



June 2014

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Paddling in Paterson inlet. (See Rakiura/Stewart Island Adventure 2014 page 9.)

PHOTO LESTER MILLER

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>	Philip Noble	575 3493
<i>Secretary</i>		
<i>Treasurer</i>	Matthew Crozier	817 1984
<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
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newsletter@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
webmaster@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

hire@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz
(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, e.g. 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>



Deadline for Next Newsletter

15 June 2014

A new President for the Auckland Canoe Club

Colin Quilter

At the AGM on 21 May club members elected a new President, Phillip Noble. He will need no introduction to folk who kayak frequently on the harbour and Hauraki Gulf, because Phillip and Sue are both keen paddlers. There is a particular beach on the south western corner of Motuihe Island which is one of their favourite spots, and if I am ever there for a cup of tea and spot kayaks approaching the distance, I assume it will be them.

However for those in the club who do not know Phillip so well, I asked him to write a brief biography for the newsletter. Here it is (with small additions from me).

"My first introduction to canoeing and kayaking was when I was about 10 years old, and with my two brothers built a 12 foot canoe from an old piece of iron. We had a lot of fun in the local river lagoon and even at times had short paddles in the rock pools at low tide. It met its demise when a local lad, while paddling in the lagoon, made a beeline for the river mouth which was flowing quite briskly out to sea.

"The last we saw of it was when, about fifty metres out, it met a 1.5 metre breaking wave, the canoe swamped and with no buoyancy sank like a stone. The lad swam wide eyed back to shore. From this followed a home-made timber frame with canvas skin kayak (plans out of Popular Mechanics), and

then my first glass-fibre river racing kayak. Thus started a 30 year love of river paddling and long distance racing. While on my OE I obtained accreditation with the British Canoe Union as a Canoe Instructor and River Leader and worked on the River Wye with a commercial canoeing organisation directed at creating a memorable experience for school kids. I was also fortunate to be included with a group of British and American kayakers, to paddle 280 miles through the Grand Canyon (which I described in a Winter Lecture to the canoe club a year or two ago).

"Soon after my return to South Africa, Sue and I initiated the first 'Mixed doubles' class of racing in South Africa (embarrassing more than a few male teams).

"The family's move to New Zealand in 1994 opened up a whole new opportunity for paddling in the form of sea kayaking (not possible on the South African east coast due to large surf), and the family soon joined ACC. I designed and built a Hornet Sea Kayak with a bulbous bow."

(Colin's note: the only kayak of its kind, and people who laugh at it soon stop laughing when all they can see is the stern as they struggle to keep up with Phillip.)



"I paddled this boat on numerous trips, including one day solo trips circumnavigating Auckland and Waiheke respectively. Another memorable experience was a 4-week, 900km trip with Sue in 2012, paddling down the Danube with the TID.

"I look forward to my new role in the club, working with a great bunch of people on the committee and within the club to enjoy the fantastic resource on our doorstep."

Upcoming Trips and Events

Queens Birthday Weekend

31 May – 2 June

Join Philip and Sue for a day paddle to a favourite beach on Motuihe Island

Bring lunch and some good stories.

This is a weather dependant trip and currently Sunday or Monday seem to be the best options.

Please phone Philip on (09) 575 3493 if interested for details of departure etc.

Wednesday June 18

The first Winter Lecture for 2014

Marine Rescue Centre, Tamaki Drive, 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start

Colin Quilter will describe his trip along the outer coast of Fiordland in February. See page 6.

Sunday 22 June

Picnic on South Head, Manukau Harbour

This trip is an old favourite, always good no matter how many times you have been there before.

Meet at Cornwallis Wharf (not Cornwallis Beach) at 9.00am for a 9.30am start. We'll carry the ebb tide out to the harbour entrance (about 1.5hr paddling) and land at a sheltered cove just below South Head. Then scramble up the grassy hillside to a picnic spot with a view. Winter days are short so we probably will not have time for the cliff-top walk sometimes done in the past. The return kayak trip will also be tide-assisted, and we'll get back to Cornwallis mid-afternoon.

Bring lunch, a thermos, snacks, sandals or walking shoes, a camera and warm clothing. This trip is suitable for intermediate or experienced paddlers, not for novices.

The trip is weather dependent.

All those who might come should email Colin Quilter (colin.g.quilter@gmail.com) to express interest; then he will keep in touch by email. If the weather looks doubtful a day or two out from the trip, we'll try to think up an alternative destination in more sheltered water. All changes will be notified by email to those who have registered.

