

THE SEA CANOEIST NEWSLETTER



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EDITORIAL

KASK FORUM 2008

What a great success it was - even though the surf and weather turned to custard on the Sunday, it was great to see so many paddlers signing up for on-the-water and surf sessions with a very impressive line-up of overseas and Kiwi instructors. See page four for a forum roundup, and reports on the 2008 KASK AGM.

SOUTH ISLAND CIRCUMNAVIGATORS

On March 24, Swedish solo paddler Babs Lindman paddled into Picton, to complete her trip and was met in Queen Charlotte Sound by kayakers including Melz and Max Grant, while on shore Alan and Joan Byde were waiting with a pav, posy of flowers and the editor with bubbly. (See page 12 for a profile of Babs)

Justine Curgenvin and Barry Shaw, paddled over the Sumner bar (Christchurch) on 1 April to complete their successful South Island circuit at a yacht club ramp with the successful circumnavigator's ritual pavlova, bubbles and a copy of *Obscured by Waves* for Barry.

Justine telephoned night of 31 March to say they wanted to finish next day. I explained to her I had a really busy day; sparrow-fart start to drop Babs to a bus in Greymouth, important meeting re a local mine at 10am, and a 4pm scoot down to Ross to pick up Freya's errant paddle from a transgender person who had found it on a local beach. A fairly full day. What does Justine do? She says the forecast is for southerlies on 2 April, and with a sob in her voice, says, "Well Barry and I can just hug each other if you are not there at the finish."

What does a bloke do after that? Well I had to can the paddle pick-up, leave the meeting early, and make the three hour drive to Christchurch, picking up a pav, and bubbles at Redcliffs. I tried to organize a reception committee and media, but only Matt Mackenzie and I were there with the congratulatory hugs. Then another three hour drive home! Sigh!

With this 1 April finish, that was three successful South Island circumnavigations for the summer of 07/08. As well, North Island paddler Simon Meek paddled solo around Fiordland, well on his way to completing a stage by stage paddle around the South Island, and Misha Hoichman in late summer paddled solo from Te Waewae Bay to Milford Sound.

(see: www.hoichman.com/fiordland). Max and Melz Grant completed a long awaited dream of paddling from Doubtful Sound around Puysegur Point to Bluff.

(see: <http://www.q-kayaks.co.nz/pages/news.asp>)

Were there any dramas? Apart from two lost paddles on the West Coast the only outside assistance required was for Justine when she was flown from Port Craig to Invercargill hospital, short of breath and feverish, and diagnosed with a bad internal infection.

The South Island east and west coasts, and particularly Fiordland, provide some of the most challenging conditions in the world for sea kayaking. All the parties noted above completed their trips safely - they were superbly equipped, carried emergency communication equipment, were able to send out daily position reports and access up-to-date sea and weather forecasts with satellite phones. Their pre-trip research and planning was first rate. They paddled safely and responsibly.

(Editorial continued on page 17)

PHOTOGRAPHS:

Cover: Justine Curgenvin and Barry (Baz) Shaw, untroubled by wet and windy weather, at the Ohope 2008 KASK Forum. Photo: Paul Caffyn

Left top: Babs Lindman completing her solo, unsupported kayak circumnavigation of the South Island at Picton, 24 March 2008. Photo: Paul Caffyn

Left bottom: Barry Shaw (red kayak) and Justine Curgenvin celebrating their successful South Island circumnavigation with a surfing session at Sumner. Photo: Matt McKenzie

2008 KASK FORUM – OHOPE

by Paul Caffyn

What a cracker of a weekend. A hearty well done to the forum organising committee of Linda Pugh, Evan Pugh, Linda Hansen, Phil Hansen, Mike Bell and John Hesseling, also the presenters, instructors and camp helpers.

The forum feedback list below of emails received by Evan Pugh says it all:

- Thanks also for organising such a great Forum, and I really enjoyed catching up with fellow paddlers. Max Grant

- Thanks for the weekend - looking forward to the next one. Steve Knowles.

- Great show you put on last weekend, thanks for all the effort you put in. Ruth Henderson

- I felt a bit sore the next day after getting trashed in the surf, thanks for organising a great weekend, I appreciate all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes. Mike Brown

- Thanks for the weekend; well worth coming up for and lots of fun. Sarah Dewes.

- Thoroughly enjoyed the Forum and made a few contacts too. John Flemming.

- A really marvellous weekend; catering was very good and generous too, the DVDs fantastic, programme wonderfully comprehensive and well run. Jean Kirkham.

- We had a real good weekend and really appreciated all the work and effort that went into it. The amazing group of speakers that you lined up were just riveting and the photography from everyone was like visiting an exhibition. And last but not least, the time and patience you experienced paddlers spent with us on the water and surf, was so good, I loved playing in the surf. Gill Brann.

- A big thank you for all the hard work you guys did to organise such a great weekend. It was WOW. Val & Dean.

- Well done for a very successful

Forum. I am sure you are now looking forward to a well-earned rest. Iona Bailey

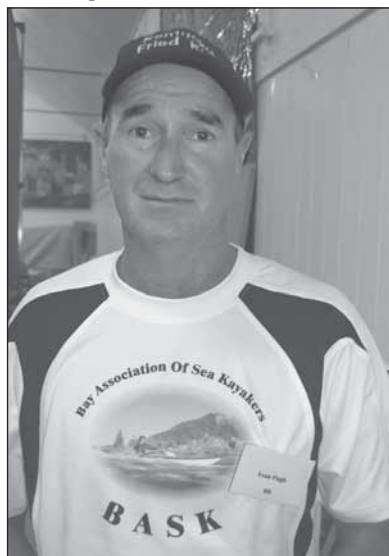
- Thanks for organising etc, Lyndsay and I both enjoyed the weekend. John Hesseling.

SPEAKERS

The line-up of overseas speakers and instructors included three recent South Island circumnavigators, Justine Curgenvan, Barry Shaw and Babs Lindman, also Australian paddler David Winkworth. On Friday evening, Babs presented a powerpoint slide show of her South Island trip, which was rounded off nicely with summaries of people she met on the way, fauna, flora and seascapes. It was a difficult act to follow, but Max Grant's slide show of two recent trips to Fiordland with Melz Grant was excellent with no one nodding off.

Saturday evening, Justine Curgenvan presented slides and movie clips of her recent trip around Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands), British Columbia. A superb show and indeed another hard act to follow, but David Winkworth's powerpoint presentation of the Coral Coast kayaking trip when Arunas Pilka was savaged by a crocodile off McArthur Island was enthralling.

Evan Pugh, Forum organizer, looking tired and frazzled at the end of the Ohope weekend.



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The response for photographs for the 2nd KASK photo competition was outstanding. Linda and Phil Hansen had a display system well thought out, lining a wall of the forum dining hall with black paper, attaching all 105 entries with sticky tac, and adopting a photo numbering system to help with judging. Visually, the photo display was a veritable foto feast. The calibre of the judges was also very impressive; Babs Lindman and Justine Curgenvan who are both professional photographers, plus Paul Hayward who had dominated the inaugural photo competition awards at the 2007 Anakiwa KASK Forum. The results:

Open

- 1st Aaron Wallace
- 2nd Ruth Henderson
- 3rd Mike Ham

Action

- 1st Lynnis Burson
- 2nd James Venimore
- 3rd Val Wallace

Seascape

- 1st Ruth Henderson
- 2nd Ruth Henderson
- 3rd Belinda Mulvany

Ruth Henderson with one of her winning photographs





Lynn Burson by her winning photograph

Coastal marine fauna/flora
1st Val Wallace
2nd Belinda Mulvany
3rd Belinda Mulvany

Paddlers' Choice
James Venimore

Babs carefully explained the criteria that she, Paul and Justine used for judging and stated why the winning photos were chosen. One comment to remember for 2009 is to ensure your photo is entered in the appropriate category.

No sooner than the applause for the winners died down than a protest was raised about the paddlers' choice winner, in that James Venimore was neither at the forum nor a member of KASK. Unfortunately the judges were not aware of this entry stipulation and chose the winners using the photo number, and not the photographer's name. Rest assured scrutineering will take place prior the 2009 Anakiwa competition, and I believe it is very clear from the results above that Ruth Henderson and Belinda Mulvany will be appointed judges for the 2009 competition.



Paul Hayward, awarded the paddle trophy for outstanding contribution to sea kayaking, at the Ohope Forum

ANNUAL GRAHAM EGARR PADDLE TROPHY AWARDS

CONTRIBUTION TO SEA KAYAKING

Paul Hayward was awarded the Graham Egarr paddle trophy award for outstanding contribution to sea kayaking in New Zealand. A native of Quebec, Canada, Paul began paddling a Canadian canoe as a nipper and after emigrating to New Zealand 25 years ago, like many Kiwis he took to the water as a sailor.

In 2000 Paul saw the light and took to sea kayaking with considerable enthusiasm. As a member of both the Auckland Canoe Club and the North Shore Yakkity Yak Club, he began leading trips and undertaking multi-day expeditions. Paul joined the Coastbusters' (Red team) committee in 2002 but by popular demand, he chaired the 'Red Team' for the 2004, 2006 and 2008 Coastbusters.

Paul and his partner Natasha have encouraged a wide cross section of international paddlers to speak at Coastbusters and hosted many of these guests. There were two other nominations, Freya Hoffmeister and Andrew McAuley, both of whom attracted a considerable amount of publicity of sea kayaking through media coverage, but as this award is for an outstanding contribution to sea kayaking in New Zealand, Paul was the standout nominee for the past 12 months.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE NEWSLETTER

Max Grant was awarded the Graham Egarr paddle trophy award for an outstanding contribution to *The Sea Canoeist Newsletter*. The editor felt his 'Hell's Portage' story, describing a paddling trip south from Jackson Bay to Milford with daughter Melz, was superbly written and, in combination with five colour plates accompanying the story and map, it was the standout contribution to the newsletter in the past 12 months (see newsletter No. 129 June – July 2007).

INAUGURAL 'BUGGER!' OF THE YEAR AWARD

Unlike a flood of entries for the photo competition, there was an appalling lack of enthusiasm for the superb 'Bugger!' award - very disappointing. Jillian Wilson's pin against boulders in the Whanganui River (see 'Bugger!' file story on page 16) was in the running, but the standout recipient for the inaugural award ran a determined campaign to keep secret the details of a colossal 'double bugger!' incident that occurred recently in Luncheon Cove, Dusky Sound.

