final headland before Hahei has a cave that's navigable – we had used this route on the way out. The sun streaming through made it impossible to gauge. I had sun spots in my eyes so left the others to see if they could make it through. I met them around the other side. They were all quite chuffed with their bravery.

It was then back to the beach and the short walk home before Trevor set about firing up the hot tub.



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Queens Birthday Weekend – Hahei

Continued from page 4

Next day was another perfect calm day. Not quite such a bright sky as the day before but still beautiful paddling conditions. We headed this time to Cooks Beach via some of the islands and Cathedral Cove.



Not so many caves this time, and once you leave the beach you are soon into the marine reserve. There are few landing spots until you pass Cathedral Cove. After that it's mainly a rocky coastline until you approach the river inlet at the left of Cook's Beach. Here we found a great picnic spot including a table and public toilets.

We did some quality control testing of Denise's chocolate macaroon and all agreed we were happy to test goodies anytime.

Again by 3.30 the sun was dropping with a noticeable drop in temperature. So we were happy to head back to Hahei.

A roast meal this time and another soak in the tub.



We could have paddled Monday as it was another calm day. We had been spoiled though and as it was overcast we decided to head along the beach for a walk.

By 2.40pm we had cleaned and tidied and were happy to head back to Auckland.

Contact Jackie if you want details of the bach we used as it's good for kayakers with plenty of room and a hose to rinse kayaks and gear.

Thanks to Trevor and Denise, Will and Chantal, Dorothy and Judith for a fabulous weekend.

Poet's Corner

*I'm off on a wee adventure
Not the nasty disturbing type
Though I'll admit to a little discomfort
In economy class long haul flight
But it won't make me late for dinner
I'll be there at the ready in seat
You'll have picked up the Hobbit allusions
Embarking on an adventurous feat.*

*But you don't have to get on an airplane
For an adventurer's mind to take wing
You just need to get in your kayak
It's there that the heart starts to sing
Now in winter it's not all that marvellous
To head off in freezing cold rain
But a warm woolly hat makes a difference
Between comfort and a numbing cold brain.*

*Adventures are all shapes and sizes
A walk to the dairy is one
No telling of what might befall you
And that's all part of the fun
Fear apprehension excitement
Emotions well known to us all
They're all part of having adventures
Without them the whole thing would pall.*

*This poem is really for Starters
In the paddling balancing game
The old hands will know what I'm saying
To them it's more of the same.*

*Bilbo retired to write poems
At an age far exceeding my own
By the time you are reading this missive
This bird will have hopefully flown.*

Mike Randall

Padding Reflections – two worlds

Erica Law

It's not often I take the opportunity to paddle alone, but being at a fortuitous time of life, largely free of just about Everything (kids, job, unwell parents, debt etc), I am able to decide on the spur of the moment to take advantage of the weather to go for a paddle. So, yesterday an overcast but otherwise fine and calm Friday morning, I grabbed my Albatross off its perch in our new garage at Piha, and with my second set of kayak gear (main set at our central city abode), I headed off for French Bay on the Manukau around 7.45am, so as to take advantage of an incoming tide to paddle up to Puketutu Island. The boat ramp at French Bay is usable at all tides, but I much prefer to paddle with the flow of the current.

At 8.30am, I climbed into my kayak only to discover that four months previously when I last checked out the Albatross I had fiddled with the foot rest/rudder control, trying to unstick its salt encrustation. In doing so I had loosened the whole rudder steering set up, and broken a crucial plastic piece. Unable to resolve this there and then, I secured the rudder in place on the deck, and thanking the fact that I can nearly as easily paddle without a rudder, I set off across the smooth surface of the Manukau about 9am. Out in the middle, seeking to enjoy the peace and solitude, no other boats around, I realised I was trying to shake off the constant unrelenting background hum of the city traffic on my portside to the north, and this was a hopeless wish, only likely if the wind changed; not in my power either. So I settled into my paddling, accepting the hum; after all it wasn't a particularly unpleasant sound in itself, not a piercing shriek, or a discordant jarring tone, just a sound with unpleasant associations.