Membership Renewal

Membership subscriptions for April 2014 to March 2015 are now due.

Please check the label on your newsletter.

It will say **SUBS DUE, LAST NEWSLETTER** for those who have not yet renewed their subs!

- Pay on-line (see Club Banking Details on page 2)
- Use the form on page 13 and pop it in the post.

Subs renewed in the last week of May have not yet been processed.
If you are one of those, please ignore the Last Newsletter warning.

Otherwise if it says **RENEWED** then you are current with your membership.

UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS

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

email secretary@aucklandcanoecub.org.nz

Winter Lecture Series

The armchair traveller's guide to Fiordland

Come along to the first of the Auckland Canoe Club Winter Lectures for 2014

Wednesday June 18 at the Marine Rescue Centre, Tamaki Drive
7.00pm for a 7.30pm start.



Colin Quilter will describe his trip along the outer coast of Fiordland in February. The lecture is guaranteed to be an entirely painless experience – no sandflies or rain at the Marine Rescue Centre. Is there a more comfortable way of seeing Fiordland? I doubt it.

All are welcome.

Poet's Corner

*Here on Canal du Midi
Aboard a self drive boat
Wouldn't be bad for a kayak
As long as you kept afloat.*

*It's not exactly a sewer
But not really so clean
All sorts of stuff goes in it
If you know what I mean.*

*But joking apart it's lovely
The silence the stillness and all
And biking along the tow path
You can see I'm having a ball.*

*I'm off on my new adventure
A folding bike tagged on
My gear aboard the canal boat
Perfection when all's said and done.*

*But the boat is just the start of it
The plan is to ride on at the end
But I'll keep you appraised of developments
When July poem's ready to send.*

*You'll understand now it is May time
And this poem will arrive a bit late
So forgive the time lapse activities
The new stuff will just have to wait.*

Mike Randall

Tara Mulvany's adventures

The website for those interested in following the ongoing journeys of adventures Tara Mulvany is www.tarasjourneys.com



Why doesn't **SOMEBODY ELSE** write more stuff in the newsletter for **ME** to read?

ON THE WATERFRONT

Roger Lomas

Our club AGM is done and dusted for another year. A new club president was elected and Philip Noble will now take his seat at the top of the committee table. Philip is no stranger to the committee room, having served tenure as trips officer some years ago. Outgoing president Ian Calhaem was thanked for his valuable input during his nine years of service at the helm. Another to be acknowledged was our diligent newsletter editor, Claire O'Connor. At the conclusion of the formal business of the AGM, a pub style quiz was held. Su Sommerhalder was the quizmaster and a barrage of kayak and club related questions were fired at the contesting teams. The winners all snuck away with a chocolate fish or two for the trophy room. We rounded off the evening with a slap up supper. There were cream cakes, cookies and lots of lengthy conversations catching up with club mates. An upshot of the AGM was a welcome expression of intent to boost activity in the trips programme area. The club website will be "tweaked" to iron out a few glitches and hopefully calm seas and pleasant paddling will prevail. In the meantime life goes on and the regular paddling events continue.

Westhaven. A good cast with a long rod will see a hefty lead sinker lobbed about 100 metres out into the harbour. Smart kayakers know this and give the fisher folk a wide berth. This device, which is commercially available, will lob the lead out almost 300 metres. But wait, there's more, and it's terrifying. It fires an artillery shell shaped projectile that contains frozen burley, a baited hook and a pointed lead tipped sinker. This nasty flying "bomb" weighs in at around 1.3 kilograms. The propellant is compressed air and one would imagine it would create quite a few ripples if it splashed down near a kayaker.

A solo trans-Tasman kayak crossing attempt is under way. On 24th of April, New Zealander Scott Donaldson paddled away from Port Macquarie on Australia's northern NSW coast. He was heading for New Plymouth. Two young Australian lads made a successful crossing on a similar track in 2007. You can follow progress of this latest solo attempt on www.doubleditch.co.nz. A keen eye will spot that, yes this is indeed a real sea kayak and its parentage hails from a busy little local enterprise up near Silverdale (see page 8).



It was a bit of a shock for the early morning kayakers and multi-sport types at Westhaven recently. The old floating pontoon that they regularly use to launch from was missing. There were fears that it may have sunk in a storm. A bit of probing about with enquires to Waterfront Auckland, the agency tasked with enhancing this environment, revealed that all was well. A new longer floating facility is on its way. The old pontoon, which was well past its use by date, was a legacy of the West End Rowing Clubs presence in the area. Special provision was made for them and the public to launch here when the motorway and marina developments occurred. The original launch site for both groups was a beach, now just a distant memory buried under the motorway nearby.