Three other paddlers, who either witnessed or succumbed to the appalling lack of judgement by one of our most eminent and experienced kayakers, were all sworn to secrecy. Knowing glances, and not very subtle hints were dropped, such as, "What happened at Luncheon Cove stays at Luncheon Cove," and, "You need to ply him with a cask of red wine and the truth will finally emerge."

Bit by bit, I was able to slowly piece together the events of this disastrous 'Bugger!' moment. A party of four kayakers entered the narrows of Luncheon Cove, unloaded their boats on a rocky foreshore encircling the cove, and pitched tents in the surrounding regenerating forest.

In the party, three blokes whose ages would have totalled about 180 years, plus a fair young damsel, the daughter of one of the blokes. Assured by the unofficial trip leader, who had paddled in Fiordland for over 25 years, that the sea would not come up to where the kayakers were parked on rocks under the bushline, no tethers secured boats to either rocks or trees.

Late evening, now black as a very black thing, the fair young damsel heard banging noises from the cove, very much like kayakers bashing against rocks. Calling out and waking her father, she was assured it was only a seal climbing over the kayakers. The noises continued, until a check of the foreshore revealed three kayakers being bashed by the surge against rocks. Of



Max Grant, with both the newsletter paddle trophy & Bugger! awards

the fourth kayak, that of the fair young damsel, there was sadly no sign. A rush to find head-torches ensued, with paddlers scrambling through bush to search for the missing kayak. It was finally located and manoeuvred back to the rocks. No doubt all four kayakers were moved a tad higher up the rocks, and sleep was resumed.

Does that single incident warrant the award? Well worse was to follow. Early next morning, the kayakers were moved to the water's edge, and paddlers were assured by the glorious leader that they would be fine without tethers, as the sea wouldn't come up that high.

The three blokes took to the scrub for morning ablutions, dropping tents, returning to the foreshore only to find their kayakers had disappeared. In the narrow neck entrance of the cove, their rescuer in **her** kayak was shepherding the three errant kayakers back to the dejected blokes on shore.

The hard lesson learned from this double 'Bugger!' moment? Always secure your kayak on shore.

The recipient - if only Max Grant hadn't tried to sanitize this incident, he may have missed being awarded the inaugural 'Bugger!' award.

THE 2008 KASK AGM

The AGM ran smoothly; 2007 AGM minutes were accepted; annual reports were read, the first by President Susan Cade and second, both publications and safety reports by Paul Caffyn. The income and expenses balance sheet, prepared by KASK Administrator Linda Ingram, was then presented. To a question of why the bank account was so healthy (\$16,000 plus), I explained \$8,000+ was going to pay for printing of the 2008 reprint of the KASK Handbook, \$5,000 to Water Safety NZ for updating and reprinting of sea kayaking brochure, along with printing of two newsletters before 31 July and a new run of waterproof KASK stickers.

Susan then stood down as president after four sterling years in the role, and was thanked on behalf of KASK with a rather good kayaking narrative (*Blazing Paddles* by Brian Wilson) and a framed photo of Sue with list of signatures alongside saying thanks for her enthusiastic and valuable contribution to KASK and sea kayaking in New Zealand.

Auckland/Waikato paddler and committee member for last year, Julie Reynolds was elected as president for the next 12 months. Christchurch paddler Martin Fraser was elected to join the KASK committee which now comprises Beverley Burnett (Wgtn), Sandy Ferguson (ChCh), Evan Pugh (Waikato) and Paul Caffyn (West Coast), these five agreeing to stay on from 2007.

The 2009 Forum will be back at Anakiwa, in the Marlborough Sounds, and most likely in late February. Organizer Helen Woodward is waiting for confirmation of a weekend from Outward Bound.

Debbie & Kevin Dunsford with Dave Winkworth at the KASK AGM



AGM President's Report 25 April 2008 Susan Cade

I am not going to talk about all the KASK activities in this report that have been supported by KASK and its committee, but will name a few highlights.

The start of this year was highlighted with a very successful KASK forum at Anakiwa in February 2007 which was notable for the high attendance and wide range of practical training. The forum was also attended by international coaches including Nigel Foster's instruction sessions which were well received both at Anakiwa and at various other North Island locations. In all there were 111 people at the Anakiwa forum having training and 72 enthusiasts in the longer Nigel Foster 1-2 day trainings series. There have been many reports from clubs and individuals about the impact of this training as being very positive and whetting the appetite for more.

Over this year I have attended a number of Water Safety NZ Meetings. The current major focus is about setting up an Education Forum. The purposes include:

- (1) to provide a forum for the participation in the development and co-ordination of water safety education,
- (2) to encourage the communication, sharing of information and co-operation between all WSNZ Member Organizations to ensure cost effectiveness and avoid duplication,
- (3) to review terms of the Annual Funding Guidelines and make recommendations.

WSNZ is very keen to support organizations like KASK to promote safety education and reduce drownings. They are also establishing a Research Advisory Group. This is very exciting for KASK as we have such a strong commitment towards safety, education and projects supported by research.

Currently there are many organizations looking at training, including SFRITTO, ATTTO and NZOIA, and I am sure that the upcoming year will prove exciting, with the likelihood of



Two KASK Presidents at the KASK AGM; outgoing Susan Cade (left) and newly elected Julie Reynolds

new training options becoming available to recreational sea kayakers.

Beverley Burnett has been working to promote KASK and the interests of recreational sea kayaking and kayaking for the disabled. She has approached SPARC with a view to enlisting their support and funding to promote safe paddling for all. SPARC confirmed that they do not work with individual organizations but with only national bodies.

Beverley is therefore now in discussions with the NZ Canoe Federation to explore the benefits of developing a relationship with them to the benefit of both parties. So far they have supported KASK in naming Beverley a delegate for the first adaptive paddling forum that took place in Montreal, Canada recently. As a result of this, and KASK's support, Beverley was successful in obtaining a grant from the NZ Lotteries Commission to enable her to attend (see report on p.15).

Beverley is also talking to the Intellectual Property Organisation of NZ (IPONZ) about ways of protecting the KASK logo. Registering it as a trade mark may be appropriate as KASK is not a trading organization, but other possibilities are being looked into such as copyrighting it in order to protect the design from inappropriate use.

Planning has started for the next KASK Anakiwa forum which is likely to be held in February 2009. Helen Woodward is taking the co-ordination role and there have been a number of volunteers come forward already to help. If you are interested in helping out, let Helen Woodward or a KASK Committee member know.

We have witnessed this year a Trans Tasman success by James Castrission and Justin Jones, and circumnavigations of the South Island by both Freya Hoffmeister, the first woman to paddle around the South Island followed closely by Babs Lindman, Justine Curgenvin and Barry Shaw, all of whom came to NZ from distant shores. Well done all concerned.

My thanks over this year go to Linda Ingram for managing the KASK Membership and general administration. This makes a huge difference to the KASK Committee having this so capably managed. Also, of course, many thanks to the current KASK Committee. Paul Caffyn in his unquestionable commitment to publications and safety. Evan Pugh particularly for his sterling organization managing this forum at Ohope, which is fully booked out. For Beverley's work as mentioned above promoting paddling for all. Sandy Fergusson in his work for managing the KASK website that is

kept really up to date, straight forward and easy to access. Also thanks to Julie Reynold's support with the National Pleasure Boat Forum and in promoting KASK. Thank-you to you all also for supporting me in my role. Also specifically the support from WSNZ, MNZ, NZOIA and Coastguard Education. I also would like to thank the many people and organizations that have helped KASK initiatives this year, that I haven't named. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

I am stepping down as President from the KASK Committee, as my work and other commitments don't allow for the time that is required in this role. I wish the incoming KASK President all the best.

KASK 2008 AGM Reports By Paul Caffyn

PUBLICATIONS Newsletter

The first newsletter following the 2007 AGM marked a change from many years of black and white digital photocopying, by Massey Printery, to a sharper looking newsletter with a satin finish paper and four pages of colour produced by Format Print in Petone. I thank David Blake not only for leaning on me to seek a quote from Format but also for his patience while I transitioned to newer layout software and learned how to email the newsletter for printing in five PFD files. My thanks to Format's Mark Allen for taking a load off me with distribution, that is addressing, adding stamps and dropping newsletters to the postie.

Response to 12 months of colour cover newsletters has been positive. Please keep in mind portrait format pics for future covers during your future trips. Now, with broadband at the 12 Mile, on the West Coast, I can receive high-resolution pics via email, or you can drop a selection of pics onto a CD and mail it to me, along with a Word file of captions.

The KASK newsletter is circulated via PFD attachments to members of the National Pleasure Boat Forum which includes Coastguard, Coastguard Education, Police, Maritime NZ,

Water Safety NZ and regional harbourmasters. Positive spinoff from this circulation has included circulation through several CG regions of John Kirk-Anderson's 'Dead Man Paddling' article, which described a missing kayaker rescue exercise north of Christchurch.

NZRCA and Canoe & Kayak are included on the distribution list, while hard copies are contra-exchanged with clubs such as Auckland CC and Northland CC. Overseas, contra exchanges continue with 'Sea Kayaker', the Victorian and NSW clubs and 'Atlantic Sea Kayaker'.

The Wellington National Library receives two copies of the newsletter with one copy supplied to the Auckland National Maritime Museum; both now have full sets of the KASK newsletter from Issue number 1.

My thanks to all those folk who took time and effort over the last 12 months to supply reports, articles and photographs.

The KASK Hand book

The initial 750 copies printed of the late 2006 4th edition of the KASK handbook is now out of print. With handbook stock running low in late 2007, a quote was sought for a second print run. As Sandy Ferguson and Waveney Inch had picked up numerous minor errors in the 2006 edition, and I needed to convert the 2006 Pagemaker files to the current print industry standard of InDesign, it was close to being a 5th edition by the time all the correcting and tuning was completed. Omissions that had been advised were also corrected, such as the mast height and sail widths for the diagram in Rebecca Heap's sailing section.

Printing of 750 copies of a 2008 4th edition was completed in March. I believe this will allow 18 months of grace before KASK needs to contemplate a 5th edition. My thanks to those paddlers who have helped with corrections and to those who have helped promote and publicize the handbook.

KASK Membership Brochure

A second run of the folded A4 membership brochure was printed. If anyone can help with distribution of these in your region, please advise.

