

The Journal of the Kiwi Association of Sea Kayakers (NZ) Inc - KASK

# THE SEA CANOEIST NEWSLETTER

ISSN 1177-4177

No. 138  
December 2008  
- January 2009







**INDEX**

**EDITORIAL** p. 3

**SAFETY**

Emergency Locator Beacons  
Make the Switch to 406 p. 4

Mountain Radio Set Use  
by Robin McNeill p. 5

NIWA Red-Alert Tide Date 2009  
NIWA p.12

**OPINION**

The Three Great Secrets of  
Adventure  
by Ray Hollingsworth p. 6

**CONSERVATION**

Pest Plants and Kayakers  
by John Gumbley p. 7

**DESTINATIONS**

Lake Hauroko, Fiordland NP  
by Maggie Oakley p. 9

**PADDLER PROFILE**

Maggie Oakley  
by Maggie Oakley p.10

**EXPEDITIONS**

Oreti Beach to Dunedin p.13  
Race Around Australia p.13  
Around Oz Attempts p.13  
Karel Vissel Weather p.15  
South Georgia Solo p.15  
Falkland Islands Solo p.16  
Argentina Facing the Wind p.16  
Wild Image Project p.16  
Madagascar Circuit p.16  
compiled by Paul Caffyn

**FORUMS**

Okains Bay Meet 30 January 2009  
by David Fraser p.17  
Okains Bay Meet - feedback from  
Peter Sullivan p.18

**HUMOUR** p.19

**NEWSLETTER INDEX**

Numbers: 124 - 136  
Aug. 2006 - Sept. 2008 p.20

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT N/L  
17 MARCH 2009**

**EDITORIAL**

**KASK**

The bank balance stands at \$5,111.93 as of 26 January 2009. Membership has been steadily growing, necessitating an increase in the print run of the newsletter from 450 to 500 copies. Whether or not it was the glamour cover photo of Wellington paddler Rich Lineham in the latest newsletter, there are no copies left.

**Okains Bay Annual Meet**

The annual Canterbury Network meet at Okains Bay, Banks Peninsula, had over 80 paddlers attending and the two reports by David Fraser and Peter Sullivan (pp. 17-18) show it was an outstanding success.

**Adventure**

It has been exceedingly difficult to blackmail/cajole/plead trip reports, articles and photographs from paddlers this summer. The most common excuse was, 'I/we are so busy.' And in many ways that is the Kiwi style of adventure, the getting out there and the doing of the thing, and not crowing about the success of the latest trip.

In the latest *NZOI Quarterly* magazine (NZ Outdoor Instructors Assn.) I was quite taken by an article titled 'The Three Great Secrets of Adventure' penned by Ray Hollingsworth, which is reprinted on p. 6. Apart from the fact that I rated a very nice mention, Ray's first secret was the getting out and doing of the adventure, making a start and not letting logistical or personal worries get in the way. The second was to undertake an adventure, you don't need to be a hero, not someone with a big ego, and do not need to emulate the deeds of some of the very high profile/ big ego adventurer. The third secret was that age, fitness, experience or motivation should not be a barrier to adventure.

Ray's article led me to an assessment of whether the age of adventure, in this modern technological age of getting pleasure/entertainment/satisfaction from cyberspace, has in fact fallen off the perch (see Expeditions on p.13). Looking at the list of current missions, it has not. Both Freya and Hayley's respective ambitious solo attempts at kayak circumnavigations of Australia and South Georgia are outrageous adventures.

My only criticism of Ray's third secret is that I believe that planning, research, training and experience are integral components of successful adventures. As great as it is so good to see Kiwis out adventuring and setting sights on goals, unless they have done the prior ground work and are satisfied the goals are achievable, then the only people who may benefit from training will be members of search and rescue teams. Being a fatality or serious injury statistic is not worth being labelled as a stupid, ill-prepared adventurer.

Neil Murray, Coastguard Boating Education Training & Development Manager, rang and said during a long flight back from the UK, he found mention of Andrew McAuley on a documentary channel, part of the in-flight entertainment. Neil watched the doco three times, but when he nudged his wife awake and said have a look at this, she only lasted a minute or two. The footage shows the emotional side of a paddler who has set himself the ultimate adventure. The National Geographic Society doco has yet to screen in NZ, but a link for a preview: [http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/videos/player.html?channel=1803&title=05714\\_00](http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/channel/videos/player.html?channel=1803&title=05714_00)

**Calendar**

- KASK FORUM 20 -23 Feb, Anakiwa  
- Non Powered Craft Forum WSNZ  
11 March, Wellington

**PHOTOGRAPH CREDITS**

*Cover photo: Belinda Mulvany on Okarito Lagoon, with a backdrop of the Southern Alps. Photograph: Kemp Lenihan*  
*Page 2: Top, Max and Melanie Grant preparing to launch from Oreti Beach on their South Island kayak leg from Bluff to Dunedin. The surf in the background does not look too intimidating. Bottom, Melanie and Max (with the bald spot) easing out into the surf off Oreti Beach. Breakers are now much more intimidating with this telephoto beach level view. Both page 2 photographs: Belinda Mulvany*



## SAFETY

### EMERGENCY LOCATOR BEACONS - MAKE THE SWITCH TO 406

Globally, all distress beacons need to change to 406MHz by February 2009.

After 1 February 2009, the old 121.5MHz and 243MHz Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) will not generate an alert or give your location. The satellite system that supports these old beacons have ceased to operate from 1 February 2009.

This means if you need help in an emergency and try to use an old EPIRB to alert rescuers, the satellites will have no way of hearing you. Time is running out – if you get into trouble and need help you'll have to have a 406MHz EPIRB, registered and installed in your vessel by 1 February 2009.

The sooner you do this, the better. 1 February 2009 was the deadline, make sure you have your 406MHz lifeline.

#### What kind of EPIRB do you already have?

If you don't know what kind of EPIRB you have already, check it now. Somewhere on its body, it will be marked with an operating frequency. If it doesn't say 406MHz, it will more than likely need to be replaced. If in doubt, take it to an EPIRB supplier for verification. A list of these can be found at: [www.beacons.org.nz](http://www.beacons.org.nz).

#### How will a 406MHz EPIRB help save your life?

It works. Only 406MHz EPIRBs will be monitored by satellite from 1 February 2009. It's faster. Once activated, the signal from a 406MHz EPIRB is picked up almost instantly by satellite. The satellites supporting the old 121.5MHz and 243MHz EPIRBs took several hours to determine your location - which could have been hours too late.

It's more accurate. 406MHz EPIRBs give rescuers a search area of approximately 20 square kilometres. However, we strongly recommend GPS equipped EPIRBs as they reduce the search area down to only a few square metres. This takes the 'search' out of search and rescue, and increases your chances of survival. Any 406MHz beacon is a huge improvement on the 121.5/243MHz system, which had a search area of more than 1260 square kilometres.

It brings the right response. With 406MHz EPIRBs, alerts are cross-referenced against a database of registered owners. Having this information improves rescuer's ability to help you in an emergency, and to respond appropriately. Being able to contact you - or a person you nominate - also saves time and resources from being wasted on false alerts – out of the 1,300 121.5MHz activations in the last two years, only 9% were for a real emergency.

#### Maritime Rules

Pleasure Vessels. Offshore pleasure vessels heading overseas are already required to carry a 406MHz EPIRB. Yachts undertaking coastal races where Category 2 or 3 safety rules apply must carry a 406MHz EPIRB from 1 February 2009. For further advice, contact the recreational boating team at: [Maritime New Zealand recreationalboating@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:Maritime New Zealand recreationalboating@maritimenz.govt.nz)

In basic terms, if you currently are required to carry an 121.5MHz EPIRB, then you must now carry a 406MHz EPIRB.

#### BUYING YOUR 406MHZ EPIRB What kind of 406MHz EPIRB do I need?

There is a wide range of beacons suitable for marine use. Some are activated manually while others will float free and activate automatically if the vessel sinks. In some cases a smaller, waterproof Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) may be suitable and can also be used for other purposes such as tramping, climbing, gliding and other outdoor activities. PLBs are small enough to fit in your pocket

and are activated manually but most do not float and have a shorter battery-life than EPIRBs. We strongly recommend you purchase a beacon with in-built GPS as this dramatically improves their accuracy.

#### Free 406MHz Registration

It is vital that 406MHz EPIRBs are registered with the Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ). This ensures a faster, more appropriate response in an emergency. Registration is free and you can register online or download the forms at: [www.beacons.org.nz](http://www.beacons.org.nz). If you sell or buy a second hand 406MHz EPIRB, or if your personal details change (such as phone numbers or address), please take the time to update the registration information with RCCNZ.

#### Disposing of your old EPIRB

It's important to dispose of your old 121.5 or 243MHz EPIRB properly. If you don't, it could still be accidentally activated, causing an unnecessary search and rescue operation. Old EPIRBs need to have their battery disconnected and then be disposed of in accordance with local regulation, as many contain hazardous materials. You can go to [www.beacons.org.nz](http://www.beacons.org.nz) to see a list of suppliers who will help you dispose of your old beacons safely. Some of these suppliers may offer trade in deals.

#### Don't buy a foreign 406!

Each 406MHz EPIRB has an individual hexadecimal code. These are allocated to different regions around the world. When you purchase a 406MHz EPIRB, make sure it's coded for New Zealand. You can find a list of where to buy New Zealand coded 406MHz EPIRBs at [www.beacons.org.nz](http://www.beacons.org.nz).

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION & WHERE TO BUY, VISIT WWW.BEACONS.ORG.NZ

## Mountain Radio Service

At least two expeditions are heading into the southern fjords this summer, and although the long range forecast is for a La Nina summer through to April, it is important to have access to reliable forecasts and a means of emergency communication. An HF radio will access marine forecasts, while a satphone will allow nightly contact with a person who can supply a forecast, monitor progress and update an expedition blog. So why hire a Mountain Radio set from Te Anau or Invercargill if you are heading into Fiordland?

If a serious situation arises which needs outside rescue, or a change of time for a pick up, the radio allows two way conversation with a local who has contacts at hand and knows the region pretty well. As we found in Preservation Inlet several summers ago, Mountain Radio sets – one with each paddling team – allowed nightly knowledge of where each party was, and messages could be exchanged at sched. team. Lastly, depending on the area you are heading to, ensure to hire a set from the local region, as the local operators have the very important local knowledge and contacts.

Robin McNeill's report below explains how to get optimum benefit from a Mountain Radio set.

### Mountain Radio Use by Robin McNeill

(reprinted from the FMC Bulletin)

I talked to Ray Philips, who looks after the Southland Field Radio, the other day and he told me stories about some of the trampers and hunters who take Mountain Radios into the Hills. I have a very longstanding interest in radio and so this is a subject dear to my heart; I delight in setting up aerials for the nightly Mountain Radio (Canterbury Mountain Radio, or Southland Field Radio down south) schedule on our longer trips into Fiordland and I take great pains to ensure that I get the best performance from our aerial.

Not everyone has my passion for radio and so I shall be plain - there are laws of physics that say that if you take a Mountain Radio into the hills, no matter how tired, or lazy you are, or confused the landscape is, you won't get heard by the base station if you don't unroll all the wire that makes up the aerial and pull it out more or less tight.

Even then, you still may not be heard by the base station if you don't make an effort to try and get the aerial as high off the ground as you can, especially the part where the aerial connects to the feeder cable (the twin wires that joins the aerial to the radio). Two metres above ground is a minimum height to aim for, though above the bushline you will probably have to settle for the height of your tent at the feed point and ice-axe height at the ends. It is worthwhile to look for some convenient boulders to gain some extra height.