Warning to kayakers, beware of aerial bombs. This fishing aid was spotted amongst the surfcasters who throng the Tank Farm promontory up near

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Don't forget the Auckland Canoe Club winter series lectures which are now entering their 18th successive year of promotion. They are an important part of the club calendar and help in a variety of ways. First and foremost, they entertain and inform. We are extremely grateful to the multitude speakers who have been along to present these evenings over those many years. Another major role that these wonderful evenings offer is that they create a few special occasions where we can gather en masse as a club. We all know what happens when a big bunch of kayakers get together so come along and join in. It's a great place for new members to meet the oldies, and we've got no shortage of them. It's also an opportunity for members to invite along their friends for a pleasant night out. We meet at our heated clubrooms in the Marine Rescue Centre. This is located next to the downtown heliport at the city end of Tamaki Drive. And just to make the evening really nice, we serve supper and it's all FREE.

Out along the waterfront we spy many club paddlers. Recent sightings have included; Gavin Baker, spotted out near Kohi. Seen from a distance, he appeared to be walking on water. Then we saw that he was paddling along on one of those dastardly SUP things that are popping up everywhere. Promise us no budgie smugglers or speedos please Gav. Our Rosie Thom was also out, sans kayak, push biking along Tamaki Drive. Part of the coffee cruise she told us. Nice red cycle sneakers Rosie.

One of our regular early morning allies is Peter Moses. Often sighted but hard to catch as he races up the harbour, or out around Browns Island with the ocean racing ski team on a training paddle. Another regular sighting at sea is our fabulous club poet, Mike Randall, off seeking inspiration no doubt. The coffee cruisers are another active paddling cell within the club. Don't let the laid back moniker fool you. Some of the ladies in this group have organised and completed some mighty impressive paddle adventures. We always get a friendly wave from Martin Girling. When he is not out on the water with his kayak fishing or exploring, he's in the water. Martin is a staunch regular with the early morning harbour swimmers fitness group. Out on the waterfront are many of our club mates, be it Ash Harding on his road race bike just back from 70 kms before breakfast or Peter Sommerhalder with his poles and a string of Nordic walkers in tow. They are all out there doing something. See you out there.

Roger

Rakiura/Stewart Island Adventure 2014

Lester Miller

Inspired by our time in Dusky Sound in early 2013, Rosemary organised Rakiura/Stewart Island as the following summer's adventure. On a rather wet and cold Sunday in February 2014 we met up in Oban, we were booked into the Shearwater Backpackers.

7am on Tuesday 25th Feb, we boarded the charter boat, *Aurora Australis* in Oban, bound for Port Pegasus. Our kayaks had been loaded the previous afternoon – Rosemary's Southern Skua, and for me a rented Torres from Philskayaks in Oban. Yay! No driving the length of New Zealand, and back again, transporting my own. I had flown down!



We were the backload to a hunting party who were to be taken out that day. *Aurora Charters* owner, Colin Hopkins, a 5th generation Stewart Islander, local fisherman and charter boat operator transporting those desiring to get to remote parts of Rakiura, and its surrounding islands, was our skipper.

The trip down the coast was exciting, the sea state so not suitable for a circumnavigation of the island by kayak (which of course was never our intention anyway). One hour into the journey a cup of tea was suggested before we rounded the point where the trip would become too rough! In the corner of the cabin a little cast iron diesel-fired 'coal range', heated two enormously heavy large full kettles and eventually warmed the boat, a necessity particularly in the winter months. That warmth was nice on this cold morning!

Three hours after leaving Oban we entered the calmer waters of Port Pegasus. Colin dropped us in Bulling Bay in North Arm and arranged to pick us up from there the following Monday. Bulling Bay is one of very few bays with sand, although little showed at high tide. At low tide half the bay was sand, inhabited by a family of oyster catchers.



Happily there were no sea lions in residence. We settled in – pitched tents, found a tiny stream for water, and paddled out for a look about and for me to suss out the Torres, which quickly felt, with a seat back adjustment, as comfortable as my Southern Skua.

VHF reception is very patchy in Port Pegasus, so it was good to find a high point up behind the campsite with coverage to get the weather forecast, and from where we could observe the sea conditions outside of our sheltered bay.