SAFETY

Coronial Inquests

I have attended two in the past 12 months; the first in Invercargill for Andrew McAuley, and a second in Rotorua for a winter 2007 lake paddling fatality. I believe supplying KASK reports for coroners and attending inquests is vital, to ensure a sea kayaker perspective of what transpired is heard and understood by a coroner, and that conclusions and a list of recommendations are presented which a coroner can include in his report. The media generally fully cover inquest conclusions and recommendations, which I believe can only help with making the general public more safety conscious with respect to recreational paddling.

KASK Incident Database

This database and the sea kayaking press-clipping file have been kept up to date.

KASK/WSNZ Safe Sea Kayaking Brochure

With a grant from WSNZ, the Basic Guide to Safe Sea Kayaking brochure was updated to 2007 – the image of the handbook updated and minor tweaking to addresses – and 50,000 copies were printed in late 2007. This is, I would suggest, KASK's most successful safety initiative to date. If you can help distribute or promote these brochures, please get in touch.

National Pleasure Boat Forum

KASK has attended two forums in the past two months - Julie Reynold the Auckland forum and Paul Caffyn the forum in Wellington.

THANKS

My thanks to Linda Ingram, our very efficient KASK administrator, for her efficiency and support in the past 12 months, the KASK committee members Beverley Burnett, Evan Pugh, Sandy Ferguson and Julie Reynolds for their feedback and support, and particularly Susan Cade for her sterling work as president for the past four years.

Reflections from the Second Youngest Participant at the KASK Forum at Ohope Beach, Anzac weekend. by Leona Smith

'Aged persons' was the sign I passed not long after leaving the KASK forum at Ohope. This is much what I was expecting, a bunch of 'older men' with grey hair and long, long grey beards. In my mind they were sitting around, some smoking cigars, discussing wooden boats and the past heyday of kayaking.

My expectations were dashed in a number of ways. Not only was I not the youngest; a disappointing revelation to me, as I thought I was a sure bet for the prize for youngest participant, but there was not one 'aged' person sitting around.

I found the atmosphere at the forum to be one of learning and companionship. Everyone was walking around with a smile on their face, happy to be there and stoked on the latest session they had learnt from, be it wicked surf sessions down at the beach, inspiring talks and presentations from a number of experienced paddlers from NZ and overseas, or skills' sessions on the water.

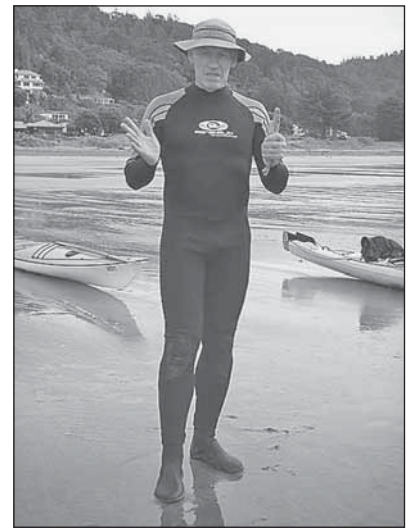
For me it was a weekend of constantly meeting fellow paddlers, learning new information and skills. I particularly enjoyed my surf session with Barry Shaw and a few other keen beans; it was a chance to get back out in the surf and get comfortable again with rolling in the surf and getting trashed (in an enjoyable way) in a safe environment. There were a number of helping hands available every time I followed my rolling kayak back into shore and a quiet helping hand from Barry ensured my rolls were back on form. I then proceeded to rip the waves to shreds. Awesome!

The presentations from Paul Caffyn, Justine Curgenvin, Dave Winkworth, Babs Lindman, Max and Melz Grant on their various paddling trips and experiences were something else. I'm sure a number of others joined me in coming away from them dreaming

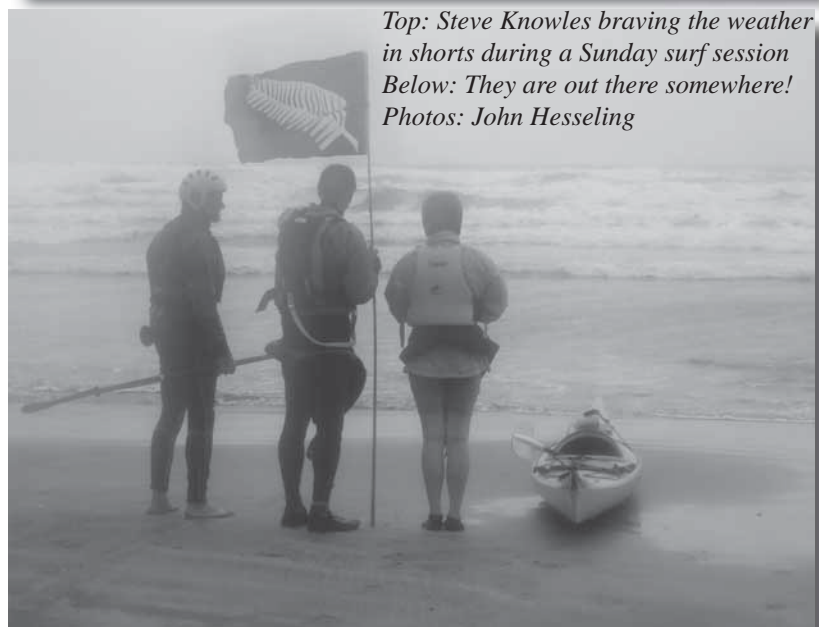
of future trips, inspired and in awe of beautiful places and great people.

A shout out must also be given to the organisers. From the moment I walked in the door to be greeted by a panel of smiling organisers to the moment I left, the weekend ran as smoothly as a well oiled rudder. The venue was fantastically placed and resourced for the forum, the food was great, even by my fussy vegetarian standards, and the camp atmosphere was ensured by the frequent 'announcements' and admonishments from the camp manager.

Thanks guys, book me in for the next one! Maybe I'll finally get a prize, for being the first one registered.



David Winkworth advising paddlers on techniques before his kayak surfing session at Ohope Beach.



Top: Steve Knowles braving the weather in shorts during a Sunday surf session
Below: They are out there somewhere!
Photos: John Hesselning

SAFETY

David wrote the following note after skippering a Wellington Coastguard vessel while assisting the police conduct an evening search for a kayaker whose craft had washed ashore near Pencarrow Head. The small recreational kayak (3m long, big cockpit and no bulkheads) washed ashore at 3.30pm on 25 February. The search involving police, Coastguard boats and the Westpac rescue helicopter failed to find any trace of the kayak owner. Later searchers found a paddle, a red nylon bag containing a sleeping bag, a jersey, grey track pants and a sandwich. The kayak, white hull with yellow deck, had a purple 'Insane' sticker on the foredeck. Police (27 February) later noted a 27 year old homeless man had been located, who was thought to be the kayak occupant, but in a media report on 28 February, they believed the kayak belonged to a 41 year old male, who had missed several appointments however they would not be resuming the search.

This remains a Miss Terry. To date I have been unable to check if a person went missing while paddling this kayak. But, if contact details had been included in cockpit, it would have made the task of tracking down the kayaker owner very much easier.

Identify Your Kayak from David Fisher

I recommend that all owners of kayaks and boats, small vessels of any type, ensure their craft has an identifying name or equivalent written on it. I suggest your name and phone number, including local area code written where it can be seen, particularly when the kayak is empty, eg. inside your cockpit somewhere.

If you have a registered call sign (for a marine VHF radio) I recommend you write this on your kayak also, and I suggest writing it on the foredeck just in front of the cockpit so you can read it easily if making a radio call to maritime radio.

By having your kayak identifiable, in the unlikely event that you become

separated from your boat and someone else finds your kayak, it will help the police track you down and hopefully confirm that you are safely ashore, or conversely that you are considered overdue and they should keep looking for you. Also if your kayak is simply lost or stolen, you have a better chance of getting it back.

An indelible felt marker pen is the easiest way to write on either fibreglass or plastic. If you take the gloss off the surface with a light scuff, using 400 to 600 grit wet and dry sandpaper, the letters stay on better, and an added bonus is you can then write in pencil on the surface should you want to.

(David Fisher, a Wellington network paddler & KASK member, is also a Coastguard vessel skipper).

Draft Safety in Kayaking Strategy from John Marshall

As promised, here is the update on the project:

The area of key concern, from our perspective, to emerge from the discussion at the 12 November 2007 non-powered craft forum was the ability (or lack thereof) of MNZ, in the absence of a rules-based approach, to influence operator performance proactively (prior to an accident or incident) both in the interests of safety (accident prevention) and to ensure that operators that adhere to industry standards are not commercially disadvantaged in competition with those who are less scrupulous on the basis that the cost of safety is not recompensed by the market alone.

The question that drops out of this concern, it seems to us, is: what scope exists under the existing law for MNZ generally and the Director of Maritime NZ in particular to 'co-regulate' the safety performance of commercial kayaking, in partnership with the various national bodies outside a rules-based regime?

According to legal advice subsequently received, there is no legislative impediment to MNZ's endorsement of national industry standards. The next step is to consider such a course

of action from a policy perspective. This will involve review by an internal strategic leadership group (within the next fortnight) and any subsequent sign-off required from our board (at its meeting on 17 June). Assuming the case made is to the satisfaction of both groups, we will then release the amended draft 'safety in kayaking strategy' for public consultation in July 2008.

John Marshall
Manager, Environmental Research & Analysis, Maritime NZ

New Bylaw to apply in the Auckland Region for Visibility of Kayaks & Paddle Craft

At the 20 May National Pleasure Boat Forum, I learned for the first time of a new bylaw that the Auckland Regional Council will apply from 1 July 2008 with respect to kayaks and paddle craft in the Auckland region. As this was news to me, I sought the wording of the new bylaw from deputy Harbourmaster Jim Dille. After reading the bylaw, I then sought clarification from Jim of where the bylaw would apply, when it would come into practice, the rationale for the new bylaw and the consultation process involved. My queries in italics:

from Jim Dille:

I have attached the clause that will apply to kayaks and paddle craft. The Auckland Regional Council (ARC) education programme for next summer will include retro-reflective material handouts and a continuance of the message to, 'be safe be seen'. Any comments or thoughts feel free to contact me.