I reflected that in a way, here in the middle of the Manukau, I had the two aspects of my life represented both together. The noise of the city to my left, and the calm of the harbour and Waitakeres behind and to my right. Over the last 18 months I have been getting used to spending half my week in central Auckland, with its diverse activity, colourful vibrant energy, economy and the many opportunities to engage with people, to learn, to produce and earn; and the other half of my week at our new Piha hill home with its panoramic views, sense of space and spaciousness, memorable experiences of weather events, and opportunities to walk in the Waitakeres just over the back fence. Complexity and simplicity; activity and stillness; productive achievement and restful contentment; social engagement and quiet contemplation – the poles of my life and the best of both worlds.

As I approached the western end of Puketutu Island I noticed a rather large roost of birds, quite a range of species, all sitting or standing peacefully together. They weren't ruffled by my approach, until a group of shags gave way to anxiety and took off, running over the water and setting off a rapid chain reaction from the rest. The hundred or so Royal Spoonbills rose gently straight up into the air above the rocks, with a quiet whoosh of their wings, a majestic sight indeed.



I landed not far away on a small beach for a cup of tea, before heading back out into the channel, heading back towards Green Bay and French Bay on an outgoing tide.

Skirting the coast, I wondered at the wisdom of building some of the houses so close to the cliff top, observed a recent fire which had burnt off some of the cliff side vegetation, and further along noted a recent slip. An occasional fish broke surface, above water, and an occasional gannet broke surface, below water.

Back at the boat ramp late morning, several men were hanging about enjoying the morning sun, chatting and chatty. I heard about how the Coastguard boat was able to launch in 95% of tidal conditions, just not when it was a big low tide. However because of the 5% risk of not launching, the boat had to be anchored out in the bay, and despite all our modern technology and know-how in so many areas, we haven't yet figured out how to keep the birds from roosting or crapping on the boat. I wondered how come these men were able to be lounging around, enjoying the place. They didn't look old enough to be retired. But then neither do I. Shift workers? Independently wealthy? Beneficiaries? I didn't know, but I do know they were friendly, and relaxed in their enjoyment of the day, just like me. Such are the joys of solo kayaking. Note to myself: I should do more of it.

Erica

Hoteo River – Sunday 23 June

Jackie Hillman

The plan was to pack and load the kayak on the car the night before but that didn't happen. So the alarm going off early to pack up and meet the others in Titirangi at 7.30 seemed quite challenging with a chilly forecast, rain pouring outside the house and winds predicted to be 25kms. How often those mornings turn into something different in Auckland. As I left the house the sun came out.

We were heading for The Hoteo River about 35km north of Helensville, meeting some others along the way and our shuttle driver in Helensville. The distance we intended to paddle was about 21kms.

With everyone loaded into a camper van and towing a trailer we headed north on Kaipara Coast Highway 16 until turning right into Tauhoa Road. It was about 7km along this road where we found the put-in spot near Hoteo Station Road. We searched the bank for the easiest entry and ended up lowering the kayaks down a slippery bank to the water using a towline. The farmer came by and suggested we got a 'wriggle on' as he thought we were in for a 6 hr day.

It can take quite a while getting 10 people organised and into boats. A quick reminder to the less experienced about how to eddy in/out of the river flow, a warning to keep well away from a tree stump and we set off with the river quite narrow at this point and a few willows to be mindful of.

The river was flowing at a steady rate after the recent rain and we were soon making good progress. It's a really attractive river to paddle with changing landscapes of farmland, hills, native bush, some steep banks and rock faces. As we progressed down the river we passed plenty of maimai of varying standards of construction, from basic to one with an outside toilet. We were grateful duck shooting season was primarily over.

Initially the weather was warm and sunny, but the clouds came over, then temperature rapidly dropped and we had some very cold rain. We stopped after an hour for a snack and checked the GPS – 8km travelled so we were making good progress. For the rest of the paddle we had periods of sun when there were breaks in the cloud, followed by showers of cold rain. We had to be mindful of keeping warm and putting on extra gear early.