Calm days we paddled – we set out for Bald Cone on one of these, coming across a navy ship sheltering in South Arm. It had turned back from its course to the subantarctic islands due to 16 metre high swells and damage to the ship.

This was also the day we had our first encounter with a sea lion, quite an adrenalin rush as it raced us around the circumference of the bay, it only cruising no doubt. We had the pleasure of three of these beautiful creatures by the end of that day.

Other days we tramped through the bush, Rosemary's orienteering skills coming to the fore.

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We tramped through to the east end of Cook Arm this day; the wind was quite strong in North Arm. This arm is apparently very tidal, sheltered in this wind direction. We were looking for potential campsites, should we find ourselves in need on future excursions.

The next calm day we paddled up the North Arm to Bellhopper Falls and the historic sites to do with Tin mining, intending to look for Smuggler's Cove on the way home. No luck as the wind had got above our comfort level as we rounded the point to Albion Inlet. So it was straight across heading for home.

The list of TO DO NEXT TIME destinations continued to lengthen!



A visitor one afternoon, glad we got back to camp before this guy, or gal cruised in.

The Aurora turned up as planned on Monday morning, their other boat, a cat skippered by Ty, Colin's son-in-law. We loaded and with his father over from Australia on board and Aussie Bill from Oban, we went sightseeing back down to South Arm, this time into Shipbuilder's Arm for a view of Gog and Magog. We had hoped to paddle up into this area, but again wind too strong and a closer campsite was needed, to do this. Yet another destination for THE LIST.

So back up the coast to Oban, with a following sea this time, another exhilarating trip, an albatross following for a good part of the way. Mollymawks abundant and following the boat as we got closer to Oban. Aurora charters do bird watching trips also, feeding out to attract the birds, which remember and are always hopeful!



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Rakiura/Stewart Island Adventure 2014

Continued from page 10

Back to the backpackers in Oban – friendly, convenient, and Bill turned the heaters on in our rooms, the temperature had dropped some more, and besides we had wet things needing to dry.

Next foray was into Paterson Inlet – we set off exploring the coast in a very leisurely manner on a calm sea. Quite a different feeling here, boats about, not a lot, but water taxis zipping up to Freshwater creek and back, in the distance, often. I realised how isolated I had felt in Port Pegasus, how cautious my approach to paddling there.



A pleasant day meandering our way to Millar's Beach for the night.



Next day the wind was blowing strong down Paterson Inlet. We set out for the South West Arm, Fred's Camp Hut. No way did I imagine I'd get around Harry West Point so we put in at Harry West Bay and walked through interesting bush to Pryse Peak, climbed a rickety ladder to get a 360deg view of the Inlet. The sea had settled down a bit for our crossing back to our camp at Millar's Bay. Our last night in a tent. Like all other nights camping I enjoyed my snugly warm sleeping bag and comfy sleeping mat. I heard kiwi snuffling very close that night but decided to just listen, I was by then so warm and comfortable. Besides the red light doesn't really work so well for me!



Setting off into the sunrise, heading for Ulva Island, perfect conditions. Our last day on the water. We circumnavigated the island.



Reflections Ulva Island.



Blue Cod.



Shag's nests in The Snuggery.

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Rakiura/Stewart Island Adventure 2014

Continued from page 11

From The Snuggery we rounded the eastern end of Ulva Island, paddled along the northern coast to the bay past the ferry jetty, and after a last cuppa we crossed to Golden Bay, where Phil Dove has his boatshed. And so it was farewell and thank you to Torres the kayak that I enjoyed so much.

The next day the inlet cut up rough and we caught the ferry out to Ulva Island to spend the morning wandering the paths, looking at the vegetation and the birds. Lovely.

The time had come to pack up for the trip to Bluff. In contrast to the trip over, this one was almost kayakable, but probably not for me.

What have I not mentioned? Sandflies, yes; kiwi, heard, not seen, did find foraging holes; deer, on the rugby field in Oban; birds, lots of; little blue penguins, yes; pipi, yes; muscles, yes; saw scallops, oysters, kina; and more.

Come along to the Winter Series and hear so much more about this great trip.



Cuppa tea, Bulling Bay.



A Bulling Bay snack.



Resident Kereru.

AUCKLAND CANOE CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM



- New Member**
 Renewing

IF YOUR DETAILS HAVE CHANGED PLEASE UPDATE US

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 you 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

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

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

Total Payment

- Cheque** **Bank Transfer**

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