Contrary to some views, unless you can get the aerial to at least 20 metres above the ground, a Mountain Radio antenna is not directional and so it doesn't matter too much which way you orientate the antenna. That said, it is good practice to set it up broadside to the base station, just in case. The aerial thinks snow and ice is nothing to do with the ground, so orientation becomes important when operating on a glacier.

Running out the full 40 metres, or so of aerial is no small challenge in bush country and there are a few tricks. While you want the antenna to run in a straight line, it is okay to have bends in it and you can even get away with a 'V' shape as long as the angle is not too acute. I start off looking for a handy tree with branches not so high that I can't throw the coiled up aerial wire over, or that I can't climb up to without risk of killing myself. This tree has to be close enough that from my target branch the end of the feeder will end up inside my tent. I unwind the feeder cable and somehow, I then get the aerial wire started off over my chosen branch in the direction I want the antenna to go. I pull the aerial from the other side of the tree to get the feed point up to the branch and,

unrolling the aerial as I go, head off in the opposite direction to another member of the party, who is doing the same thing with the other coil of wire. I can usually throw the coil, first having unwound enough that I can get a good swing, over the convenient tree branches along the way to suit my needs. When I have run out of wire, I run out the remaining nylon cord all the way and tie it off on a tree or bush. Do not tie off the wire instead of the cord as that will detune the antenna. I then check that the feed point is still up in the air at my branch. I am now set to connect my radio to the feeder.

Most people feel pretty silly talking into a radio for the first time as there is no "sidetone" from the set - unlike a telephone, which lets you hear your own voice through the handset, you feel as if you are talking to a box of dead electronics, or worse. Happily you get used to it after a few goes.

It is best to have the baritone in your party do the talking as the frequency response of the radios suits their voices the best. Basses are okay, but soprano and contra-bass voices are a bit tricky for the other end. If you are an all-girl party, you will still get through, so don't fret on that account.

When you talk into the microphone, talk across it and not into it to avoid sounding like you are spluttering and speak clearly, slowly and unnaturally loudly. Keep your mouth close to the microphone to ensure that the transmitter works properly. Avoid shouting as it can make your signal distorted, though when the ionospheric conditions are bad and the base station can barely hear you, you certainly will need to. Remember that you are transmitting with the power of a torch bulb and the base station is transmitting with the power of a household light bulb, so your signals will be weak and the base station may struggle to hear you, though you may hear the base station clearly.

It is good manners on radio to announce the other station first as in, "FK Base, this is FK123 reading you loud and clear", when it is your turn on the 'sched' (session) and the base station calls you, or "FK Base, this is

FK123 calling”, when you call the base station. No-one will ever reprimand you for getting this wrong. Make sure you say “Over” (think, “Over to you”) every time you stop talking and want to hear the base station talk back. This lets the base station hear, instead of guessing, that you have finished and can now transmit. When you have finished talking to the base station, it is a nicety to say “FK123 clear”, or “FK123 out” instead of “Over” (because you are not expecting the base station to talk to you again that night). Purists know that it is incorrect to say “Over and out”. As for what you do say in the sched, listen to the other field parties and you will soon get the gist.

If you have to pass a message to the base station, carefully write it down first, word for word, especially if reception is bad as you may have to repeat it several times. If you don’t write it down, the base station will have a mission figuring out your ever varying message. Remember that the message that gets passed on will be word for word for what the base station received.

Some people object to taking radios into the hills, but I rather enjoy it - it is not the same as talking on a cell-phone, but is a bit of an adventure in itself. I think, rather, that Mountain Radios enhance the wilderness feeling. In remote Fiordland, it is the only device other than a Satphone that will get you a helicopter, or boat to pick you up and take you out at the end of your trip. Hard-core trampers are known to occasionally arrange their next trip with members of other parties who are in the hills at the same time, using Mountain Radios after the sched - it’s pretty neat to be finishing a hard trip with the planning for the next epic just started.

Robin McNeill

(Robin, a Southland trumper for many years, is the regular compiler of ‘Uncle Jacko’s Cookery Column’ in the *FMC Bulletin*, very rare recipes but lots of useful tips re tramping in New Zealand.)

## OPINION

### ASPECTS OF LEADERSHIP The Three Great Secrets of Adventure by Ray Hollingsworth

(reprinted from the *NZOIA Quarterly* Issue 47, December 2008)

At some early point in January and with a cup of coffee in hand to more fully appreciate the dawning sky and lubricate the tumble of thoughts, I write a list of things I want to achieve. I suspect I am not alone in this habit, that there are other compulsive list makers out there, other sleep deprived souls who are compelled to get up early to write. It is both a gift and a curse.

The late great NZ writer Maurice Shadbolt said that he needed to go to his writing spot everyday, otherwise his angel wouldn’t turn up. I have yet to see an angel or feel its warm breath on my page but I know what he means. Writing needs to be an everyday thing.

Adventures are an everyday thing too. That is their first secret. The unknowing will procrastinate and say that they are too hard, there’s too much to organise, maybe in the summer when I’m a better climber / paddler / navigator, maybe when I’m fitter. When in reality, if you’d just start whatever it is, the universe will reconfigure itself to assist in your undertaking.

Tramping is the example where this is the most obvious: you have a journey in mind, a long one. It is a daunting prospect, especially the weight. But once you commit, actually commit, not the waffling around the edges maybe I will if only... but the concrete ‘YES I’m going to make it happen’ variety of commitment, then a certain logic starts to flow: Where will I go? Are there any books or people who can help me find out about my route? What will I need to take? How much food? Will I need food drops? Who will come with me? And on and on.

The questions inform the decisions that need to be made; the decisions reinforce the commitment every step of the way. And every step is a small one until you look back and see ‘My God, there are tracks behind me’ and you are on your way. This happens regardless of the scale of the adventure.

On my list, just below the inevitable ‘repaint the bathroom’, ‘landscape the backyard’ and ‘write a book about...’ are the adventures I want to have. Some of these desired adventures haven’t changed in quite a few years. I still want to kayak the Grand Canyon and walk the length of the John Muir Trail. Every year, after writing the list, I prioritize what I can do. Walking the length of the Southern Alps has been the preoccupation for the last few years but others still lurk in the background.

The second great secret of adventure is that while its important to have people to look up to and be inspired by – heroes if you like – to undertake an adventure you don’t need to be a hero. And its probably better if you are not. The deeds may be inspiring but heroes sometimes have an ego or a focus that make them not very pleasant to be around. I prefer the quiet accomplishments of folk like Shaun Barnett or Geoff Spearpoint or Michael Abbot (multi-day wilderness explorers, writers, philosophers) to the lionized Robert Falcon Scott (Antarctic victim); the humble Sir Edmund Hillary to the self-aggrandizing Sir John Blashford-Snell (Nile explorer, Operation Raleigh founder); the understated toughness of Paul Caffyn (sea kayak adventurer) or Graeme Dingle (mountaineer, polar adventurer) to the overstated toughness of Ranulph Fiennes (hardman of desert, jungle and polar climes).

Of course there are others: John Wesley Powell, the one-armed explorer of the Grand Canyon. John Muir, writer, philosopher and solo trumper. Eric Shipton, minimalist mountain explorer. Peter Croft, rock climbing soloist. Lyn Hill, Robyn Davidson, Graeme Dingle, David Lewis, William Grave...



It is a long list but upon reflection, the examples of the people I prefer to admire all have certain traits in common. They are relatively humble. They are driven but not unnoticed of the people or beauty that exists around them. They appear ordinary, yet manifest something extraordinary.

Which is the third of adventures great secrets, I think – that they can be had by young and old, by fit or unfit, by gung-ho or only-just-leaving-the armchair. Mary Savage was an ordinary young woman who cycled around the world with her husband (and was tragically run over upon her return to the States).

Chris Bonnington climbed Everest at the age of 50. My teenage nephews revel in the chance to go top rope climbing at The Quarry; my older sister (self preservation forbids me to disclose her age) raves for months about the joys of tramping with her girlfriends, and the meals they have cooked for them in the cottages that they stay at along the way. My pre-school aged children enjoyed exploring for fossils at the beach.

Adventures are an everyday thing – you wake up, dress, eat, pack up, move – and that everydayness has a rhythm that forces you to shed the trappings of civilisation and focus on

the here, in this moment, now. Whether it's a self-supported Motu river kayak trip, a multi-day wilderness tramp, a sea kayak journey to offshore islands, or edging into the unknown on the sharp end of a rope on a route you've never done before, adventure makes you concentrate on what is at the end of your nose, on what your fingers can touch, on the sensations sweeping your body.

The other stuff – the baggage in your head, the regurgitated conversations, the events in the future – falls away, until all that is left is you in the moment, not separated from your surroundings but part of them, not thinking but being, not casting forward to the future or back to the past but alive right now. And the realisation that you need this, this adventure, everyday.

© RHollingsworth 2008

Ray Hollingsworth currently teaches a variety of outdoor subjects at AUT University, including leadership, philosophy, bushcraft and rock climbing. He has worked in the outdoor education profession for most of the last 22 years; as such he has caved, climbed mountains, dabbled in sea kayaking, canoed long rivers and was once an avid white water kayaker. His present preoccupation (aside from his wife and children of course) is multi-day tramping trips.

small lakes. 'Waikato shallow lake users should always avoid contact with water which looks cloudy green or brown, or has scum forming even where there is no warning in place,' said Waikato District Health Board Medical Officer of Health Dr Dell Hood. The risks include rash, skin and eye irritation, allergy symptoms and possibly diarrhoea and vomiting. Algae and algal blooms are not always harmful but cyanobacterial blooms are. The Waikato is not unique in having blooms in its lakes. Problems are reported in many of the Bay of Plenty lakes amongst others with blooms potentially reaching harmful numbers within a matter of days if conditions for growth are ideal.

The extent and nature of aquatic pest plants problems vary around the country. Weeds such as Hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*) and Egeria are relatively common in North Island rivers but uncommon in the South Island where eradication programmes are underway. Alligator weed and Yellow Flag Iris are found throughout Auckland and Northland streams but less so in the Waikato and Bay of plenty where control is being applied in those few rivers and lakes where it has been reported.

Alligator weed is one of the world's worst weeds. Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*) is fast growing, can tolerate certain amounts of salt-water when growing in flowing water and difficult to eradicate. It threatens lakes and rivers by clogging them and while it does not seed in New Zealand it can spread aggressively from even the smallest stem fragment. It can double in area in less than two months. (See photo on next page).

At certain times of the year though its identification can be difficult and may be confused with Senegal tea and primrose willow. For the Waikato the challenge is to eradicate it in the lower Waikato River and any discovery of its presence beyond that location should be reported to the regional council.

Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata* or "rock snot"), an invasive fresh-water algae, and a declared unwanted organism under the Biosecurity Act, is now

## CONSERVATION

### Pest Plants and Kayakers

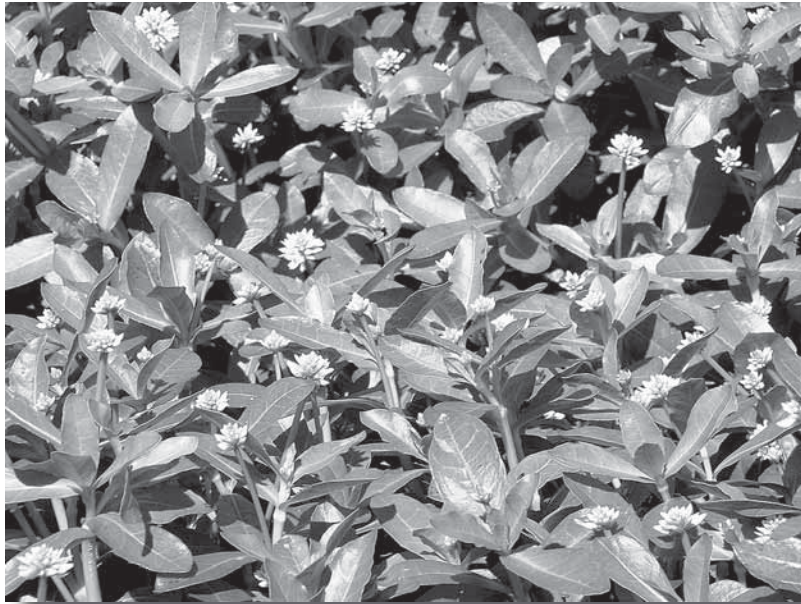
by John Gumbley

The occurrence of many pest plants (and pest fish) in both freshwater and coastal marine environments is a serious problem to the protection and maintenance of natural aquatic ecosystems. The problem can also be a real threat to kayaking. Strong measures can be applied by us not only to restrict the spread of pests but also to report on their presence.

New Zealand now has more introduced plants than native species with this particularly so in rivers and lakes. Some pest plants are especially aggressive and combined with other factors (e.g. high nutrient and sediment loading and the presence of pest fish) have

seen the 'tipping' of many lakes from 'clear water'/native plant dominated systems to turbid/algae dominated ecosystems. Algae-dominated rivers and lakes can be unsafe for even human skin-water contact.

The Waikato has over 70 lakes but many are now unsafe to kayak often for much of the year! The problem has been evident for over 30 years but continues to worsen and can include the hydro lakes. As expected this summer's weather has resulted in massive growth of cyanobacteria in the routinely monitored lakes. Warnings are now in place for Lakes Whangape, Waikare and several



*Alligator Weed. Bright green leaves with white flowers.*

found in several South Island rivers over a wide geographic area. The whole of the South Island has been declared a “controlled area”.

The impact on the ecosystem and for recreation users can be huge where it has taken a firm hold. It has yet to be found in the North Island.

Didymo is made up of cells which are only visible when it is blooming. Otherwise it is microscopic, making it difficult to detect. It only takes one cell to survive and be transported to a nearby waterway for didymo to spread. It attaches itself by stalks which in turn form a mat that smothers habitat for birds, fish and invertebrates. As the alga grows it forms flowing “rats tails” that turn white in colour and resemble tissue paper. Didymo feels like wet cotton wool to touch.

At present there are no known control methods for eradicating didymo and it is therefore imperative that we prevent the establishment and spread of this organism.

If you suspect that a waterway has didymo, where possible take a photograph, record its location and decontaminate all equipment. Phone the Biosecurity NZ hotline number 0800 809 966 or contact your local regional council or DoC office. For decontamination of kayaks refer to: <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/pest-and-disease-response/pests-and-dis->

[eases-watchlist/didymo-cleaning-methods.](#)

Fundamentally, **CHECK** before you leave a river or lake, check items and leave debris at site. If you find any later, treat and put in rubbish. Do not wash down drains. **CLEAN**, for non-absorbant items use detergent or nappy cleaner (spray for at least a minute at 5% detergent concentration), OR bleach (at least a minute at 2% concentration OR hot water (uncomfortable to touch hot water for at least 20 minutes). For absorbant items, longer soaking times are required e.g. felt-soled shoes require soaking in hot water and detergent for 30 minutes. **DRY**-drying will kill didymo but items must be completely dry to touch, inside and out, then left dry for at least 48 hours before use in another waterway. Slightly moist didymo can survive for months.

Pest plants have invaded many of our estuaries and other coastal environ-

*Koi carp, one of New Zealand’s most unwanted pest fish. When koi eat (by sucking in and blowing out what they don’t want), they can: make the water muddy; increase algae; and destroy the habitat of native plants, fish and wildfowl. Bright reddish yellow colour with black bands, and big scales*  
*Photo: Mike Lake*



ments. In the North Island on East and West coasts the pest spartina, or cordgrass, can be found. The spread of spartina has resulted in regional councils and DOC executing control programmes. Reporting its presence in estuaries and tide-influenced rivers is encouraged.

Pest fish can also seriously damage waterways and the native plants and animals that inhabit them. Some of the worst are koi carp, catfish, gambusia (mosquitofish) and rudd. Many breed very rapidly and quickly take over waterways and out-competing native fish. Koi feed by sucking in the mud from stream and lake beds to filter out food. This makes the water very muddy, uprooting plant beds and smothering plants and animals.

Others eat plants and animals. Gambusia, which is found in the North Island and being eradicated in the Nelson region, are small but very aggressive and eat the eggs and juveniles of native fish.

For kayakers, the rule of washing your equipment carefully in order to remove weeds and fish eggs should be followed when moving between waterways.

Thus, the **CHECK, CLEAN and DRY** principle can be applied to eliminate the spread of most pest plants, both macro- and microscopic species. Regularly log-in to Biosecurity NZ, your local regional council or Department of Conservation pest plant and animal websites or contact the local office. Reporting the occurrence of pests important to your region is very much appreciated by biosecurity staff. Kayakers have the ability to check out places where land and/or boat access is not possible.



## DESTINATIONS

### Lake Hauroko Fiordland National Park. by Maggie Oakley

Of all the many lakes to choose from in Southland, Hauroko has become my firm favourite. This is because of its natural beauty and because it provides scope for opportunities other than kayaking such as tramping and exploring.

Tuatapere is the final jumping off point from the comforts of city living. It is from here you purchase any hut tickets you may require; complete your intentions form at the Department of Conservation, and get a final mountain weather forecast. If arriving late at night, accommodation is available at the Waiiau Hotel. My advice is to take a room with no en-suite shower, instead soak in an old fashioned deep bath. From Tuatapere it is a short drive to Clifton; from there, take the Lill Burn Valley Road, all the way to the picnic and parking area on the lake edge. Prepare for sandflies.

Everyone talks about Hauroko's fierce northerly gales but in my experience it is exceedingly calm for much of the time. On calm days the snow-covered Princess Mountains are reflected beside you as you place your paddle and disturb the picture. Three DoC huts are easily accessible for kayakers. The Burn Hut (10 bunks) is the starting point for the Dusky Track. Starting at the north of the lake providing an 8 to 10 day tramp to Dusky Sound and then on to Lake Manapouri. However, interested kayakers based in this hut are free to use the Dusty track as available time and weather allow. Take more hut tickets if this is your plan. At the south of the lake a larger hut at Teal Bay provides a base for climbing up to the Hump Ridge track. A different 10-minute walk from Teal Bay leads you to the lake's outlet at the Wairaurahiri River. Multi sports people who competed in the Tuatapere Challenge will remember racing down this 27 kilometre grade

one river to the South Coast. Now you may meet tourists using one of the two jet boats, which operate day trips on this river delivering people to the south coast. Other activities performed by the jet boat operators are setting and managing the traps used to reduce predators on the indigenous wildlife. A sea kayak trip down the river to the coast sets up a very do-able trip-hugging paddle around the southern coast to Te Waewae Bay.

Prior planning at Tuatapere for your shuttle car will not cost much. Lastly, Caroline Burn hut is the smallest of the three huts and, as you guessed, is a whole hour's kayak along the lake from the Caroline Burn itself. Hut accommodation is cosy during the winter months although a number of bays and beaches around the lake proved suitable camping spots and the lake water is delicious to drink.

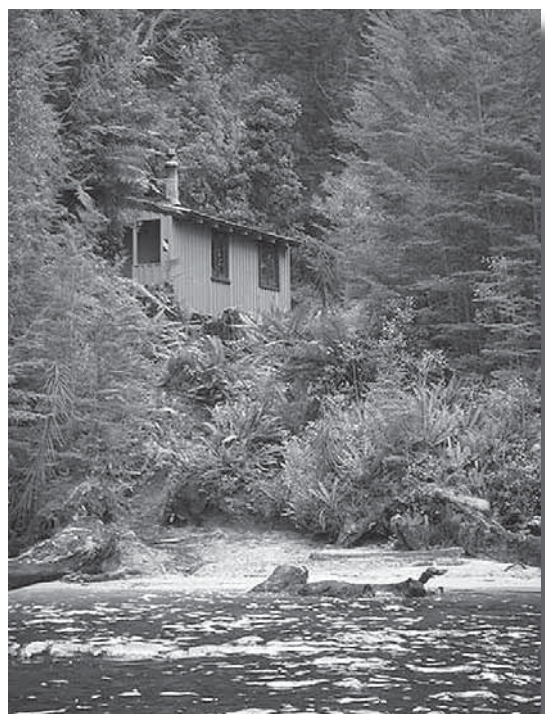
Only one topo map is needed - C45 Hauroko. As you look at the map and plan your direct straight line from the parking lot to Mary Island, you will encounter an extensive area of very shallow, sometimes, cloudy water. Other than that, the lake is deep and clear. The DoC information sheets, Waitutu Tracks South Coast Track, Tuatapere Hump Ridge Track and their Dusty Track sheet will provide good reliable information about out of kayak activities available.

The question often asked is which season is the best or optimal time to visit the lakes? Well a number of us from Dunedin have encountered snow to the point of white out conditions during the winter, as one could expect. But then only this August (2008) it was warm and clear and I was encouraged to swim each day. The DoC huts are used by hunters during the roar. Sandflies are worse in the warmer months. Take your pick.

1. Kayakers going to any of the lakes in winter with the intention of using a DoC hut will benefit from taking some kindling wood and coal with them. I find by using my own supply of dry kindling, I can get a fire going and warm the place up very quickly. And on retiring for the night, I add some coal and generally find the fire still alight in the morning.

2. Packing a good wood saw is wise, while DOC staff often leave wood for hut users it does need to be reduced to safe lengths for the fires.  
Maggie Oakley

Footnote re naming of the lake – from *Fiordland Place-Names* by John Hall-Jones 1979, 2<sup>nd</sup> revised edition 2003: 'Hauroko, Lake: Meaning 'the sougning of the wind' which is a good descriptive name for the howl of a northerly gale on this lake.'



DoC hut on the  
shore of Lake  
Hauroko.  
Photo: Maggie  
Oakley

## PADDLER PROFILE

by Maggie Oakley

Paul Caffyn asked if I could provide a paddling profile of myself with regard to my introduction to kayaking, also who influenced that introduction and what I have gained from many years now of sea kayaking. Perhaps I have taken longer than many other paddlers to become comfortable sea kayaking. Certainly navigation remains my most poorly understood topic.

So long, long ago - in my mid 20s, enjoying my career as a home birth midwife, in the market town of Norwich, England, I was an unlikely candidate for any outdoor adventures. The very idea of a woman kayaking was entirely novel to me until I read Constance Helmericks's book, *Down the Wild River North* (published 1968). She recounts a two-year journey she undertook with her teenage daughters, aged 12 and 14, when they paddled through Canada on the Peace and McKenzie rivers to the Arctic.

Growing up in post-war Britain, I had neither notion of 'wilderness' nor had I seen a kayak. This canoeing book was an awakening. Constance was some woman - she was unlike any woman I had ever met or read about.