It's mainly a flat water paddle but there are two sets of rapids marked on the map. Although I think we came across a few more. Google maps shows several patches of rocks so I guess we came across some of those. In the summer I think it would get a bit boney at times, even we were pleased to have plastic kayaks as we scraped a few places. We were looking for a weir at about 14kms. There was a patch of rocks that blocked whole flow with a ½ mt drop so I guess that was it. We had been prepared to portage around if needed but everyone negotiated it easily.

Only one person took a swim at a later rapid, which was an initial concern as it was so cold but they seemed to keep warm and paddled happily for the remainder of the trip. A few of us stopped and added extra clothing to keep us comfortable. We had brought quite a bit of spare warm gear and some extra wet suits as a precaution.

We didn't find too many places to pull over and have a picnic but I think in the summer the banks would have been drier and make for easier picnic spots.

About 4 kms before the bridge at Highway 16 we found the Mangatu Stream and took a detour through a narrow channel to find a small waterfall. We passed attractive native bush up this stream which is near Mt Auckland.

The last 4 kms was quite tidal and we reached it at low tide as the river widened, so we had less help from the river current. The jetty by the bridge made an easy pull out. We had taken about 4 hours with the side trip to make our way down at an easy steady paddle pace.

With the camper van and trailer waiting it didn't take too long to sort ourselves out. There are public toilets here by the boat club and we changed ready for a trip the Parakai hot pools on the way home. – Bliss!!

This is a trip well worth repeating and not so quite so exposed if the harbour conditions look unpromising. It's easier using a trailer for kayaks rather than car shuttles.

Thanks for Carol and Tina of Auckland Tramping Club and the Waitemata Canoe & Multisport Club for inviting us along.



Winter Lecture Series

The Auckland Canoe Club winter lecture series runs from June through to September, using the third Wednesday of each month. These popular presentations are held at the Marine Rescue Centre which is adjacent to the downtown heliport on Tamaki Drive.

Our winter series is open for all to attend. It is used to showcase the paddling adventures of our fellow kayakers. Spread the word and invite your friends and paddling companions along to enjoy these inspirational presentations. A light supper and hot drinks will be available during the evening.

Next Lecture Wednesday 21st August.

Meeting Room 2. 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.

The Best Little Kayak trip in NZ

Colin Quilter

If asked to nominate the best kayaking destination in NZ most folk would specify Abel Tasman National Park, or perhaps the Bay of Islands, or maybe the coast north of Whangarei. I think the answer is much closer to home: a paddle around Great Barrier Island. It has everything you might want: remote beaches separated by dramatic rocky headlands, sheltered harbours, good campsites, great walking when the weather turns bad, and easy access (by ferry) from Auckland.

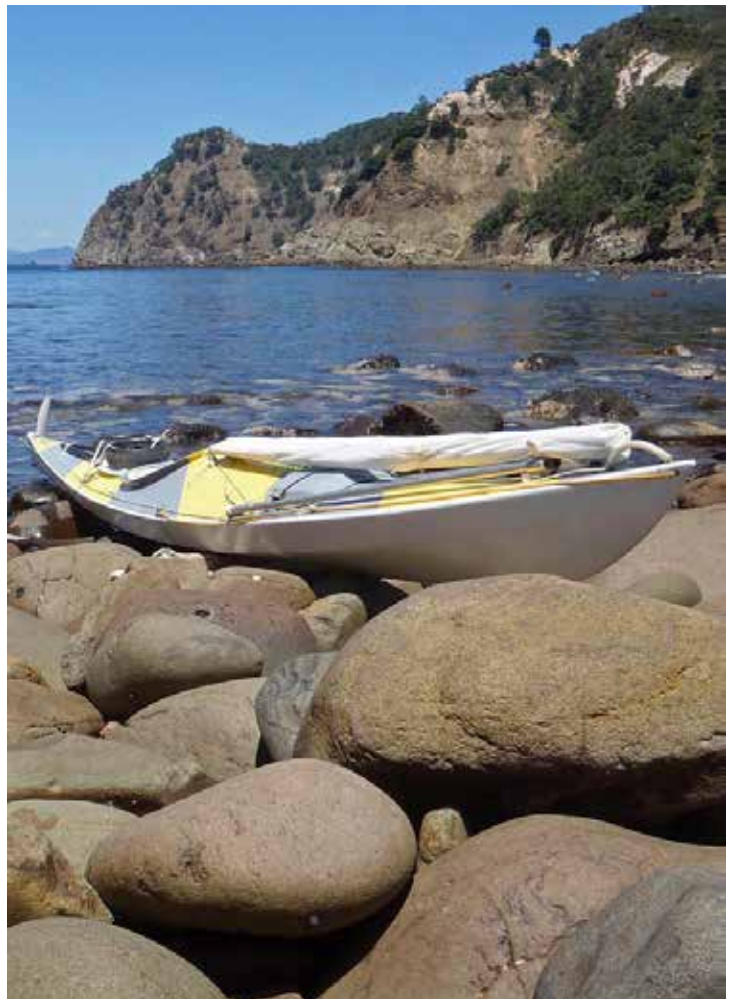
In this talk (based on three circumnavigations by kayak and numerous sailing trips) I will explain where to go, how to get there, where to find easy landings, and the best campsites.