2.17 Visibility of kayaks and paddle craft

1. Every kayak and paddle craft that is navigating in waters beyond 200 metres from shore shall ensure they are highly visible to other vessels. This shall include:

- (a) wearing a high visibility vest or high visibility PFD; and
- (b) use of reflecting tape on oars or paddles and also on clothing; and

(c) at night, showing a continuous white light visible in all directions from a distance of two nautical miles.

Can you please define where the clause 2.17 will apply to; ie. Waitemata, Manukau etc.

1) The clause applies throughout the Auckland Region, but note only when paddling greater than 200 metres from the shore).

When will it come into existence? And the liaison process involved, Ak Canoe Club +?

2) This clause will come into force on 1 July 2008. The consultation process did not propose a clause of this nature as education was the favoured option at that time. Public submissions to the Bylaw requested the Council (ARC) take steps to make kayaks visible. (We have had three serious collisions and numerous close shaves).

Rationale was three kayak boat collisions in recent years?

3) Three serious incidents involving collision. Each incident revealed the skipper was unable to see the kayak. Speed was also an issue. Numerous close shaves and complaints; complaints normally around kayaks at night paddling to offshore islands (Rangitoto etc.)

And what is the clause from? ARC regulations, harbour master by-laws?

4) The clause is in the new ARC Navigation Safety Bylaw. While this is a national issue it was felt a national law was not required and education was a better option for other areas.

For inclusion in the newsletter, I feel that some background is necessary to include with the info in the newsletter.

After the initial incidents the harbour-master (HM) office put in place a speed limit in congested waters (Waitemata harbour 12 knot speed limit). We also worked with Environment Waikato (EW) and the Auckland Canoe Club

(ACC) to test equipment to identify what equipment worked well. The aim of this test was to help kayakers assess what equipment they wanted to buy.

In preparing the draft Bylaw I approached the ACC and asked if they felt a visibility clause should be included in the Bylaw. The reply was that the club members felt this should be left to education of users. During the Public Consultation process we discussed kayaks at many public meetings. There was concern from members of the boating public that kayaks were a risk to themselves and boats. These concerns were reflected in the submissions to the bylaw. It was also noted that there was an article on kayaks in the *Professional Skipper magazine* at this time.

In the deliberations several submitters spoke and mentioned the lack of visibility of some kayaks. In drafting a clause for the sub committee to consider we tried to incorporate what most sensible kayakers would already do or are already required to do. This is:

1. at night a lantern (Maritime Rule 22) if not showing sidelights and a stern light.
2. a high vis. vest or buoyancy aid (note a yellow buoyancy aid would be considered hi vis., a grey one would not)
3. use of reflective material on clothing (lifejacket) or paddles.

We tempered this with the 200m limit as inside that limit all craft must do less than 5 knots. In practice this means persons paddling a significant distance from shore must take steps to be seen. We will be continuing our education programme and include giving out reflective material. It is of note that Sue Tucker of EW has already worked with manufacturers to get high visibility lifejackets produced, and the requirement to carry a light should help manufacturers see a market for quality effective lights.

Jim Dille
Deputy Harbourmaster
Harbourmaster's Office
Auckland Regional Council

NEW DAY SKIPPER COURSE WOMEN ON BOARD

At a MNZ Safe Boating Advisor's forum held recently in Picton, I met Coastguard Boating Education tutor Katie McNabb and Coastguard Boating Education South Island Representative Joanne Glassford. They mentioned running very successful CGBE day skipper courses for women. The course information flier notes:

- join women wanting to ensure the safety of their family and friends on the water.
- suitable for all water users, powered, unpowered, large, small, no experience to quite a lot
- learn the rules of the road on the water, buoys and beacons, knots and parts of the boat
- have fun whilst learning with like-minded women so you can confidently sit in the skipper's chair for a change.
- cost for the Day Skipper course is \$185 which includes manuals and exam fee

For more information, you may wish to get in touch with either Katie:

ktj@cyberpress.co.nz
or Joanne:
jkglassford@xtra.co.nz

The free phone number to seek Coastguard Education courses information is: 0800 40 8090
Prices will vary depending on the cost of the venue - \$185 is correct but hopefully a bit less.

WOB Courses coming up are:

- Nelson this coming month with Hillary Tear- ring 0800 40 8090 for details
- Tauranga - ring 0800 40 8090
- Marlborough with me (Katie), probably in Waikawa at the Yacht Club, last weekend of July and first weekend of August - Friday evenings 6-9 and Saturdays 9-4.
- Canterbury at the Coastguard Headquarters at Kaiapoi just north of Christchurch, first two weekends in October - same formula as above.

OPINION

Rolling Your Kayak from Dave Hammond

As both a whitewater paddler and a sea kayaker, there is a certain attitude when it comes to sea kayaking that I find a little hard to fathom, and the more I read about sea kayaking mishaps, the harder it gets. It is this. As a whitewater paddler, one of the first skills to learn is the roll. If you are on a river, although the banks are usually close by, the last thing you need is to be out of your boat and being battered by rocks, or trying to make the surface after being sucked down by a nasty hydraulic. There isn't usually enough flat water to be rescued until the finish of any rapid that you may be swimming – you really need that roll to work!

If help is needed, it is usually more than an hour away so a large amount of self-sufficiency is necessary. Then there is sea kayaking.

The emphasis here seems to be to ask for help by always having a marine radio, cell phone, flares or other 'come help me' devices. I am also surprised at the amount of people who carry paddle floats – and have to use them! If you are going to tip over in flat water you probably shouldn't be out there, and if you are going to tip over in rough water and expect to get back in your boat using a paddle float I suspect that it will be the first time you have tried it, and it will prove to be somewhat of an ordeal. Kayaking alone with the thought that your paddle float will save you invites disaster, and if you

are with others why would a paddle float be needed, as you can use other faster techniques for getting back in your boat.

It is said there are two sorts of kayakers – those who swim, and those who are going to swim – even the best sea kayakers will swim sometime through a silly mistake, equipment failure or some other reason, so I am not saying you shouldn't carry safety gear. What I am saying is that it shouldn't be needed if you have a good roll, and this roll should be practised more than the use of a paddle float. A roll takes seconds to carry out, a re-entry can take far too long or not be possible, and the Coastguard may not find you.

PROFILE

BARBRO (BABS) LINDMAN

by Paul Caffyn
with assistance from Alan Byde

Born in Sweden, 1968, in a small town on the west coast, Babs was an only child whose father was a Swedish Airforce pilot, a telegraphist, morse code operator, worked in South America, a ski jumper when young, who did a bit of kayaking. He was really keen on the outdoors and took Babs skating, skiing, both cross-country and downhill; occasionally trekking in the mountains with rare canoeing and kayaking trips.

He encouraged Babs to spread her wings for adventuring outside Sweden. Babs hated primary school in the south of Sweden - too many rules and too much sitting still. She delivered junk mail for money for travelling and skiing from early age 10 or 11 and then started working at 12 picking strawberries. At high school Babs finished with good grades

despite spending a lot of time working, partying and sporting - a whole lot of fun with a group of girls.

At 15 Babs worked in a restaurant, and with an insurance company. She picked up the work quickly taking on summer jobs so she could travel. Her family moved to Skane in south-east Sweden which was only half an hour biking from the sea, great for swimming, eating ice-cream and playing with kayaks on the sea when they could be borrowed.

Babs finished school and went to Munich, Germany to study language and art. She studied German seriously encouraged by a teacher at high school. Babs had enough money for six months of study.

She ended up full time at Stockholm studying law and working part time to pay back student loans. Five years were spent in full time study, travelling during holidays or whenever she could ski in Austria. With good final grades she ended up working:

- two years as assistant to a judge in a district court
- one year at court of appeal as a

assistant judge

- back to district court, and start working as a judge with a mentor
- finally back to the court of appeal as one of three judges
- then you are ready to be a judge.

Babs felt she was a bit too young to work for the court system; her boyfriend moved south and Babs worked as a legal assistant for a large law firm. She got fed up, so worked as a ski instructor for a year then back to a job with telecommunications law; stayed for a couple of years but with a new female boss, Babs felt overworked and stressed so took time off to recover. Babs took a year off to travel in Alaska with her boyfriend and paddled in the Glacier Bay National Park.

With three months off, Babs felt a need to travel slowly from A to B with time to study nature and contemplate the meaning of life. She was thinking about motor biking from Sweden to India but friends said her repair skills were hopeless and she would be better in a kayak. A voyage along the coast of Norway surfaced in a conversation. Previously she had seen little of the Norwegian coastline or seas.

Babs began paddling from the northern border of Sweden and Russia in a plastic Prijon kayak. She was unsupported for six weeks on the voyage to the Sweden – Norway border. The first part of the journey was hard, particularly between the Russian border and the Nordkapp (North Cape) with exposed crossings of fjords whilst traversing a remote coastline. Babs saw only two boats in the first few weeks but thoroughly enjoyed the solo paddling.

Highlights were times interacting with coastal people. Babs learned that people are normally very friendly and felt people gave so much to her. She met a woman one evening who said, “If you can paddle around Norway, you can leave your job and do anything you set your mind to.”

The Norway Trip took 78 days - a distance of 2,835kms at a daily rate of 36kms. She did not paddle on two rest days, with 11 days weatherbound.

When Babs finished the trip she felt strange paddling into a Swedish harbour. Although longing for a hot shower and coffee, Bab’s feeling was she wanted maps of the Swedish coastline so she could continue paddling and not go back to work. It was good coming home knowing that some believed in the challenge that she set and met.

Back to work, Babs caught her foot while running over a wooden foot bridge and suffered one broken bone and one spiral fracture. She was laid up in plaster and couldn’t touch the ground for two months. There was another operation nine months later. Despite being on crutches Babs went paddling in Turkey and had a great whitewater kayak trip that summer. Her therapist suggested the worst thing for Babs to do was to get out and about.

New Zealand plan? – British paddler Jeff Allan talked to Babs after a slide show of her Norwegian trip and said he had a mate who was planning the South Island trip. Babs first visited New Zealand 10 years ago, paddling in Okarito Lagoon and Milford Sound also out of Picton; on another trip she

did the Wanganui River in a kayak and went surfing up Bay of Islands way. After the Norwegian trip Babs yearned for a longer adventure.

It was hard to get experience in Sweden of wave or surf conditions to be expected in the South Island. Babs said after the trip she was still learning – felt like she was only on a level 1 out of a maximum of 10.