Some years later, when living in Lawrence, Otago, my husband showed me an advertisement for a lecture tour from a kayaker by the name of Mick Hopkinson. He and others had kayaked remote wild, freezing rivers that had their origins in Himalayas. Mick illustrated his talk with photos of mountains, rivers, Sherpas and fragile people in fragile kayaks. The adventure related with his talk was the first descent of the Dudh Kosi River in Nepal. (See *Canoeing Down Everest* by Mike Jones, 1979, Hodder and Stoughton).

The unorthodox parenting of Constance with Mick's lecture coalesced and lodged in my brain. Within a short

while, our family of four owned kayaks, paddles, tents and all the other assorted stuff you need to get into the great outdoors of New Zealand. We joined a friendly kayak club and got some basic education and skills about kayaking. We, well mostly me, proceeded to encourage our children down rivers, across lakes into the surf and out to sea. Fortunately we came through this phase intact as a family.

And as for my first attempt at sea kayaking, it must have been 1991 when with a friend and my son, we set out on a three-day trip up the Catlins coast in south Otago. To cut the story short, in three heavily laden river kayaks, called *Dancers*, we started out from Tautuku Bay. Coincidentally while heading out to sea, we passed five large fishing boats coming the opposite way into the bay. Within a few hours a fast moving southerly storm caught us. Unfortunately, high sheer cliff walls obstructed our swift retreat to safety. But much later, after landing onto a rocky shore, we had time to reflect on what we did not know about sea kayaking.

Once back home I subscribed to *Sea Kayaker* magazine and started saving for a sea kayak. My next foray out to sea in 1993 was in a bright yellow *Nordkapp*. I was considerably better informed - but not yet skilled.

Where am I now? Well addicted to kayaking is too strong a word, but I do enjoy the varied aspects of the activity. I am fortunate in having a couple of highly skilled, special friends to go out with - both dependable and safe. We have all given up on reckless behaviour, learning to think about all safety aspects of our trips. Sometimes I like to kayak on my own, in places where there is no particular danger in itself. The biggest danger being with accidents I could cause to myself.

Dunedin as a base for kayaking provides plenty of variety. A map of New Zealand shows we have surf and sea kayaking opportunities close to the city. The marine wildlife is a big bonus and easy to spot. Hector's dolphins enjoy showing off their own brand of surfing. Yellow Eyed penguins and little blues do not seem particularly

worried about kayaks. Within the confines of the upper harbour we have a lagoon called Andersons Bay Inlet. Every 12 hours the tide pours under a small road bridge confined through three narrow channels. This is a great place to practise all year round.

Fiordland is only a three to four hour drive away, depending on which of the great southern lakes I am heading for. Of all our southern lakes, Hauroko is my favourite. It is long and skinny, tending north to south. It has a bad reputation for severe winds, and while this reputation is warranted, it does not pose such a threat in a kayak. Either the wind is so strong I cannot make any headway into it, so I get off the lake and make camp, or find a DoC hut instead. Or the wind is with me, providing fantastic following waves, I fly with great exhilaration to my destination. Helicopters can be utilized for paddlers and kayaks to allow transport to inaccessible places.

We have two rivers that could be called our 'home' rivers. One is the Taieri, the other the Waipori. Both these rivers are well described in the two kayak books:

*New Zealand's South Island Rivers A guide for canoeists, kayakers and rafters*, Graham Egarr, Nikau Press 1995.

*125 Great Kayaking Runs New Zealand Whitewater* Graham Charles, Craig Potton Publishing 1996 or any later edition.

Neither river has proved much benefit for sea kayakers. However a Clutha River run, from Millers Flat to Beaumont, just an hour and a half from the city, is quite a nice run. At low flow, it contains lots of boils and whirlpools, providing excellent experience for coastal sea kayaking. At high flow, it washes out but makes a neat flat water, winter trip. Contact Energy controls this river, but the flow regime is easy to predict based from their website.

To maintain fitness and flexibility for kayaking, I practice a few Yoga stretches. The idea of trying Yoga came from an article in *Sea Kayaker* magazine (October 1999 pp.58-63). Writer Erin Widman puts a very good



case for stretching to be done before and during kayaking trips. The article is well illustrated and easy to follow. Also, I find kayak surfing at the beach over winter another way of staying physically and mentally in touch.

Essentially I experience kayaking as a fun pastime, and sometimes, physically and mentally demanding. Solo kayaking is of course hugely controversial. If I mention to people I have been out on my own, I can expect to get a grilling. Nevertheless I think the rewards of a well-planned solo adventure are well worthwhile. I will not list recommendations except to say the most basic step I take first is to check the marine coastal weather forecast and tide timetable, or the mountain forecast for Fiordland. This information I double-check with my husband - if Rod is happy for me to go out, then its pack and go time.

This year I had the good fortune to attend Mick Hopkinson's 60th birthday in Murchison. The very same Mick Hopkinson I had heard talk back in the 70s. How lucky is that? Mick is the director of the New Zealand Kayak School based in Murcheson. Apart from the Saturday birthday gathering, on the Sunday 86 kayakers (plus rafts) ran the middle Matakītiki River. This run, apart from being lots of fun, was to draw attention to the fate of this little gorge which is now threatened by a hydro project.

And taking advantage of being in Murchison, I attended a four-day white water kayak course. Fantastic tuition on and off the river, from which I gained a much stronger roll on my off side - actually I learnt there is no off side anymore you just have to roll - end of story. And it will be nice to have a good roll both sides, ready for my next thrashing in the surf.

Finally this brings me to the topic of environmental conservation. Currently as far as I know, only river kayakers are mourning the loss of rivers to unstoppable electricity hydro demand and increasing land irrigation. But it is only a matter of time before sea kayakers may need to take action as well, as I can foresee a time in New Zealand when beaches and estuaries

become prohibited areas for kayaking. I think this pressure will comprise of limited access due to tidal power development. Sorry to end my profile on a sad note except I think it would be timely for sea kayakers to plan for a response. Or at least consider who are their allies and think about what sort of action they would be prepared take in the event of threats to their habitat.

Footnote from Belinda Mulvany, who with husband Stanley, attended a white-water course with Mick in early January 2009:

Beware. Be brave. When with Mick Hopkinson, have no fear.

On a recent four day training course with Mick, one of our team broke a rule - he dared to wet-exit. Fist pounding on the back deck Mick reinforced this rule, "You!-Will!-Not!-Get!-Out!-Of!-Your!-Boat!"

The following day the same team member tipped over in a rapid. We watched with bated breath, but a perfect roll was executed. Around of cheering and applause followed.

'The fear of Mick was more than the fear of rolling!'

*Maggie Oakley: Photo: Paul Caffyn*



**KASK FORUM**  
**20 - 23 FEBRUARY 2009**  
**STILL A FEW PLACES LEFT**  
**email Evan Pugh for a booking or see the website**

### NIWA Red-alert Spring High Tide Dates and Neap Low Tide Dates for 2009

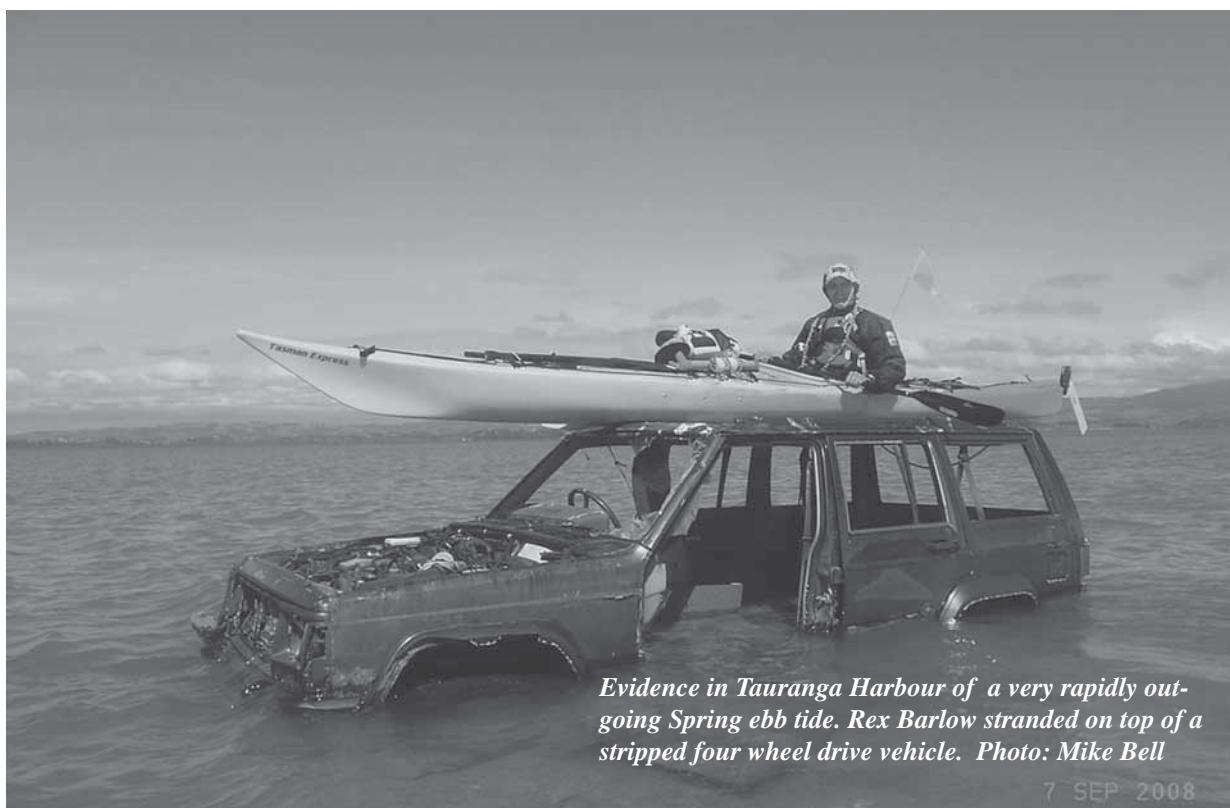
Spring Tide “Red-alert” Dates <i>[actual perigee]</i>	Neap Tide “Carefree” Dates <i>[actual apogee]</i>
10–15 January [11 January]	
8–13 February [11 February]	19-21 February [20 February]
9–14 March [9 March]	19–22 March [20 March]
	17-19 April [17 April]
24-29 May [26 May]	
23–28 June [24 June]	
21–27 July [22 July]	
19–24 August [19 August]	30–31 August [1 September]
17–22 September [17 September]	27–30 September [28 September]
	25–29 October [26 October]
	25–27 November [23 November]
2–7 December [4 December]	

In 2009, the moon’s closest perigee occurs on 22 July and coincides with a New Moon. For the year 2009, “red-alert” dates cluster around very high tides (perigean-spring tides) that peak 1–2 days after New or Full Moon when Moon is in its perigee and “carefree” dates cluster around lower high tides after First or Third Quarter when Moon is in its apogee.

**The “red-alert” dates are proposed as days that Emergency Managers and Coastal Hazard Managers should write in their diaries and keep an eye on weather, river and sea conditions (low barometric pressure, winds, rainfall and waves).**

For further information on extreme and the forecast high and low tides for the current year around New Zealand see Red-alert days for coastal flooding as per the website below.