There will even be a hand-out with everything written down! Got something better to do on a winter evening?

Cheers, Colin

Need more information?

Phone Roger Lomas on 846 6799



New-generation plastic kayaks

Colin Quilter

Anyone looking to purchase a new sea kayak will have noticed that in the last few years, the choice has widened. A new generation of thermoformed plastic kayaks are dramatically lighter in weight than earlier plastic boats. This matters because a light boat is easier to lift onto a roof-rack, and easier to carry across the beach. Light weight has always been a key goal for manufacturers.

In New Zealand, new-generation kayaks are the Beachcomber kayaks (single and double) manufactured by Barracuda Kayaks. This article explains how these boats differ from the earlier generation.

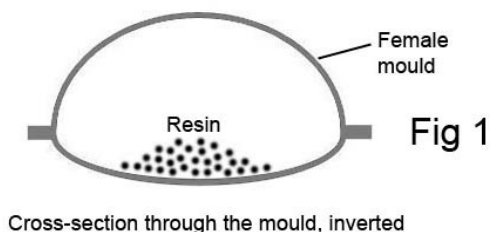
First, a few figures. Considering just mid-sized single sea kayaks available on the NZ market at present, a buyer would have four categories to choose from; (in the table below all the figures are approximate, because of variation among different manufacturers and retailers).

Construction	Cost	Weight
Standard rotomoulded polyethylene plastic (e.g. QK Penguin, Mission Contour 480)	\$2,600	27kg
Foam-core rotomoulded polyethylene (e.g. light-weight QK Penguin)	\$2,800	23kg
Thermoformed plastic (eg. Beachcomber Ultralight)	\$3,100	17kg
Composite (fibreglass or Kevlar, several manufacturers and models)	\$3,500 to \$4,500	20kg (Kevlar) 22kg (fibreglass)

The table shows that although thermoformed plastic kayaks fall in the middle of the cost range, they are much lighter in weight than any other class of boat. How are each of these four types of kayak built? Here is a simplified explanation.

Rotomoulded polyethylene

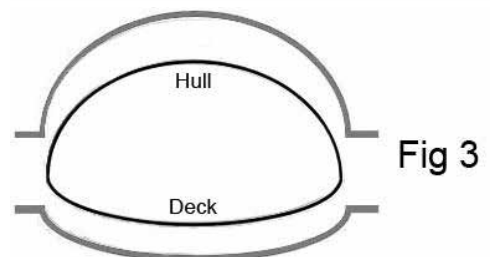
These boats are moulded inside a metal female mould, (usually aluminium). The mould has two parts, (deck and hull), which can be clamped together around the gunwale. A quantity of plastic resin (in bead or powder form) is placed inside, the two parts are clamped together (Fig 1), and the mould enters a large oven.



The moulded is turned constantly inside the oven so that when the plastic melts it coats the inside of the mould as a uniform film, (Fig 2).



Later, the mould leaves the oven and is cooled and separated into two parts (Fig 3). The kayak emerges as a complete one-piece structure. The smooth outer surface of the kayak is the surface which was in contact with the mould.