Babs has a photographic company in Sweden. She works for other outdoor companies with some instructing, but her life revolves around nature and the outdoors. She is proud of being a photographer as there are very few women photographers in Sweden. Her book in Swedish on the Norway solo paddle is due for publication shortly.

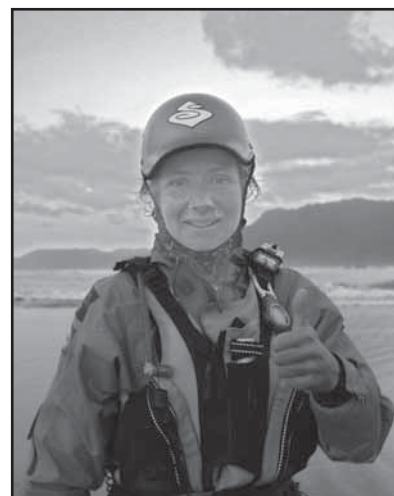
She views herself not so much as an adventurer but someone who is photographing and writing about outdoor living, trekking, skating and health.

For Babs the down-side of her South Island trip was the east coast dumping waves of which she had no previous experience. They were more powerful than expected. A lack of sheltered landing places was a down-side and sandflies – ‘small black evil things’ – were worst at Landing Bay in Chalky Inlet (Fiordland) where the yellow colour of her kayak was blackened by the sheer density of sandflies gathered on it.

The good side was meeting people and the changing landscape. She had never before seen a coast changing so much.

Personal Vignettes of Babs:

Woodpecker Bay - between Greymouth and Westport: We spent five hours on the Cobden tiphead at the Grey River bar, waiting for rows of breakers to ease with the incoming tide. From the security of the breakwater it was heart in mouth stuff as Babs made a clean run out to sea over a huge ground swell. On dusk, Babs surfed into the small sheltered bay, face gaunt and streaked with encrusted salt and sunscreen, but still with enough energy to smile and fool around for the cameras. Infected, blistered fingers plus an ulcerated rub



Babs at Woodpecker Bay

spot on her derriere must have been so painful while paddling.

Farewell Spit: I called Babs on her cellphone at 10pm to see if she was safely ashore after escaping Big River. Huge seas and lines of big breakers left Babs stuck at Big River for three days; no sheltered landing there after the long run up from Karamea, just an endless sand beach with attendant lines of breakers. Babs answered the phone and I asked where she had landed. It is dusk, and I am relieved to hear she is safely ashore in the lee (Golden Bay side) of Farewell Spit. I hear also immense relief in Bab’s voice that she has finally left the rigours and terror of the West Coast surf astern and now has only days left to finish at Picton. She is so tired.

I am relieved at the news. It is dark now and Babs has to drag her heavy kayak across a broad expanse of sand/mud flats to above high tide mark on the spit. 10.15pm, I answer the phone to hear Babs in tears saying her blistered fingers are too painful for this task. She has decided to continue to Totaranui, a four hour+ crossing of Golden Bay to the Abel Tasman National Park. Guts and determination!

Picton: Joan Bye and Babs saying goodbye as Babs began her long journey home. Both choked up and Joan in tears with the farewell. Babs is a shrewd judge of character and with her bubbly personality she was able to make long-lasting friendships with so many folk around the South Island. Fattened up after the trip, with the haggard gaunt look gone, replaced

by a peaches glow to her cheeks, looking like a young 20 something year old, it is hard to believe Babs was in fact 39 and had just soloed the South Island.

12 Mile: weeks after the Picton finish, Babs wave skiing out from home with Baz and Justine; condition now back on her gaunt frame, surfing to shore (I wanted my wave ski) shivering with cold but having such a pleasurable experience of melding paddling skills with surfing, that she wanted to go back out for a few more rides.

With firsthand knowledge of the four 2008 South Island circumnavigators, Freya, Babs, Justine and Barry, Babs did it hardest of all with a cumbersome heavy, leaky, plastic kayak and too much inappropriate or heavy equipment. She was not out to break a time record as Freya was but Bab's trip was to be 'up close and personal' with the South Island coastline, fauna, flora and locals gathering sufficient stories and photographs for a book on her South Island trip.

I believe Babs has learned so much from this trip for when she tackles another serious mission. She left a lasting impression with many Kiwis as a fun loving but very determined Swedish paddler.

Feeling dispirited that I had not painted a vivid portrait, I leaned on Alan Byde, paddler and author, to present his retrospective thoughts on the Swedish lass.

'Babs. What's to say? She is the blonde Scandinavian, slim, more like a 19 year girl than one 20 years further along the road. She has a ready smile, a kindly way, yet tough as old boots. When she arrived after her circumnavigation we knew that her hands were sore and the deep eroded blisters told how she suffered for her success. Joan gave her legs and hands some healing massage. Babs came out relaxed and curled up on the couch, a study in repose. We went to the RSA for supper and I hand it to her, she can shift her plateful and merrily tidied other plates too. A few weeks later I asked to see her hands and there was no sign of the wounds. She heals fast.

There is a pic of her as she parked her paddle at Picton marina slipway and she looks so serious (see colour photo on p.2). I guess if I'd just done a three month journey like that, headwinds, beautiful starry nights, dumpers to crack kayaks, 130 kms in one day's stint, sandflies to drive one mad, tent-bound for a week, I'd be serious too.

When young I might have spoken like Ed Hillary, "We knocked the bastard off!" but now my thoughts would be thankful I survived. 'The ocean gives us the test before thinking to give us the lesson' (Gordon Brown's book). Babs has those memories to carry with her through life. They are an assurance of survival when adversity strikes in later years. Old kayakers go on and on and on

Alan Byde



Top: Babs in her element, behind a camera lens at the KASK Forum

Below: Babs wave skiing at the 12 Mile, West Coast, South Island; weeks after the finish of her South Island trip



EQUIPMENT LIST - Sth Island Trip

by Babs Lindman

Melz Grant said she read the equipment list of Freya Hoffmeister with interest, hence I thought it would be worthwhile to include what Babs used.

Kayak & Equipment on Kayak

Kayak (Kodiak from Prijon)
Rudder (Wildwasser)
Paddles x 2 (Storm from Robson)
Paddle leash
Hand pump
Sprayskirts x 2 (Prijon)
Compass
Maps (marine)
Map cases x 2
Paddle floats x 2
Helmet
Small thermarest for my poor bum...
Sponge

Life jacket with

Small camera (Optio)
Small flair
Lip protection
Whistle
Signal mirror
Mobile phone in waterproof case
Watch from Techtrail
Light strobe
Knife
Waterbottle 1,5 l at the back
EPIRB around the waist and attached to the life jacket.

In the Day Hatch

Satellite phone in double waterproof cases
GPS (Garmin)
VHF in waterproof case
Sun protection & sunglasses
Camera Nikon D 80 in waterproof bag
Extra batteries & headlamp

Behind the Seat

Small bag behind seat with two big flares, one small flare, red flag, survival bag, torches, foil blanket, heat pad for hands)
Waterbottles (2x 5l + 1 x 1l from Source)

Paddle clothes

Jackets (one thicker & one thinner)
Paddle trousers
Paddle shorts
Paddle shoes
Shirt and long johns (Icebreaker)
Cap

Clothes on Land

Long johns & shirts (Icebreaker)
Underwears & socks
Jumper
Running shoes & cheap sandals
Shorts
Trousers from Lundhags
Jacket (thin)

Kitchen Equipment & Food

Kitchen and gas cans (Primus)
Water purification
Bottle (for nuts)
Food (musli and dry milk, energy bars, nuts and dry food)

My Home

Tent (Macpac)
Sleeping bag (Macpac)
Thermarest (thick one)

Camera equipment

Traypot x 2
Camera D80 x 2 (Nikon)
Camera Optio
Lenses 18-200 AF-S Nikkor + AF-s 18-70 + Micro 105 mm
Memory cards & batteries
Cleaning equipment
Lense filters

Other Equipment

Waterproof bags
Extra headlamp
Extra sunglasses
Atlas (road NZ)
Pens & note books x 2
Wallet
Small backpack from Katmandu
Recharging equipment
Batteries
Reparation equipment and a leatherman
Medicine equipment
Protection (yes, three spraycans) against sandflies and net for the face
Toilet paper

International PaddleAll Conference, Montreal March 27-30 2008 by Beverley Burnett

CanoeKayak Canada hosted this first international conference on paddle sports for people with disabilities. This organisation is a world leader in adaptive paddling and the conference was an important step forward in sharing ideas, information and contacts. Delegates from nine countries attended.

I was able to attend at short notice because of a special grant from the Lotteries Commission. I would like to thank the Hon. Rick Barker, Minister of Internal Affairs, who approved the travel grant, Dee Young of Parafed Wellington and Susan Cade, former President of KASK, who provided letters of reference and Kay Dawson, Interim President of NZCF, for nominating me as the New Zealand delegate.

Reports and presentations from the conference are available on CKC's website at: <http://www.canoekayak.ca/pages/eng/790/>. My full report is loaded on the Disabled Paddling page on the KASK website.

I have been trying to promote adaptive sea kayaking in New Zealand since late 2006 after being asked to coach a lady who is paraplegic. I searched for contacts in New Zealand who had expertise in adaptive paddling without much success. I found that most of the expertise available in English came from Canada, the United States and the United Kingdom.

The first day of the conference included addresses from notaries involved in the Canadian canoeing and paralympic fields, and an address by Sr. Francesco Conforti, the delegate from the ICF.

On the second and third days of the conference representatives from Canadian clubs and some of the international delegates gave presentations about local and national adaptive paddle sport programs. I learned about adaptive canoeing, va'a (waka ama

or outrigger), kayaking and other paddle sports.

For most of us, the best part of the conference was the opportunity to share information about adaptive equipment and coaching. I picked up many clever ideas about seats, paddles, restraints, and pontoons. I also made many useful contacts.

One of the highlights of my trip was the opportunity to meet the brilliant Suresh Paul, Executive Director of Equal Adventure UK. Suresh designs adaptive equipment which enables people with disabilities to take part in outdoor adventures, and which I would like to import into New Zealand.

Paddling as a Paralympic Sport

The last day of the conference covered CKC's proposal to add paddle sports to the Paralympics and eventually the Special Olympics.

The first milestone is to have the ICP adopt the program at its Congress in November, with an eventual goal of having paddling as a demonstration sport in London by 2012.