**For more information either call NIWA’s Freephone: 0800 746 464  
or see their website: [www.niwa.cri.nz/rc/hazards/dates](http://www.niwa.cri.nz/rc/hazards/dates)**



*Evidence in Tauranga Harbour of a very rapidly outgoing Spring ebb tide. Rex Barlow stranded on top of a stripped four wheel drive vehicle. Photo: Mike Bell*

7 SEP 2008



## EXPEDITIONS

Vilhjalmur Stefansson, a Canadian Arctic explorer, wrote in *An Ethnologist in the Arctic*:

Much as I object to such things, I did on this trip have some small "adventures" – but fortunately they illustrate a favourite thesis: that most adventures are a sign of incompetence which may consist either in bad craftsmanship or an insufficient knowledge of local conditions.

Whether or not Stefansson's adventures should really be termed misadventures, there are quite a few serious adventures going on around the world today. Back in the PC dark ages – pre computer - I would read about adventures in press releases or perhaps a book, however the immediacy of up to date reporting of adventures is now available via my computer screen. Checking a link on Freya's website to Kokatat, a list of company sponsored-expeditions was quite an eye opener. Has the age of adventuring fallen off its perch? Not on your Nellie.

The following is a mix of dredging of various websites, emails and scandalous gossip.

### Oreti Beach to Dunedin

Max and Melanie Grant complete their planned paddle from Bluff to Dunedin. See the photos on p.2 of their surf breakout from Oreti Beach, and the rear cover taken by Belinda Mulvany. Max and Melz also pleased that they have now raised more than \$2,000.00 which has gone to the Child Cancer Foundation, and pass on a big thank you to all those who have supported their fund raising to date.

Their website:

<http://southislandcharityexpedition.blogspot.com/>

### Race Around Australia Freya Hoffmeister

In 2007 Freya Hoffmeister circumnavigated Iceland in a record 33 days. Three months later, she set out to become the first woman to round the South Island of New Zealand, solo



17 January 2009 - *Queenscliff, Victoria - Freya Hoffmeister by the stone and plaque marking the 25th anniversary of the finish of the 1982 Round Australia Kayak Expedition - talking to editor, moments before launching on her attempt to paddle round Australia.*

Photo: David Golightly

and unsupported. Seventy days later, the 43-year-old paddler from Husum, Germany completed the record-setting trip that Paul Caffyn called 'The most significant solo kayak trip undertaken by a woman in the southern hemisphere.'

On 17 January 2009, Freya launched from Queenscliff – south of Melbourne - on a solo circumnavigation of Australia. Expected to take her roughly one year, the 9,400 mile (15,000 km) journey around the southern continent is considered one of, if not the, most challenging trip in the world of expedition sea kayaking.

While there have been dozens of attempts, Freya hopes to be the first woman to complete the journey and only the second person since Paul Caffyn, her friend and mentor for her New Zealand trip, completed it 25 years ago. Crocodiles, sharks, sea snakes, massive surf, exposed crossings along sheer cliffs, cyclones and tropical

heat are some of the most daunting threats, not to mention the multi-day open water crossings and physical toll it will take to average upwards of 30 miles per day for one year.

Two websites allow tracking of Freya's progress, the first for Freya and the second for the Victorian Sea Kayak Club.

Freya's website:

<http://qajaqunderground.com/>

Victorian Sea Kayak Club website:

<http://www.vskc.org.au/>

On the top RHS of the VSKC site front page you will see a small pic of Freya, this leads eventually to a Google map of her 'Spot' locations.

As of 4 February, Freya had reached Dalmeny on the Southern NSW coast. Dave Winkworth paddled with Freya from Tathra to Bermagui and sent the colour photo which appears on page 23. It shows the intended sleeping position Freya will use during her planned direct 570 km crossing of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

### Around Australia Kayaking Attempts

Chris Cunningham is covering Freya's 2009 Australian paddle in *Sea Kayaker* magazine, and when he asked how many previous attempts had been made, and had any resulted in rescue or death, I had to put a lean on paddling folk in Oz and overseas to try and build up a picture of the attempts made since 1982. My thanks to Tel Williams, Dave Winkworth, Peter Treby and Andy Mitchell for their feedback.

#### 1981

28 December 81 – 23 December 1982 – P. Caffyn (NZ) – 360 days – 9,420 miles. *The Dreamtime Voyage* by Paul Caffyn. 1994

#### 1985

5 Jan 1985 – Peter MacKenzie (Aust) and Brian Hillier (Aust) set off from the SA beach of Glenelg, for 30,000 km three year trip around Australia. 2 single glass kayaks No further information. (*Sunday Territorian* 5 Jan 1985)

**1992**

March 10 1992, Eric Stiller (USA) and Tony Brown (Aust) set off from Bondi Beach, NSW in a double klepper kayak, anticlockwise, sail assisted. Sailed across Gulf of Carpentaria. Eric pulled out at Darwin, Tony 50 miles further west – duration approx. 4.5 months? *Keep Australia on Your Left* by Eric Stiller, 2000

**1992**

June 1992 – David Hooton (Aust) left Terrigal (north of Sydney) in a single kayak, reached Brisbane by the end of August. He abandoned the trip at Portland Roads (N.Qld.). Lots of disasters, equipment stolen, tent burning down. *Australian Geographic* No. 30 (April-June 1993) and No.33 (Jan-March 1994)

**1993**

Andy Mitchell (USA). February to May 1993 - Narrabeen (Sydney) to Seisia at Cape York, N. Qld. (about 2,000 miles). Prior to starting trip, Andy had never paddled ocean before: 'Boy did I have some 'on the job' training to go through.' Reason for quitting: 'When getting to the top, I didn't think my skills were up for the whole thing and a lot of 'small' things - skin problems, boat problems, etc.'

**2001**

Andy Mitchell (USA). February to March 2001 - Pittwater (near Sydney) to Mackay (about 1,000 miles): 'After finishing previous trip, I relocated from mid-west USA to PNW (Seattle) and spent a lot of time at the coast - in the winter (winter, Pacific North-West coast - very serious water) - learned the surf. The 'learning' I had done in previous years, really panned out. The trip was quite easy - however, toward the end (I specifically remember the section around Broad Sound), I became very 'lethargic'. This would cause me to make poor decisions - not checking proper tides, etc.

**2006**

Andy Mitchell (USA) February to May 2006; Narrabeen (Sydney) to Seisia, about 2,000 miles. 'Though I had fully planned out a full trip around, I suspected that I might quit early. In fact, early on in the trip I made the decision to quit at Cape York

(if I got that far). This trip was VERY wet. I did have to dodge a couple of cyclones up north (Larry, Monica, and a third I can't remember). When passing Fraser Island (not exactly the north), the weather was so severe, it was called a 'cold weather' cyclone.

Anyway, it was a damp trip. The 'last' day, I had planned a normal paddle of 40 or so miles (with SE trades), but, after starting, another 'rain' set in, along with another (of several that trip) sting by a blue-bottle, I made the decision to paddle all the way in. So I paddled from Capt. Billys landing to Seisia in a day (exactly 24 hours, about 90 miles)

{On 1 February 2009, Andy launched from Woy Woy (near Sydney) for another trip up north, but noted that he has no delusion for this trip's outcome, 'If I get to the top (Cape York), I'll consider myself lucky. This will be my 4th trip up the east coast. In the three previous trips, I did have the idea of going around. In fact, I had prepared 12 parcels of food and misc. supplies to be mailed to me at various points along the way.' }

**2006**

Sandy Robson (Aust). 22 December 2006, Sandy Robson departed Queenscliff; solo, unsupported, Mirage kayak, sail assisted.

On 5 June 2007 – day 162 – Sandy's kayak was attacked by a large salt-water crocodile at Villis Pt. (N.Qld). She requested a boat pick up by Dave Glasheen on Restoration Island. Sandy subsequently paddled sections of the Western Australian coast. *The Sea Canoeist Newsletters* Nos. 126 – 129.

**2008**

17 January 2009, Freya Hoffmeister (Germany) set off from Queenscliff in a solo, un-supported anticlockwise attempt. By 4 February, she had reached Dalmeny in southern NSW.

**Other Big Aussie Trips**

Several significant kayak trips in Australian waters have been achieved, although not attempts at the full monty. Kate Yeomans (Qld) soloed from her home by the Brisbane airport to Thursday Island in 2002. How the

recollection of trips stick in one's memory. Kate paddled ashore south of Mackay to what appeared to be a secluded white sandy beach, but was met by a mob of naturists wearing just a smile. What to do? She took her paddling clobber off and had a team of willing suntanned bodies to carry her kayak above the high tide mark.

In the late 90s, a trio of Western Australian paddlers were endeavouring to paddle the waters of their home state. With a long exposed paddle under their belt from Esperance to Perth, in 2002 they set their sights on paddling north from Perth to Kalbarri and then tackling the exceedingly committing, 120 mile long Zuytdorp Cliffs, the 'pushing the envelope' crux of any attempt to paddle around Oz.

The four man team was reduced by wrist injury to three for the attempt at the cliffs. Tel Williams, John Di Nucci and Terry Bolland launched 25 January from Kalbarri, but by then Tel who had been unable to sleep overnight, had been awake for 26 hours. The first day went well with a tail wind, but the night was diabolical with Tel wanting to sleep and almost capsizing. After midnight the boys had no alternative but to raft together until dawn.

When the kayak raft separated at dawn, in nasty following seas, John missed a paddle stroke, capsized, missed his combat roll, and lost hold of his kayak. Terry Bolland effected a superb rescue, got John back in his boat, and 30 hours after launching, the trio landed at Dulverton Bay. See *The Sea Canoeist Newsletter* No. 97 February – March 2002 for the full, gruesome details.

During July – August 2008, Dave Winkworth and a co-paddler, kayaked 1,200 miles from Karumba at the base of the Gulf of Carpentaria around Arnhem Land to Darwin, and reported chases from exceedingly large saltwater crocodiles and shark teeth embedded in the stern of one kayak.

*Dave will be presenting a slide show of this recent trip at the 2009 Anakiwa KASK Forum.*



### **KAREL VISSSEL**

Karel Vissel, a Dutch paddler who lives on a kibbutz in Israel, has been providing an essential weather and sea conditions forecast for many of the best know kayak adventurers, such as Justine Curgenvan and Freya. I see he has now turned his daily forecasts into a business, Kayak Weather. He supports kayak expeditions worldwide via sms / text message with most up-to-date possible weather. Twice daily sms/text messages are sent to help the kayaker decide whether to continue the journey or seek shelter. All expeditions and trips include information on weather and sea conditions, which are forwarded by SMS text message to cell or satellite phone. This makes paddling easier and safer.

Karel's email address for rates:

[kvissel@gmail.com](mailto:kvissel@gmail.com)

His website led to a list of expeditions that he has supported:

<http://www.kayakweather.com/>

Karel referred me to a lovely site for two guys 'from our Terra Santa club who did NW Greenland last year':

<http://northkayak.blogspot.com/>

Supported expeditions listed below, and Kare's website includes their website links:

- Turkey 2008, Avner's solo
- Newfoundland 2008 Greg Stamer
- Greenland 2008 Alan B & Kobi S
- Shetland Is. Expedition 2008
- Iceland 2008 Marcus Demuth
- Sardinia 2008 ReneSeindal
- Norway 2008 Jeff.A & Mark.S
- NZ 2008 Justine C & Barry S
- New Zealand 2007 -2008 Freya H
- Madagascar 07-08 Simon & Phill
- Sardinia 2007 Wendy K & Rene
- Puerto Rico 2007 Derrick, Taino
- Newfoundland 2007 Hadas, Tomer
- Iceland 2007 Freya H & Greg S
- Iceland 2006 Rotem Ron
- Greenland 2006 Pete, Martin, Phil

### **SOUTH GEORGIA SOLO**

#### **Kayaking to Save the Albatross Hayley Shephard**

[www.kayakingtosavealbatross.com/](http://www.kayakingtosavealbatross.com/)

In January 2010, Hayley Shephard, a Kiwi now residing on the West Coast of Canada, will attempt the very first solo sea kayak circumnavigation of South Georgia Island in efforts to help save the Albatross

Hayley spent the last seven years kayak guiding, and leading expeditions in the Arctic, Antarctica and the Sub-Antarctic islands, gaining a passion for these Polar Regions and a care and interest in the wildlife. In 1999 she was the first woman to solo sea kayak the 1,200km circumnavigation of Vancouver Island, followed by another epic adventure in 2005 when she was the first woman to sea kayak alone around the rugged and exposed coast of the sacred Haida Gwaii (Queen Charlotte Islands).