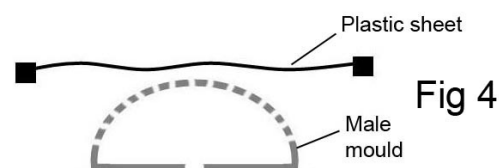


The plastic used to build rotomoulded kayaks is tough, flexible and abrasion-resistant but also relatively heavy. Some manufacturers have attempted to reduce weight by giving the hull a foam-plastic core, which saves about 3kg.

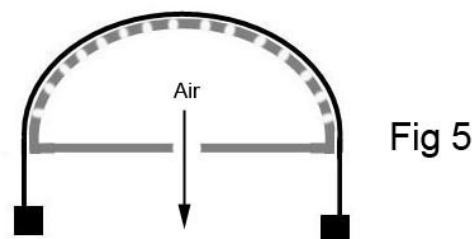
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Thermoformed plastic

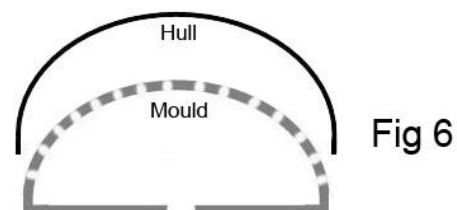
These boats are moulded as three separate parts (hull and two-part deck). The moulds are male moulds (so that the hull or deck is moulded over the outside of a mould, not the inside). The boat begins as a flat plastic sheet which is clamped across a frame (Fig 4). The sheet is heated to about 200°C when it softens; it is then moved above the male mould (which in Fig 4 is the inverted hull).



The sheet is sucked against the mould by a vacuum, and allowed to cool (Fig 5). Thus it is the inner surface of the hull or deck, (not the outer surface), which is in contact with the mould.



After removal and trimming (Fig 6) the hull is glued to the deck which has been formed separately in a similar way.



Composite kayaks

These boats are built by hand, in two separate parts (hull and deck). To form each part layers of fibreglass or Kevlar are laid up inside female moulds and infused with liquid resin; when the resin has hardened the hull and deck are removed from their moulds and joined together with resin and tape.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE:

How do thermoformed plastic kayaks compare with their rotomoulded cousins for strength, durability and functionality?

Vine House Report – June visit

Matt Crozier



Those attending were Matt, Trevor and Denise, Wally and Sue, Judith, Jodi, Alison and Rosie. It was a glorious hot and calm weekend – most were in T-shirts and shorts. Most went for a short paddle out to the first beach past Big Bay along the Mahurangi coast.

We celebrated Wally's birthday on Saturday night with a roast leg of lamb.



It was good to see Alison again, over from Aussie on study leave.

The grass is growing really well and has to be cut every month. Unfortunately the summer drought has claimed most of the *Coprosma* on the back bank. Trevor and Wally did a fine job of fixing the collapsed step beside the house. We just need to finish the job with more cement. Matt pulled any young mangrove shoots developing in the low tide sands.

Cross-harbour swim escorts, 2013–2014

Each year, as a fund-raising activity, our club provides kayak escorts for swimmers in the Auckland Central Masters Swimming programme. This is a series of four events running along or across the harbour. From a kayaker's point of view, the swim escorts are a chance to catch up with other kayakers on the water, raise some money for the club, look after swimmers; and we usually enjoy one of Roger Lomas's famous barbecues on the beach afterwards.

Here are the dates for the upcoming summer season; put them in your diary!

Swim	Date	Start	Finish	Tide
Herne Bay Beach to Masefield Beach (Pt Erin)	Sunday 10th November 2013	12:30pm	50 mins	13:42pm
Masefield Beach (Pt Erin) to Chelsea Sugar	Sunday 24th November 2013	10:30am	75 mins	12:41pm
St Heliers to Tamaki Yacht Club	Sunday 2nd February 2014	09:00am	90 mins	10:07am
Rangi Wharf to St Heliers	Sunday 23rd February 2014	12:30pm	120 mins	14:17pm