The Way Forward

I have put my hand up to be the champion for adaptive paddle sports. There is no one place you can go in New Zealand for information regarding adaptive paddling, so I am attempting to fill that role and I have the support of Parafed Wellington. I can take the contact information of people I met at the conference and put New Zealand athletes in contact with similar organisations in Canada or the US for information relating to adaptive paddling.

So far it has been an uphill battle trying to get people interested in adaptive paddling but there are many benefits for clubs who participate. Including

people with disabilities brings a whole new group of people into the membership, along with their supporters. Since people with disabilities can use the same equipment as able-bodied people (with some adaptations), fund-raising opportunities are increased for the entire club when it raises money for adapted equipment.

Often when I talk to people about inclusive opportunities the response is "no-one has ever asked us to be included". When I talk to people with disabilities the response is "I didn't know that [sport] was an option." The advice from the experts at the conference was, "Build it and they will come. Let people know about your program and they will turn up."

Please contact me via email at: bburns55@hotmail.com or 027-212-0442 for information regarding adaptive paddling.

THE 'BUGGER!' FILE

'There's a Croc in the River!' by Jillian Wilson

Where the boulders had split the river, with one side looking calm, deep and still, we saw how we could avoid the rapids on the other side. As sea kayakers on our first day on the Whanganui River, new to whitewater, we were 'finding our feet'.

Darcy was ahead of me and I was shocked to hear him yelling, "we're up shit creek here," as he reached the end of the stretch of water. I realised only too soon what had alarmed him as swirling water surged all around me and I suddenly had to brace hard to get round a sharp right hand bend. Another bend loomed rapidly, but I was no match for the current. The force of the water pinned my kayak hard against boulders and my mind wrestled with what I should do. Stay there? Futile! Get out? Alarmed by the force of the water pouring over the stern of the boat and terrified of going backwards down that drop, I yanked off the sprayskirt – opting for escaping somehow.

My memory is hazy after that. There was a tearing pain in my knee as the boat took off and I had a crystal clear moment of wondering, "is

this it?" as I was tumbled and tossed down to where a concerned Darcy was wondering what on earth he could do to help, some metres below. I was barefoot - my shoes had gone. So too was my paddle.

Darcy took control of my kayak as there was no way I could swim with my damaged knee and he was able to nudge the boat up to some pancaked rocks 200 metres downstream. It was simple to slide the kayak onto the smooth rocky beach. I vaguely remember grabbing hold of my paddle somewhere along the way.

Lifting the bow end up and turning the boat over revealed only a bent rudder – plus one shoe! After about 15 minutes spent having a drink, inspecting my swelling knee, and Darcy stowing his thermos inside his hatch (just in case!), we decided to continue on our way to the Poukaria campsite not too far away. I'd begun feeling rather shaky about going back on the river when Darcy yelled again – this time it was, "Hey there's a Croc in the river!" I was elated and relieved to see it bobbing along towards us and lunged in to grab it. I now had my two Croc shoes back again, and wouldn't be barefoot on the Whanganui after all.

For the record:

We learnt that it is better to choose to paddle where you can see what you are letting yourself in for, and thankfully we became much better at reading the river by the end of the five days. Also, some whitewater tuition could have been helpful before going on the Whanganui River, rather than just relying on the little we had gleaned, plus our sea kayaking skills; maybe a Grade 2 river course. There were people paddling the river who had never ever paddled anywhere before – two unprepared Israeli girls were traumatised, having to be rescued from under trees a couple of times, and arriving twice at campsites after dark, with sodden gear.

My knee? Torn medial and cruciate ligaments, plus a tear to the chondrial cartilage where it joins the bone. Ah well – it'll heal!

We were told that the chute we came down was where the riverboats were winched up in the old days, so they could bypass the rapids.

Note to Paul C: Thanks for telling me about 5 times how lucky I was not to have been upside down when I was pinned against that boulder. I hadn't had nightmares until I knew that!

Editorial continued from page 3.

Did they need safety rules, regulations, and bylaws to adhere to? No is my clear answer. OK they are very experienced paddlers, who are really following best practice for expedition sea kayaking, picked up from instruction, observation, reading and gaining knowledge from other paddlers. Which leads me into a safety rant.

NATIONAL PLEASURE BOAT FORUM

July 20, I attended the Wellington National Pleasure Boat Forum, where the 'Boating Safety Strategy' document was released. Safety initiatives ensuing from the National Pleasure Boat Strategy have led to a 50% reduction in boating fatalities in the last six years, despite a massive increase in recreational water-craft. There are two key changes recommended in the 'strategy' which will affect recreational paddlers:

- firstly the mandatory carriage of lifejackets (PFDs) will change to mandatory wearing of lifejackets, unless the skipper deems conditions are safe enough for removal
- secondly, carriage of an effective communications system will become mandatory

These two recommended changes I believe make good common sense. Most recreational paddlers already wear a PFD and carry at least one form of emergency communication equipment. No issue there in my view. (for a copy of the full review or an overview of 'Boating Safety Strategy' go to [www. Maritimenz.govt.nz](http://www.Maritimenz.govt.nz))

SAFETY

Saturday, training on the Grey River, I parked under the new concrete rail bridge. Nearby, a group of young 20+yr olds watching a dickhead play around with his brand new jetski. No PFD worn, no wetsuit, jeans, shirts and windbreaker tops only. Exceeding the 5 knot speed limit within 200m of shore.

I explained to the jetski owner that I was wearing my MNZ safe boating advisor hat and suggested he (and his mates all trying out the jetski) should be wearing a PFD, given a strong ebbing flow in the river and 15-20 knot

very cold wind blowing seawards through the Cobden gap. Bloke patted the forward hatch, indicating the presence of a PFD. I explained I supplied reports to coroners on kayaking fatalities and had just returned from a safety forum where fatalities for the past six months were discussed. Bloke was aware of the fact that PFD had to be carried, but would not listen to reasoning re my suggestions.

So I dressed for immersion, polypro layers, fuzzy rubber sprayskirt top, PFD and parka in front of them, and paddled upriver. Left them doing speed loops in a 150m radius around where the jetski had launched.

An hour upriver, I met two triathletes returning from a training paddle - both wearing PFDs and dressed appropriately, one wearing a helmet.

Given this situation re the jetski, I can clearly see the rationale for the introduction of mandatory wearing of PFDs. The safety messages had not registered with this bloke.

AUCKLAND REGION NEW BYLAW (see p.10)

Do you recall the opinion column from Auckland paddler Colin Quilter in newsletter No.131, 'Is too Much Safety Bad for Kayakers?' The setting for the grandfather and grandkid was February 2020. I thought Colin's scenario was a bit far-fetched, but in the light of this new bylaw I have to eat my thoughts. In his introduction Colin wrote:

My fear is that kayakers might in future have their freedom curtailed by regulations which are unnecessarily restrictive, or might even be there for another purpose. Pressure for regulation might come, for example, from the owners of powerboats who would prefer kayakers to be restricted to the fringes of the harbour so that high-speed boats can travel with maximal speed and minimal lookout. Such regulations will no doubt be introduced on the grounds that, 'they are there for the safety of kayakers' but they actually serve more powerful vested interests.'

From 1 July 2008, a new bylaw will apply to paddlers in the Auckland region, more than 200m offshore, they will be required to"

- (a) wear a high visibility vest or high visibility PFD; and
- (b) use reflecting tape on paddles and also on clothing; and
- (c) at night, showing a continuous all round white light

What about enforcing the existing rule that boat skippers must maintain a proper lookout? If you recall the near fatal collision off the entrance to Westhaven Marina when the vice commodore of the RNYS drove a 8m RIB over recreational paddler Stuart Chrisp (see p.5 in n/l No. 128), the prop cutting the kayak in two. If Stuart had not capsized before impact, he would now be a fatality statistic. Stuart was in a bright orange kayak, wearing a high viz PFD, and waving his yellow bladed paddle at the RIB. The problem - the RIB skipper not keeping a proper lookout! Not the fault of the paddler.

I see this new bylaw as changing the onus of responsibility from boat skippers maintaining a proper lookout to the kayakers who have to be seen!

Consultation? Jim Dilley notes the Auckland Canoe club was approached for feedback; the response, was to be left to education of paddlers. Why was KASK not asked for comment? I heard from no-one re this bylaw proposal or that public consultation was sought. It seems that the harbour master was lobbied hard and fast by power boat interests on this one. This is a real let off for them. If there is a collision you can bet they will find fault with the kayaker's visibility to get the power boater off the charge of failing to keep a proper lookout!

At Coastbusters the results of testing to improve paddler visibility were presented by Jim Dilley (ARC), Jim Lott of MNZ, Neil Murray of CGES and Ian Caelhem of the ACC. Is not a better approach to push education initiatives on how to improve visibility from what was learnt from the testing? And what about using high visibility chopper flags?
Paul Caffyn



HISTORY

GINO WATKINS 29-01-1907 – 20-08-1932

His Influence on Modern Kayaking

by Alan Byde



Recreational canoeing became popular in the late nineteenth century, when the Prince of Wales, later King Edward 7th founded the Royal Canoe Club on the Thames at Richmond. Warrington Baden Powell took his *Rob Roy* canoe, by John MacGregor a Scottish solicitor, to USA and recreational canoeing took off there too. After the initial surge when canoeing clubs formed all over Britain, enthusiasm waned. The First World War probably ended it and most clubs grew old and died.

The Angmassalik kayak came to UK in 1931. The war fostered interest in kayaking exemplified by the Cockleshell Heroes raid December 1942 at Bordeaux on the Gironde Estuary. Only two crews of eight completed the attack and of them only two men reached home. It was a pyrrhic victory but it boosted much needed morale in UK. Colonel Blondie Hasler led and survived that raid. It would be interesting to know what inspired him to approach the Marines and suggest the use of kayaks for raiding. A postwar pic of Colonel Hasler shows him in a 'Tyne Greenland', a West Greenland design. Gino's Angmassalik kayak came to Britain 14 years previously.

The kayak is a physical thing but Gino's primary gift to mankind is his spirit. There are several books on the man and his expeditions. His father was a colonel. Nansen, Scott and Shackleton were heroic explorers during his youth. Gino went up to Cambridge and joined the Royal Geographical Society. Age 20 he organised an expedition to Edge Island near Spitzbergen. At 21 he led an expedition to Labrador. 1930-1931, age 23 he was off to Greenland to lead the British Arctic Air Route Expedition (BAARE) to examine the feasibility of a great circle polar air route Britain to Winnipeg. In the thirties depression he led a second expedition to East Greenland. His team explored inland and coastal areas centered on Angmassalik in Eastern Greenland.