Being born and raised in New Zealand, having owned, operated and lived on a 31ft sailboat and now living on an island in the northern regions of Vancouver Island, it seems Hayley has spent her entire life surrounded by the sea. Her profession as a teacher extended gradually into the wilderness and as a guide and naturalist, Hayley has lead people of all ages into the world's richest natural environments on wilderness expeditions and nature tours.

She spends her winters in the far south on the frozen coastal edge of the Antarctic continent; her summers include exploring the Northwest Passage, Baffin Island and various other islands and regions of the Canadian High Arctic as well as piloting vessels in the remote, northern inlets of the Pacific Northwest. Here she guides people on excursions in grizzly and black bear habitat, and leads marine tours in the waterways where killer whales and humpback whales are frequently sighted. In Hayley's earlier guiding career, she led 7-10 day kayaking expeditions in the coastal paradise of Baja in Mexico, and the inside passage of British Columbia, Canada.

While guiding and gallivanting around islands by kayak, Hayley enjoys capturing the true essence and spontaneous splendour of nature through photography and writing. Her images and adventure articles have been published in various magazines; she has travelled the globe with entertaining slide shows and recently has had published her very first children's book entitled *Leave Only Footprints*.

Hayley had planned the South Georgia solo for January 2009 but withdrawal of a major sponsor put paid to the charter of the support yacht *Northanger* which was to take Hayley from Stanley in the Falkland Islands for the voyage to the island. South Georgia is administered by the British and their safety regulations require that sea based expeditions have their own means of possible search and rescue. The *Northanger*, a 54ft steel Damien II ketch rigged sail boat designed specifically to access remote, high latitude regions, was used for the Adventure Philosophy first kayak circumnavigation of the South Georgia. Hayley has re-scheduled her trip for 2010.

#### **Hayley's previous trips include:**

1. A solo sea kayak expedition around Vancouver Island, Canada.

Vancouver Island is approximately 640 km long and 100km at its widest point. In the summer of 1999, Hayley embarked on a two-month, 1,200 km expedition to take a closer look at the stunning island she now calls home. She departed 19 June from downtown Victoria, heading NW up the inside Passage. Eventually she rounded the northern most point, Cape Scott, and began the arduous challenge of the exposed west coast heading SE towards home. On August 25 she arrived back to the Victoria inner harbour after 67 days of paddling. Read or download the Wavelength Magazine article link:

<http://www.wavelengthmagazine.com/2006/fm06personal.php>

2. A solo sea kayak expedition around Haida Gwaii, Queen Charlotte Islands, Canada.

During the summer of 2004, having spent 19 days paddling confused and lumpy seas around Graham Island, in a damaged kayak with inflamed and injured wrists, Hayley was forced to complete South Moresby the following summer. By the end of July, 2005, Hayley had completed both Graham Is and South Moresby, becoming the first woman to solo sea kayak around the sacred islands of Haida Gwaii. Read or download the Wavelength Magazine article link:

<http://www.wavelengthmagazine.com/2006/fm06personal.php>

### **Solo Sea Kayak Attempt to Circumnavigate Falkland Islands**

Marcus Demuth

<http://marcusdemuth.com/default.aspx>

In January 2009, New York City based kayaker Marcus Demuth will attempt to circumnavigate all 776 Falkland Islands by sea kayak, a journey of over 850 miles. The goal of the expedition is to be the first kayaker to successfully circumnavigate the 776 Falkland Islands and to document and study the marine wild life of the fairly inaccessible outer Falkland Islands.

Because of the Falklands' small population, harsh climate, and isolation, the majority of the islands are uninhabited and completely untouched by humans. The wildlife on the Falklands is especially spectacular on these fairly inaccessible outer islands (such as the Jason Islands), featuring penguin colonies, large sea lions up to 700 pounds, elephant seals up to 3.5 tons, pods of orcas, and aggressive fur seals.

Past sea kayaking expeditions have taken Marcus to Iceland (a country Marcus will revisit in 2009 for a second attempt to circumnavigate), Ireland, the South and West Coast of Australia, and Chile/Patagonia.

### **Facing The Wind – Argentina Sea Kayaking Expedition**

Diego Lamas, Agustin and Luis Garcia Albarido

[www.argentinakayaking.blogspot.com/](http://www.argentinakayaking.blogspot.com/)

The team in March 2009 will attempt for the first time to paddle more than 4,000 nautical miles along Argentina. Starting at La Quiaca, a little town settled in the heights of the northern Andes Mountains at 14,000 ft., the team will cycle and paddle for approximately 10 months to reach the end of Patagonia, precisely in the city of Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego province.

Diego Lamas, Agustin and Luis Garcia Albarido started paddling in sea kayaks 10 years ago. Now they spend their time teaching the basics of kayaking and guiding people through the islands of the Paraná Delta, a unique ecosystem formed by the deposition of river sediments.

### **The Wild Image Project**

**Daniel Belanger**

<http://thewildimageproject.blogspot.com/2008/10/coming-soon.html>

On 25 November 2008, Daniel Belanger, a New York-based social entrepreneur, digital designer and accomplished outdoorsman set out on a solo expedition to photograph the Earth's most remote wildlife. Dubbed "The Wild Image Project," the carefully planned journey will produce over 100,000 photographic images that will be shared with the public through books, multimedia projects and speaking engagements promoting the preservation of endangered species and natural settings.

The two-year expedition will be primarily undertaken by kayak, including a challenging 350 mile open-ocean crossing from Argentina to the Falkland Islands. A second phase of the project will cover a route starting in the Bonin Islands and continuing to Japan, the Kuril Islands and finally the Aleutian Islands. A third phase will cover more southern hemisphere destinations.

An expert outdoorsman with fifteen years of extreme weather camping and survival experience, Belanger, age 34, has spent considerable time physically preparing to meet the challenges of this unprecedented convergence of art, adventure and activism.

Images from the Wild Image Project will be showcased in several multimedia photo essays and books that are designed to inspire viewers to raise their consciousness about the future. Images will predominately be of wildlife, with special focus on endangered species and difficult-to-photograph subjects in their natural habitat.

### **Madagascar By Sea Kayak**

Simon Osborne, Philip Clegg

<http://www.seakayakingcornwall.com/madagascar.html>

On 9 November 2007, Simon Osborne and Philip Clegg set off on an attempt to circumnavigate Madagascar by sea kayak. Due to visa restraints and work commitments the team decided to split the challenge into two parts.

The first part of the expedition was successfully completed on 10 Jan 2008. Simon returned to Madagascar in late 2008 to attempt to complete the expedition.

The expedition originated in Majunga on the north-west coast of Madagascar. From there Simon and Phil paddled on calm seas island hopping to the most northerly point. When they rounded the top corner of Madagascar the seas and environment changed dramatically, with the Indian Ocean swells mixing with the coral reefs and sandy beaches. The result was difficult landings and route finding between the swells. Throughout this first part of the expedition the locals gave Simon and Phil a warm and inquisitive welcome.

Phil was not able to join his co-paddler for the second stage of the expedition. Simon was to be accompanied by a local river kayaker, which would allow for more communication with the local villages along the way and would offer Simon a great insight into the culture of Madagascar. "Having a local join me on the second part of the expedition will add a new dimension to the challenge and open up new experiences" said Simon. He also hoped to use the expedition to raise awareness for reforestation projects on the island. Deforestation and subsequent soil erosion is one of the main environmental problems Madagascar faces.

### **Madagascar Update - January 2009**

Got a call from Simon yesterday to say that he's knocked it on the head, Surf, seems to be the biggest problem, his partner wasn't really up for it by the sounds of it and coupled with the fact that they were about to step off the edge of the map, where there was no real get out for a long stretch, made him want to stop, he's going off overland to see some of the west coast and play for a while.

Jeff Allen

For more expedition information:  
[www.kokatat.com/expeditions.asp](http://www.kokatat.com/expeditions.asp)



## FORUMS

### Christchurch Sea Kayaking Network Okains Bay Meet by David Fraser

Last year, after my first taste of sea kayaking, I saw the Okains Bay 2008 event advertised and thought, 'I really need to get to that'. However a couple of things held me back. Firstly, I didn't have a kayak. Neither did I have a way to transport it. Silly me - an opportunity lost. This year however I was a bit more prepared. I built a kayak, bought a roof rack and paid the outrageous entry fee (last count it came to \$0.00 - but at least it had a money back guarantee), packed my tent, sleeping bag, two tins of baked beans, some snack bars, nuts, raisins, dried fruits, water and headed to the meet.

With a new kayak, which had only done a couple of hours in the wet, I cheated and went to Okains Bay on the Thursday night before the big event. I was keen to embarrass myself - in total privacy. So that evening I took this mixture of polyester fabric wrapped around bits of pine, held together by glue and screws and waterproofed by a tin or two of polyurethane, out for a paddle. It floated.

For those who don't know it, Okains Bay is just beautiful. It is a wide bay, about 1.25 km across its entrance. It has a very gentle sandy beach at its head and cliffs around the rest. At sea level there are many caves resplendent with wildlife like seals, birds and little blue penguins. At the entrance to the bay I saw dolphins gliding by, though none stopped to play. The entrance to the bay is guarded by huge cliffs and rock pinnacles that jut out of the sea. Even on a calm day it is rugged and majestic. On a rough day it would be down right treacherous.

The hills behind the cliffs are brown and dry, covered with whispers of grass and a few scattered sheep, eking out their existence. At the head of the bay, just behind the beach, is a camping ground, situated under a grove of pine trees. Apart from the fear of



*Pete Sutherland running a 'Fitting out your Kayak' workshop at Okains Bay January 30 2009. Photo: Jillian Wilson*

being conked by a falling pine-cone in the middle of the night, it is a great place to stay.

The paddle on the Thursday evening was fantastic. On Friday, I was on the water again, enjoying the solitude but by midday I spied cars with kayaks arriving, and floated into a small pod of seasoned paddlers, resplendent in their shiny plastic speed machines. And they kept coming. Even at sundown they were still arriving - how they pitched their tents in the pitch black, I do not know. All of a sudden I was surrounded by plastic and fibreglass kayaks, and one absolutely fabulous 'Strip Built'. There were blokes in shorts and jandals and sporting whiskers that make even Santa look bald. Women tossing their kayaks into the sea as you would a pebble. These were friendly people who, looking at my kayak with a friendly motherly eye, remarked that, "It looks like it should be fast". Kind words, from kindly people.

Saturday - having downed a can of Kiwi energy food (baked beans) I was on the water at a respectable 8am, only to run into hardy souls returning from their dawn paddle around the heads. These early movers were full of tales of glassy seas and frolicking dolphins. I had no option but to paddle out to see for myself. The open sea, beyond the entrance to Okains Bay is just fabulous, huge cliffs falling into

the sea, creating backwash, which produced a gentle tumble dryer effect on the kayak. But there was also a long rolling swell and acres of wide-open space and not a fizz boat in sight. The wind was just picking up and had not created a big chop - yet. Of course the early risers must have lied, as no dolphins frolicked with me.