Gino adopted the 'Devil may care' style of his time, gilded youth. He was not the vacuous 'Flannelled Fool' for he prepared meticulously for every venture. Gino vanished while hunting alone near a calving glacier. His water-logged kayak, paddle and sealskin trousers were found but not Gino. His exit has an air of memorable mystery.

The physical shape of the native kayak hunter east or west coast of Greenland is much the same while the design of the kayaks they used was dictated by conditions which are very different. The West Greenland kayak, exemplified by the *Anas Acuta* and *Nordkapp* designs, was used on open waters with high amplitude wave forms while the East Greenland kayak was used on water where the wave forms, damped by floating ice, had small amplitude. The West Greenland kayak is more sea kindly while the East Greenland kayak is swifter and easy to roll with or without a paddle.

The East Greenland kayak, typified by the Angmassalik design, was a balancing challenge to the taller European physique compared with the compact Inuit seal hunter. Gino's approach to this? I guess he would say, "If it is difficult, master it." His team all paddled Angmassalik kayaks built by local hunters. If you wish to explore stability characteristics of boats, look up: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metacentric_height

The higher the centre of gravity of the paddler, the lower the stability of kayak plus paddler. A ship is a rigid object whereas the paddler in the kayak can by body flexibility and thigh grip adjust metacentric height moment by moment. The Inuit who start age six are on balance naturally while the European has to work for it.

Gino's Angmassalik kayak with full hunting equipment from the first expedition came to Cambridge. There is a photograph taken in Greenland

of Gino showing the hunter's stance, rifle at the ready, muzzle just above the white bow dodger screen. Seal are reputed to be short sighted, long sight not being much use under water. A white screen on a white kayak allows the hunter to come closer to the target before the seal dives. A seal in a hurry doesn't go down, it leaps up and with the impetus of gravity can plunge deeper faster.

Gino's influence on current kayak design and kayaking is minute when compared with the seakindly West Greenland *Igdlorssuit* kayak. The British Canoe Union had several informative 16 mm instructional films, one was about rolling a kayak. I saw it in 1960 which enthused me. There is a brief clip of colour film showing a paddler in 'The Red Spear.' It was narrow and difficult to balance and made of plywood stitch and glue from a kit by Ken Littleddyke, a teacher. It was indubitably an Angmassalik.

In February 2007 I was at Anakiwa. Afloat near the jetty was a man who seemed to have no kayak yet he was upright and used a paddle. Surface ripples hid the kayak, freeboard about 3 cms. The bow and stern were level so where a West Greenland design would reveal a raking bow and perky stern, this didn't. Then he put aside his paddle and rolled several times with effortless ease, essential when hand rolling. "That's an Angmassalik," said I. His father was nearby. "It is!" he exclaimed. We talked.

In 1931 one rare kayak came to England and here it is, same testing design, in New Zealand. Gino brought it from Greenland to UK 77 years ago but the designers were generations of seal hunters from Angmassalik who survived the sea and passed on that superb design for us, who have the will, to enjoy.

Gino's gift is of the spirit: "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield."

LITERARY

from Fiona Fraser

We recently did a kayak trip along the Abel Tasman and up around Separation Point. I was going to do a bit of a write up about it, but no words sprang to mind that hadn't been written before; nice scenery – check, seals sitting on your lap on the kayak – check, lots of people – check (we counted 50 kayaks along the last three beaches to Marahau before we lost interest, this was in April so Summer must be chaotic). Something that really impressed me though, were the 'sea kayak' guides. I have seen them before up in Picton, in fact we sat down with lunch and watched in fascination as a guide rounded up his charges and set off straight into the path of the ferry. They lived. Their unwavering cheerfulness was what struck me, and has moved me to write the following:

An Ode to the Sea Kayak Guide by Fiona Fraser

Sod the office, that life's not for you
Cruising the blue seas like a mother duck
With your charges flapping along behind
Sometimes even in the right direction with luck
Smile affixed, and encouraging 'you can do it's' rolling off your tongue

She'll be right, they've had the safety briefing
Smile affixed in encouraging style
Anticipating they can make it past the first mile
Once on the water instruction continues
When I say left go left, no that's right
Mop up the collisions and try again

Coax your charges to shores afar
Four km's in two hours really pushing the bar
Smile still affixed as you drag them on the beach
Wet feet wasn't in the package no matter how much you beseech
Time to feed them and put up the shelter
Change hats to chef come entertainer
Those Dusky Bays really save the day
Room enough for creature comforts and treats
Plus the BBQ to do the tasty eats

We look over from our scroggin and tea
At the chips and salsas, choice of four
The chilly bin with be vies to numb sore bits
And much, much more

Smile affixed you offer us the scraps
And discuss our trip over the maps
Your enthusiasm is to be seen to be believed
As its back to your charges to settle them for their nap

Early to bed, late to rise, but you set off in the morning in scorching time
Two hours from go to woe and the group is on their way
Careering off towards the rocks
No, back paddling into shore
No, T-boning their mates
Good grief, I can't watch any more

Yes, Sea Kayak Guide
I raise my paddle to you in awe
From what I saw, that ain't a job for no ordinary being
Thank you for showing off our fantastic sport and our beautiful country by sea
But if you want some help, don't look to me

BOOK REVIEW

Title: *Sea Kayak*

Subtitle: *A Manual for Intermediate and Advanced Sea Kayakers*

Author: Godron Brown

Publisher: Pesda Press, Wales, UK
www.pesdapress.com

ISBN-10: 0-9547061-7-X

Date: 2006, reprint 2007

Content: 192pp, illustrated; many photographs and illustrations in brilliant colour

Cover: softcover

Size: Portrait format, 210x160 mm

RRP: uncertain in NZ

Availability: publisher

Reviewer: Alan Byde 30/04/08

A Manual for Intermediate and Advanced Sea Kayakers by one in the British Canoe Union to whom other coaches go to be assessed. Although not aimed at novices, they will derive great benefit from studying it. Better to acquire respect for the sea with a book on your lap in your favourite armchair than to find out on your first voyage what the ocean can do. Gordon is from the west coast of Scotland, a powerful place generating powerful people. Skye is on latitude 57:18 same as the Gulf of Alaska, to give a global comparison. Geographically this favours the resolute. Seas and oceans know no limits. There's freedom out there but it isn't easy to find it. Freedom has a price.

Gordon is up there with the greats, he paddled his first frame, lath and canvas canoe exploring the west coast of Scotland and by stages and years arrived in Greenland, Tasmania, Sri Lanka, Norway, Iceland, Canada and USA. He also came to New Zealand. The experience he gained worldwide is compressed in this, his first book. First books demand total commitment, which is evident.

Here's a piece of wisdom: "If you have to work out where you are, you are half way to being lost" and another: "The ocean often gives us the test before thinking to give the lesson". To which I'll add one from my father: "If it were necessary to know everything before

attempting anything, nothing would ever be done."

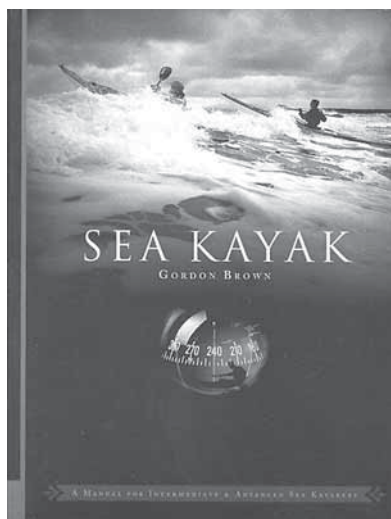
Paul read this crit so far and complained, "But what's in the book?" There is only one way to know that, but eager as always to give satisfaction, here goes.

Chapter 1. "What is sea kayaking." Starts with a question but ocean interrogation finds your soul and examines it. I could list the chapters and their contents but what's the point? This book is comprehensive.

Chapter 3. Paddle design. I admire the Inuit seal hunting kayaks, built for purpose, tested by centuries of experience. Kayak builders were those who retired from seal hunting, age about forty. Only those who survived knew good design. Those who didn't, never built a bad design. The design excellence of original hunting kayaks is paid for in deaths at sea amongst the ice. So why don't today's recreational sea kayakers use skinny blades? They were designed and made by hard experience too? You can keep your wing paddles, I'll stick to my home made wooden blades.

Chapter 6. Safety and Rescue. Right away I find myself engaged in an old argument. Rescue is for helicopters and inshore lifeboats, recovery is for fellow kayakers or in extremis, solo. Gordon uses the term rescue but that means the same as I do when I use the term recovery. Just about the first thing he mentions is speed of recovery. In cold conditions hypothermia will disable the person in the water in as little as three minutes. The shock of immersion sends the chest muscles in to spasm and breathing is in short pants.

The only sure way to prepare for the emergency is to practice in controlled conditions preferably in a pool. Theory is fine and necessary but getting it right first time at speed is when lives are saved. "Talk to the victim," he writes. True, I had a group of eight, one young woman fell in, she'd done recovery drills but she was ashen-faced, terrified, and the conditions could hardly have been worse. I talked to her, gave her instructions and helped



by the huge swell her kayak was over my foredeck, water out and she was back in, time less than two minutes. That's my personal record. This crit is about Gordon's book but every page provokes memories. This is why I can state, it is comprehensive.

Chapter 11. Strong winds. Gordon set out in testing conditions and used a personal stereo. He enjoyed the rhythm, "Another one bites the dust." Immediately I knew that was wrong. Those who do not listen to the sea will be surprised. He was, a racing dinghy passed at speed only 3 m to one side. Now he listens only to the sea which has lethal abilities. There's no time for second tries.

Chapter 14, Caves. "...it is generally a sensible idea to reverse in . . . you are in a better position to paddle back out if it looks like it is going to get horrible." Gordon! Been there, done that and saw a companion squashed up against the roof of a low cave by the buoyancy of his kayak. He was a climber, a caver and an ace white water paddler but he vowed he'd never go in to a sea cave again. He left at planing speed.