9:30am was briefing time. We gathered around 'headquarters' which consisted of a blue plastic tarpaulin, slung between inadequate branches with a white board set on a knob of rough ground, under an aged pine tree. We were reminded that as masters of our own vessels we had a responsibility to ensure our own safety. Fair enough, I say. Having said that, it was also clear that while some of us were novices, there were many very experienced kayakers in this group. There was going to be no messing with safety, with this lot.

I decided to join the 'long' paddle group for a trip down the coast to look at caves and a small island. The trip was great. There were about 10 of us in two pods which quickly became one mingling pod, herded together by a couple of blokes in a double. Conditions were fabulous. Dolphins popped up for a look, decided that we were mere humans, and went back to look after their little ones. The caves were awesome and the company fantastic.



*Waveney Inch rounding Sail Islet, on the Banks Peninsula coastline south of Okains Bay, January 30 2009. Photograph: Jillian Wilson*

That afternoon I joined the group (and a big group it was) learning paddling and on-water rescue technique. Here I felt inadequate, in that I did not participate in the sea rescue training. I was a bit concerned about the adequacy of flotation in my kayak and wanted to test this first, in the privacy of shallow water. Call me a 'wooss' if you like! What I did observe however were people, who had never really kayaked before, deliberately tipping their kayak, in open water, and being rescued by a 'mate'. There was no fear, just a lot of laughter as they put learning into practice. Even watching, I learned a huge amount, though doing it is the only way to really know that you have 'got it'. On the 'other side' another group were playing skittles (that is what it looked like) in the

surf. It looked like a lot of fun. The surf was not high, but a good size for learning on and having fun. I reluctantly left the water at about 4pm on the Saturday because I needed to head home. But I was the only one leaving. They were all having a great time. This was a fabulous weekend, organized very professionally by a group of very enthusiastic people. It was a great learning experience and one that I am pleased that I attended.

As for my kayak - it survived the three days, in great condition. I met and chatted to some very friendly and helpful people. I learned a huge amount through that talking, through my observation and through the doing. I guess this will all help when I build the next one - next week.



*David Fraser with his homegrown kayak at the Okains Bay Forum. Photograph: Jillian Wilson*

**Feedback from Peter Sullivan**

Bloody brilliant bro!

Just returned from our network forum at Okains Bay. Around 80+ boats on the water. Sandy Ferguson was still trying to sort numbers when I left. On Saturday, JKA and I covered paddle strokes (basic and advanced), rescues, support strokes, and surfing. Max Grant turned up and assisted with the surfing - he was good value. There was a longer trip and shorter trip to cater for those not wanting instruction.

Land-based sessions included leadership (responsibilities of all bods in a group), and the evening session was a topic we called 'how to make a boat go faster without leaving your seat', which included correct paddling techniques to ensure that the boat is going in a straight line, body biomechanics, a bit of physiology re training for paddling and the differences, advantages and disadvantages between the various paddle shapes and straight and crank shafts. Took about an hour and a half - we thought we'd blow novice paddler minds but it really went down well with lots of discussion this morning re what they absorbed from it.

Sunday morning we did a yoga session with a variety of asanas, which are beneficial to paddling, followed by intro to rolling, and a longer paddling trip to fine tune and consolidate anything they picked up in the paddle session on Saturday. It was all over by lunch time with lots of absolutely knackered, unfit, minds overflowing bods packing up and heading home before the southerly front hit.

A really pleasing sight was the number of younger bods, both male and female, who are really keen on the sport and really eager to learn.

I hope your Anakia forum in a few weeks is as successful - I think quite a few of our younger bods are keen to attend your forum after our weekend - be kind to them!

cheers, Peter Sullivan

(Peter was one of the founding members of KASK, long time KASK secretary, compiler of the first edition of the KASK Handbook, and active trip leader with the Canterbury y Sea Kayak Network.)



## HUMOUR

### A Scottish Christmas

A man in Scotland calls his son in London the day before Christmas Eve and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough!"

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says.

"We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Leeds and tell her."

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "Like hell they're getting divorced," she shouts, "I'll take care of this."

She calls Scotland immediately, and screams at her father, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Christmas and they're paying their own way."

### Not Rehearsed

A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver a question and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the car and nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb, and stopped, just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments everything was silent in the taxi, and then the still shaking driver said, "I'm sorry, but you scared the living daylights out of me." The frightened passenger apologized to the driver and said he didn't realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten him so much. The driver replied, "No, no, I'm sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for the last 25 years."

### Walking the Dog

A little girl asks her mum, "Mum, can I take the dog for a walk around the block?"

Her mum replies, "No, because she is on heat."

"What does that mean?" asked the child.

"Go and ask your father. I think he's in the garage."

The little girl goes out to the garage and says, "Dad, can I take Lulu for a walk around the block? I asked Mum, but she said the dog was on heat and to come and ask you."

Rather than explain he took a rag, soaked it in petrol, and scrubbed the dog's backside with it to disguise the scent, and said, "Ok, you can go now, but keep Lulu on the leash and only go one time round the block."

The little girl set off and returned a few minutes later with no dog on the leash. Surprised, Dad asked, "Where's Lulu?"

The little girl said, "She ran out of petrol about halfway round the block, so another dog is pushing her home."

### Holy Water versus Turpentine

A little boy was sitting on the curb with a gallon of turpentine, shaking it up and watching all the bubbles. A while later, a priest came along and asked the little boy what he had. The little boy replied, "This is the most powerful liquid in the world. It's called turpentine."

The priest said, "No, the most powerful liquid in the world is holy water. If you take some of this holy water and rub it on a pregnant woman's belly, she'll pass a healthy baby."

The little boy replied, "You take some of this turpentine and rub it on a cat's arse, it'll pass a Harley Davidson."

### Shopping

A husband and wife are shopping in their local supermarket. The husband picks up a carton of beer cans and puts it in their cart. "What do you think you're doing?" asks the wife.

"They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans," he replies. "Put them back, we can't afford them," demands the wife, and so they carry on shopping.

A few aisles further on along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and places it in the basket. "What do you think you're doing?" asks the husband. "It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful," replies the wife.

Her husband retorts, "So does 24 cans of beer and it's half the price."

Heard over the intercom, "Husband down on aisle 14, husband down on aisle 14!"

### A stunning senior moment

Apparently, a self-important college freshman attending a recent football game took it upon himself to explain to a senior citizen sitting next to him why it was impossible for the older generation to understand his generation.

"You grew up in a different world, actually an almost primitive one the student said, loud enough for many of those nearby to hear. The young people of today grew up with, television, jet planes, space travel, man walking on the moon, our space probes have visited Mars, we have nuclear energy, ships and electric and hydrogen cars, cell phones, computers with light-speed processing - and more."

After a brief silence, the senior citizen responded as follows: "You're right, son. We didn't have those things when we were young - so we invented them. Now, you arrogant little shit, what are you doing for the next generation?" The applause was deafening.

### Intense Evening

Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson were out camping one night. After pitching the tent and rolling out the sleeping bags, they decided to turn in. In the middle of the night, Holmes violently shook Watson awake.

"Watson," he says, "look at the sky and tell me what you see."

"I see millions of stars," replies Watson.

"Yes, and what does that tell you?"

Watson takes a big breath. "Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets.

"Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in the constellation of Leo.

"Psychologically, it tells me that we are only a small speck in the infinite mystery of life."

"Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant.

"Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning.

"Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow".

"What's it tell you, Holmes?"

"You idiot, Watson," said Holmes. "Some dastardly sod has stolen our tent."

## INDEX FOR THE SEA CANOEIST NEWSLETTER

Nos. 124 – 136  
August 2006-September 2008

### BOOK REVIEWS

124/15 *Inshore Britain*

Paul Caffyn

126/20 *Simple Sea Kayak  
Navigation*

K. Killilea

126/21 *Greenland Expedition*

K. Killilea

126/22 *Lighting the Coast*

Keith Lyons

130/20 *Kayaks of Greenland*

Grant Glazer

130/20 *Unclaimed Coast*

Paul Caffyn

134/19 *Sea Kayak* by G. Brown  
Alan Bye

### CONSERVATION

131/15 Ridding Rats & Restoring  
Birdsong in the Bay of Islands

Pauline Moretti

135/8 Project Island Song Update

Pauline Moretti

### CONFERENCES

134/15 International PaddleAll  
Conference - Beverley Burnett

### DVD REVIEWS

127/13 TITS 3 – new DVD

Sandy Ferguson

129/20 This is the Sea 3

Paul Hayward

### FIRST SEA KAYAKING TRIPS

128/14 - Graham Sisson

131/7 - Peter Van Kuyk

### FORUM REPORTS

125/13 Northland Canoe Club/  
KASK Miniforum 10 – 12

November 2006 - Paul Caffyn

127/14 2007 Kask Forum: Personal  
Perspective

John Kirk-Anderson

127/14 2007 Kask Forum: Feedback

Paul Hayward, T Fenwick &

P. Grimes

127/15 2007 Kask Forum: Session

Ramblings - David Winkworth

127/17 2007 Kask Forum: Surfing

Session - Chris Henkley

127/20 2007 Kask Forum: 21 Years

Alan Bye

128/11 Anakiwa Massage Workshop

Robyn Berthelsen

133/4 Canterbury Sea Kayak

Network annual Okains Bay Forum

Fiona Fraser

133/8 Coastbusters 2008 Auckland:

Sandy Robson at CB 2008

Debbie Dunsford

133/9 Coastbusters 2008 Auckland:

What a Blast - Natasha Romoff

133/10 Coastbusters 2008

Auckland: The DoC Session

Ruth Henderson

133/15 Coastbusters 2008

Auckland: Impressions of NZ

Jim Kakuk, Deb Volturmo

134/4 KASK Forum 2008 – Ohope

Paul Caffyn

134/9 KASK Forum 2008 – Ohope:

Reflections from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Youngest

Participant - Leona Smith

### HISTORY

125/20 PBK Kayaks & P. Blandford

Alan Bye

131/16 RAKE25VSKC Queenscliff,

Victoria, 1 December 2007

Paul Caffyn

134/18 Gino Watkins – His

Influence on Modern Kayaking

Alan Bye

### KASK REPORTS

President's Report by Susan Cade

124/4, 126/4, 128/20, 130/9, 132/4,

134/7,

128/20 Publication Officer's Report

Paul Caffyn

128/21 Graham Eggar Paddle

Trophy Awards - Paul Caffyn

128/21 National Training with Nigel

Foster - Susan Cade

134/8 Publications & Safety Reports

Paul Caffyn

135/4 President's Report

Julie Reynolds

135/9 Notes from an ARC Meeting

re Clause 2.17, Navigation Safety

Bylaw - Julie Reynolds

136/4 President's Report

Julie Reynolds

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

124/5 Paddle Leashes/Night Lights

Mark Hutson

126/7 Paddle Leashes

Tim Anderson

126/7 'Bag Lady' Kayak

Mike Peers

126/7 Morons in Fast Boats

Evan Pugh

126/8 Website, Kayak Routes

Simon Willis

126/8 Night Lights

Beverley Burnett

127/4 Auckland Kayak Trails

Jim Dilley

127/12 Paddle Leashes

Mike Scanlan

127/13 Four Letter Words

Chris Hinkley

127/13 Day Hatch Kids

Dave Winkworth

131/8 National Pleasure Boat Forum

Julie Reynolds

133/7 VHF Call Signs

David Fisher

### LITERARY

134/19 An Ode to the S/K Guide

Fiona Fraser

135/11 Epic Tale of a Paddle

Paul Caffyn

135/8 Snippet in French

Alan Bye

135/19 Age Shall Not Weary Them

Ruth Henderson

### NETWORK REPORTS

124/4 Waikato

Evan Pugh

128/4 BASK

Evan Pugh

### NEW ZEALAND TRIP

#### REPORTS

128/9 One Lake One Woman

Linda Pugh

128/9 Port Pegasus, Stewart Island

Chris Manuel

128/11 A Magic Moment in the BoP

Robyn Berthelsen

129/8 CSKN Queen's Birthday Trip

Karen Dawson

129/9 Hell's Portage

Jackson Bay to Milford May 2007

Max Grant

130/7 South Island Circuit; Freya

Hoffmeister, Babs Lindman &

Justine Curgenvin

Paul Caffyn

131/8 The 2007 Pilgrimage

Diana Parr

131/9 The Pilgrimage 2007

Max Grant

131/11 SI Circumnavigation Freya

Hoffmeister

Martin Fraser

132/12 Freya's Expedition Kit list

Freya Hoffmeister



132/16 Just a Normal Day on the West Coast

Freya Hoffmeister

132/16 The Final Leg – I'm Done

Freya Hoffmeister

132/18 Freya's Arrival at Okiwi Bay

Martin Fraser

133/6 Impressions Kayaking in NZ

Albert-Jan Zijlstra

133/19 A Day in the Life of Babs

Babs Lindman

133/20 Bab's Departure from Milford Sound

Belinda Mulvany

135/12 Whangarei to Bay of Islands

Lynnis Burson

135/14 D'Urville Island

Evan Pugh

135/16 A Week On The Barrier

Sandy Winterton

135/20 Canterbury Network trip to Nydia Bay, Queens Birthday 2008

Lynette Hartley

135/20 Canterbury Network n/l

Fiona Fraser

136/6 Doubtful Sound to Bluff

Max Grant

136/9 A River Sea Kayak Trip

Maggie Oakley

#### OBITUARY/TRIBUTES

127/4 Mike Rowley

Max Grant

127/11 Andrew McAuley

Martin & Fiona Fraser

127/11 Andrew McAuley

Paul Caffyn

127/11 NSW Memorial Service

Elizabeth Thomson

#### OPINION

130/5 Cell phones & Inflatable PFDs

John Kirk-Anderson

131/4 Too Much Safety

Colin Quilter

132/6 Sea Kayaking comes in from the Cold (EPIRBS)

David Winkworth

132/20 Crossing the Ditch

Paul Caffyn

134/12 Rolling Your Kayak

Dave Hammond

#### OVERSEAS TRIP REPORTS

126/9 Trans-Tasman Website Diary

Sandy Ferguson

126/13 SLAP Round Australia

Sandy Ferguson

127/5 Trans Tasman Website Diary

Andrew McAuley

127/5 A Beer in the Hand is Worth Two in the Bush

Martin & Fiona Fraser

127/12 SLAP Round Australia Diary

Sandy Ferguson

127/18 How a Kiwi rolled his way to Delaware

Ben Dorrington

128/12 Mackenzie River July 2006

Bevan Walker

128/12 Update on Round Aussie SLAP

Sandy Robson

129/6 Andrew McAuley

Fundraising Dinner

Sydney 7 June 2007

Martin Fraser

129/13 Crocodile Attack North Qld

Sandy Robson

129/19 Frequently Asked Questions

Sandy Robson

130/16 Changing Times in East Greenland

Paul Caffyn

135/5 POSSUM President visits NSW

David Winkworth

#### PADDLER PROFILES

124/8 Nigel Foster

Susan Cade

132/10 Freya Hoffmeister

Paul Caffyn

134/12 Barbo (Babs) Lindman

Paul Caffyn

136/15 Robbie Banks

Karen Knowles

#### SAFETY

124/7 Safety Meeting; Lights & VHF radios

Paul Hayward

124/8 Another Word on Rescue

Beverley Burnett

125/4 Tory Channel Incident

Review Report, 1 January 2006

C. Haddock & J. Kirk-Anderson

125/18 More on Safety – Kayak

collision - Paul Caffyn

128/5 Kayak Rib Collision,

Westhaven. NZPA

128/6 Stuart Chrisp

128/6 CGBE Home Study Packs

CG Boating Education

128/15 New Cold Water Boating

Brochures

Gerald Stover

128/16 Marine Searches

Hamish Blanch

129/4 Dead Man Paddling

John Kirk-Anderson

129/19 Sea Kayaking for Disabled Paddlers

Beverley Burnett

130/10 Raising Paddler Visibility

PFD Mounted Chopper Flags

Paul Hayward

131/4 MNZ Draft Kayak Strategy

John Marshall

131/13 Andrew McAuley. After The Inquest.

Paul Caffyn

134/10 Identify Your Kayak

David Fisher

134/10 Draft 'Safety in Kayaking Strategy'

John Marshall

134/10 New Bylaw in the Ak Region

Jim Dilley

134/11 New Day Skipper Course

– Women on Board

Katie McNab

135/9 Do I need to? Can I do it?

Iona Bailey

135/9 Cold Water Immersion

Stanley Mulvany

136/18 Lake Tarawera CG Callout

Evan Pugh

#### TECHNICAL

126/8 EPIRBS – Change to 406

Duncan Ferner

128/4 Paddle Float Valves &

Crossing Rudder Cables

Evan Pugh

128/5 Fibreglass Repairs

Dave Winkworth

133/19 Pee Freely – Be FUD

Confident - Deb Volturmo

134/15 Bab's Equipment List

Babs Lindman

#### THE 'BUGGER' FILE

126/6 Shark Tales

Mike Scanlan

131/6 One Lemon Missing

Bill Anderson

134/16 There's a Croc in the River

Jillian Wilson

#### THE KASK HANDBOOK

125/12 Sail chapter correction

125/12 Feedback - Chris Hinkley

#### TRAINING

128/7 Tauranga Training Report

Wendon Hutchins

## 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:

**Editor: Paul Caffyn,  
RD 1, Runanga. 7873  
West Coast .N.Z.  
Ph/Fax: (03) 7311806  
Email: kayakpc@xtra.co.nz**

### **KASK Annual Subscription**

\$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:

**KASK Administrator  
PO Box 23, Runanga. 7841  
West Coast**

### **Correspondence/Queries to:**

Linda Ingram  
KASK Administrator  
PO Box 23, Runanga. 7841  
West Coast

**Send address changes for receiving the newsletter via email to Linda at:**

**KASK.admin@xtra.co.nz**

### **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

### **SEA KAYAKING NETWORK ADDRESSES**

#### **NORTH ISLAND**

##### **NORTHLAND Canoe Club**

PO Box 755, Whangarei  
Catherine Keleher  
Ph: (09) 436 0341  
email: cathkel@xtra.co.nz  
**AUCKLAND Canoe Club**  
PO Box 9271,  
Newmarket, Auckland.  
email:secretary@aucklandcanoeclub.org.nz

##### **HAURAKI Kayak Group**

Pelham Housego  
PO Box 46-146, Herne Bay, Auckland  
**WAIKATO KASK Contact**  
Evan Pugh, RD2, Putaruru. 3482  
sheepskinsstuff@xtra.co.nz  
Ph: (07) 883 6898

##### **RUAHINE Whitewater Club**

71 Salisbury St., Ashhurst.  
Ph: 06 326 8667 Fax: 06 326 8472  
www.q-kayaks.co.nz/pages/club.asp  
**BAY OF PLENTY - KASK Contact**

Iona Bailey, Tauranga  
Ph: (07) 576 1492

email: bailhut@clear.net.nz

##### **ROTORUA- KASK Contact**

John Flemming, PO Box 1872, Rotorua  
Ph/fax: (07) 347 9950  
email: shakey@slingshot.co.nz

##### **Rotorua Kayak Club**

7 Mahana Place, Rotorua  
Ph: (027) 292 3138  
email: Woolhouse.Clark@xtra.co.nz  
**GISBORNE Sea Kayakers Club**  
John Humphris, 3 Matthews Rd, Gisborne  
Ph: (06) 868 4657  
email: thetrolls@xtra.co.nz  
Website: www.geocities.com/gisborne\_sea\_kayakers/

##### **WELLINGTON Sea Kayak Network**

Mike Wilkin  
23 A Ilam Grove  
Kelson, Lower Hutt  
Phone: (04) 565 0880  
email: mwilkin5@xtra.co.nz  
Website: www.wskn.wellington.net.nz

#### **SOUTH ISLAND**

##### **MARLBOROUGH**

Martyn Smith  
Ph: (03) 577 6256  
blueskua@hotmail.com

##### **NELSON - KASK Contact**

Nora Flight  
Ph: (03) 544 7877  
email: nflight@xtra.co.nz

##### **CANTERBURY Sea Kayak Network**

Andy & Deirdre Sheppard  
53 Kent Lodge Ave  
Avonhead, Christchurch. 8004  
Ph: (03) 342 7929  
email: d\_sheppard@clear.net.nz  
www.CanterburySeaKayak.orcon.net.nz

##### **OTAGO**

Mark Robertson  
mark.robertson@xnet.co.nz  
Ph: (03) 472 7313 (021) 450075

##### **SOUTHLAND Sea Kayak Network**

Stan Mulvany  
03 215 7263  
email: eiger@xtra.co.nz  
Website: www.sskn.uniformnz.com

##### **SKOANZ**

Sea Kayak Operators Assn. NZ  
PO Box 6269, Dunedin North  
email: skoanz@xtra.co.nz  
Website: www.skoanz.org.n

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



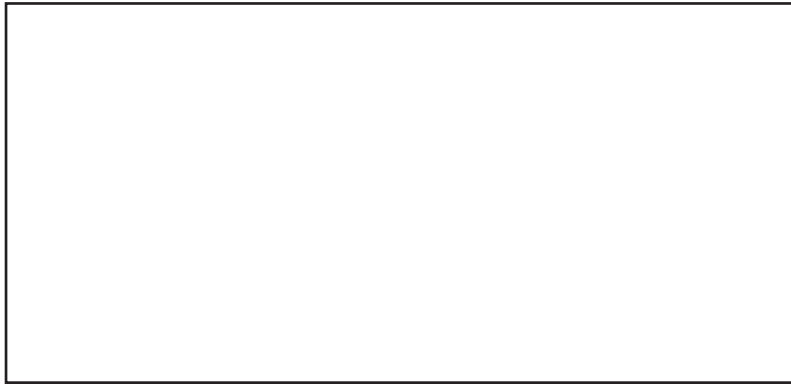
*Linda Pugh surfing in grand style at Whiritoa, south of Whangamata, after a day paddle up the coast by three BASK/KASK members.  
Photograph: Chris Baillie*



*NSW coast between Tathra and Bermagui - 4 February 2009 - a nice "oily" swell day in contrast to strong SE winds the previous day. Freya Hoffmeister in the around Around Australia kayak demonstrating how she might sleep during a possible straight-line Gulf of Carpentaria crossing of 560 kms.  
Photo: Dave Winkworth*



MAILED TO



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



*Melanie Grant attempting a breakout from Oreti Beach, Invercargill. Photo: Belinda Mulvany*

### **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.