Chapter 17. Rock hopping. This is great fun, provided you can read the waves and the surge over rocks. There is a human need to push things to the limit to find it. Get it wrong and it's crunch time, either car and road or kayak and rock. Page 161 there is a great pic, a sea kayak hangs over a gully, one end hung up on rock one side and the other end hung up on the other side, two feet of space

under the hull. The occupant, no longer a paddler, head bent, sits there bemused. The kayak remains rigid. My first thought is, "Wow! Now get out of that!" I know how I would have tackled that situation forty years ago and put the kayak back in the water but what would you do?

Suggestion: Read this book. Fortune favours those who practice. You won't know everything but at least your guide, mentor and friend is a long way on that journey. Better still buy it. It will be reliable for many years to come. I have it on my shelves.

RECENT AQUISITIONS to the 12 Mile Library

Another superb title from Pesda Press is a sea kayaking guide book to Orkney and Shetland Islands, north of Scotland. Titled *The Northern Isles*, and put together by Tom Smith and Chris Jex, this 268 page softcover book is one of the best guides I have seen. Excellent colour photos on the top half of most pages, easy to understand maps, and each trip has an introduction, a description, a note on tides and weather, and additional notes including, camping, history, wildlife etc. Aside from the sea kayaking bits, this guide is a superb armchair paddler's guide to the geomorphology, geology, history and seascapes of the Northern Isles. I can only suggest ordering a copy through the publisher's website:

www.pesdapress.com

An Introduction to Sea Kayaking in Queensland 2nd Edition, by Gerard Effeny. This 2003 A5 size softcover guide, is half the weight the the above book, and as the title notes, it is an introduction to paddling in Queensland - it does not include detailed route guides. Four initial chapter are titled, Equipment, Getting Started, Staying out of trouble, Getting out of trouble and sea kayak touring. The second half of the book covers Classic Queensland Tours. For each area noted, essential contacts are provided, transport, national park contacts, emergency services. A short appendix has a list of shops, operators and clubs. Appears to be a self-publish - I would suggest checking the website to order a copy:

www.geckobooks.com

HUMOUR

I'm Fine!

A farmer named Seamus had a serious vehicle accident involving his ute and trailer, and a lorry. In court, the lorry company's hotshot solicitor was questioning Seamus. "Didn't you say to the Police at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine?'" asked the solicitor.

Seamus responded, "Well, I'll tell you what happened. I had just loaded my favourite cow, Bessie, into the..."

"I didn't ask for any details," the solicitor interrupted. "Just answer the question. Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine!'"

Seamus said, "Well, I had just got Bessie into the trailer and I was driving down the road..."

The solicitor interrupted again and said, "Your Honour, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the police on the scene that he was fine. Now several weeks after the accident, he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question."

By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Seamus's answer and said to the solicitor: "I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favourite cow, Bessie."

Seamus thanked the Judge and proceeded. "Well as I was saying, I had just loaded Bessie, my favourite cow, into the trailer and was driving her down the road when this huge lorry and trailer came through a stop sign and hit my trailer right in the side. I was thrown into one ditch and Bessie was thrown into the other. I was hurt, very bad like, and didn't want to move.

"However, I could hear old Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible shape just by her groans. Shortly after the accident, a policeman on a motorbike turned up. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning so he went over to her. After he looked at her, and saw her condition, he took out his revolver and shot her between the eyes.

"Then the policeman came across the road, gun still in hand, looked at me, and said, 'How are you feeling?'"

"Now what the F**k would you say?"

When Cardboard Men Come In Handy

A car gets a flat on the motorway one day. The blonde driver eases it over onto the shoulder of the road, carefully steps out of the car and opens the trunk. She takes out two cardboard men, unfolds them and stands them at the rear of the vehicle facing oncoming traffic. The lifelike cardboard men are in trench coats exposing their nude bodies and private parts to approaching drivers. Not surprisingly, the traffic becomes snarled and backed up. It isn't very long before a police car arrives. The officer, clearly enraged, approaches the blonde of the disabled vehicle yelling, "What's going on here?"

"My car broke down, officer," says the woman calmly

"Well, what the hell are these obscene cardboard pictures doing here by the road?" he asks.

"Helloooooo!" says the blonde. "Those are my emergency flashers!"

Old Timers

Old people have problems that you haven't even considered yet!

An 85-year-old man was requested by his doctor for a sperm count as part of his physical exam.

The doctor gave the man a jar and said, "Take this jar home and bring back a semen sample tomorrow."

The next day the 85-year-old man reappeared at the doctor's office and gave him the jar, which was as clean and empty as on the previous day.

The doctor asked what happened and the man explained, "Well, doc, it's like this.... first I tried with my right hand, but nothing. Then I tried with my left hand, but still nothing.

Then I asked my wife for help. She tried with her right hand, then with her left, still nothing. She tried with her mouth, first with the teeth in, then with her teeth out, still nothing.

We even called up Arleen, the lady next door and she tried too, first with both hands, then an armpit, and she even tried squeezin' it between her knees, but still nothing."

The doctor was shocked! "You asked your neighbour?"

The old man replied, "Yes, none of us could get the jar open."

Irish Blonde

An attractive blonde from Dublin arrived at the Auckland casino and bet \$20,000 on a single roll of the dice. She said, "I hope you don't mind, but I feel much luckier when I'm completely naked." The two male dealers looked at each, and nodded agreement.

With that, she stripped, rolled the dice and yelled, "Come on, baby, Mama needs new clothes!"

As the dice came to a stop, she jumped up and down and squealed, "YES! YES! I WON, I WON!"

She hugged each of the dealers, picked up her winnings and clothes and quickly departed.

The dealers stared at each other dumbfounded.

Finally, one of them asked, "What did she roll?"

The other answered, "I don't know - I thought you were watching."

MORAL OF THE STORY:

Not all Irish are stupid and not all blondes are dumb, but all men are men.

The Bells, the Bells

Upon hearing that her elderly grandfather had just passed away, Katie went straight to her grandparent's house to visit her 95-year-old grandmother and comfort her. When she asked how her grandfather had died, her grandmother replied, "He had a heart attack while we were making love on Sunday morning.

Horried, Katie told her grandmother that two people nearly 100 years old having sex would surely be asking for trouble.

"Oh no, my dear," replied granny. "Many years ago, realizing our advanced age, we figured out the best time to do it was when the church bells would start to ring on Sunday morning. It was just the right rhythm. Nice and slow and even - nothing too strenuous, simply in on the Ding and out on the Dong."

She paused to wipe away a tear, and continued, "He'd still be alive if the ice cream truck hadn't come along."

KASK

KASK, the Kiwi Association of Sea Kayakers (N.Z.) Inc., a network of New Zealand sea kayakers, has the objectives of:

1. promoting and encouraging the sport of sea kayaking
2. promoting safety standards
3. developing techniques & equipment
4. dealing with issues of coastal access and protection
5. organizing an annual sea kayak forum
6. publishing a bimonthly newsletter.

The Sea Canoeist Newsletter is published bimonthly as the official newsletter of the Kiwi Association of Sea Kayakers (N.Z.) Inc.

Articles, trips reports, book reviews, equipment reviews, new techniques, letter to the editor, and moments when the word 'Bugger!' was said singularly or often {referred to by some as incidents} are sought to enliven the pages of the newsletter.

Send in a plain brown envelope, or via cybermail to:

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\$35 single membership
(\$105 for 3 years; \$175 for 5 years)
\$40 family membership.
\$35 overseas

A subscription form can be downloaded from the KASK website. Cheques should be made out to: K.A.S.K. (NZ) Inc. & mailed to:

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4th. Ed. KASK HANDBOOK Updated to March 2008

For trade orders of this mother of all sea kayaking handbooks, contact Paul Caffyn, RD 1, Runanga, 7873, West Coast. Ph/fax: (03)7311806
e-mail: kayakpc@xtra.co.nz
Shop RRP: \$34.90
Price to KASK members only, including p&p, \$22.50
Make cheques out to KASK (NZ) Inc. and mail to KASK Administrator: PO Box 23 Runanga, 7841 West Coast
New members: gratis

The fourth edition of the KASK Handbook, is a mammoth compilation on all aspects of sea kayaking in New Zealand, by many of the most experienced paddlers in the Universe. Following a brief introduction, the handbook is divided into six sections:

- Kayak, Paddle & Equipment
- Techniques & Equipment
- The Elements
- Trips and Expeditions
- Places to Go - Resources

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Website: www.skoanz.org.nz

**KASK Website:
www.kask.co.nz**

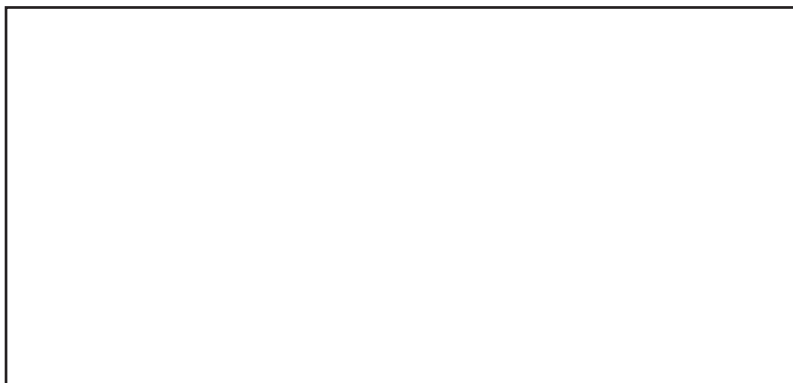
*Photo - bottom right:
Lunch stop on Lake Matahina, on
day 2 of the KASK Forum
Photo: Leo Smith*



*Almost buried in the soup, during a surf training session at the Ohope KASK Forum.
Photo: John Hesselning*



MAILED TO



**If undelivered, please return to:
KASK , PO Box 23, Runanga, West Coast. 7841**



Ready to rock and roll in the surf off Ohope Beach. Photo: John Hesseling

KASK MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Current membership fees are:

- \$35 for ordinary membership
- \$40 for family or joint membership
- \$35 for overseas membership
- new members receive a free copy of the handbook
- members should endeavour to renew by 1 August
- the KASK financial year runs 1 August to 31 July the following year
- a subscription due notice and up to two reminders are sent out with the newsletters between June and October
- if a membership renewal is not received by 30 September, membership lapses
- new members who join between 1 June and 31 July automatically get their membership credited to the following year, receiving a 14 month membership
- the KASK committee puts its emphasis confirming renewals from existing members from July to October; and promoting new KASK memberships from November to February.

