

THE SEA CANOEIST NEWSLETTER



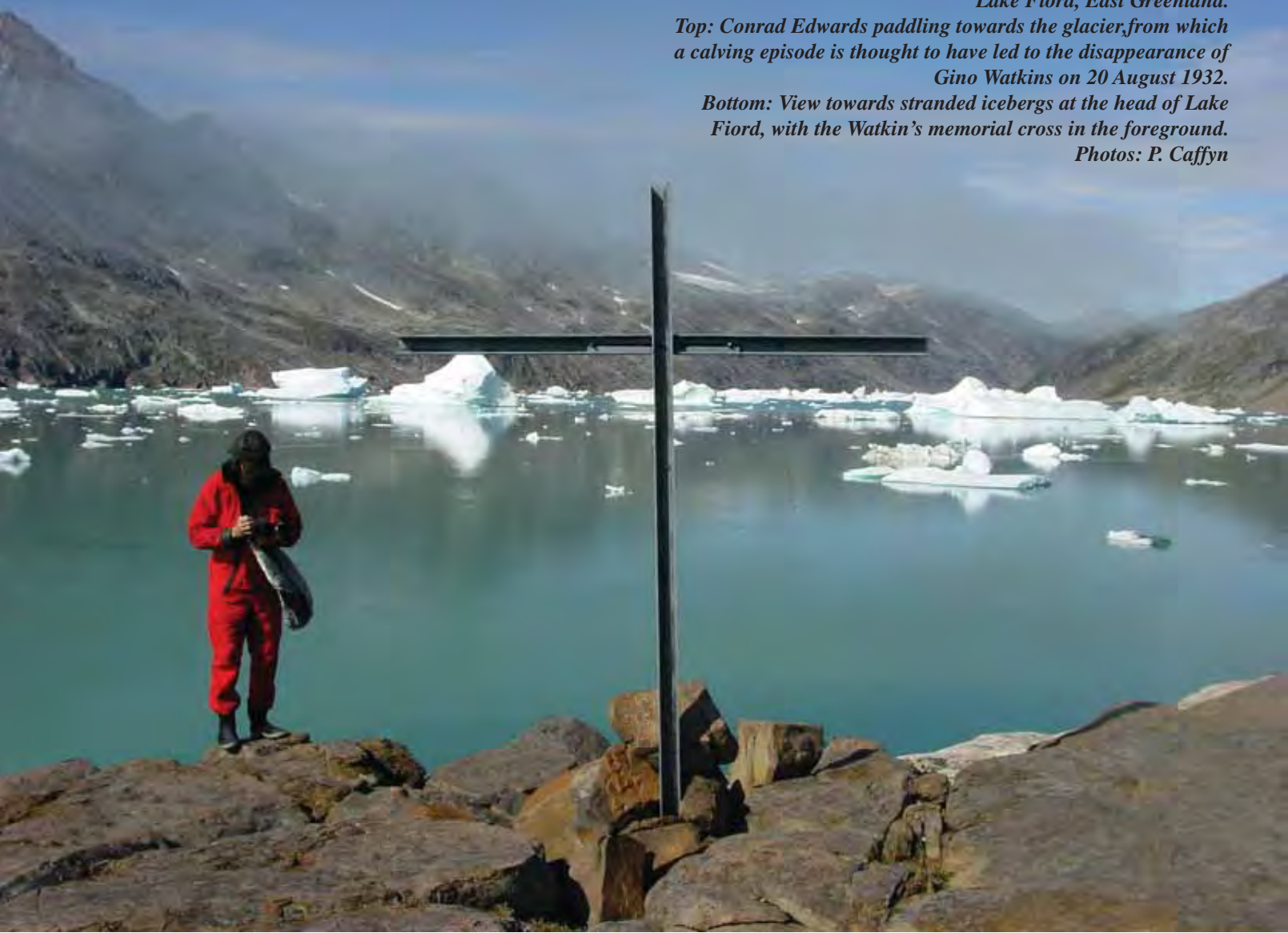
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**The Journal of the Kiwi Association
of Sea Kayakers (NZ) Inc - KASK**

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*Lake Fiord, East Greenland.
Top: Conrad Edwards paddling towards the glacier, from which
a calving episode is thought to have led to the disappearance of
Gino Watkins on 20 August 1932.
Bottom: View towards stranded icebergs at the head of Lake
Fiord, with the Watkin's memorial cross in the foreground.
Photos: P. Caffyn*



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Cover photo: Angmagssalik Fjord, East Greenland. Conrad Edwards celebrating his first landing on sea ice with a small cigar.

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
30 November 2007

EDITORIAL
SAFE SEA KAYAKING
BROCHURES

On 11 September, KASK was advised that a KASK grant application to Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) for \$6,000 had been approved, as part of the Water Safety Education allocations for 2007/2008.

Earlier this year, we were advised by WSNZ that the brochure, 'A Basic Guide to Safe Sea Kayaking', was almost out of stock, with less than 1,000 copies remaining in stock. This is the A5 size brochure with the cover photo of Melanie Grant kayaking offshore from Mt Egmont. The first print run, in late 2004, of the KASK designed brochure, was for 40,000 brochures. Promotion and publicity by KASK, with financial help from WSNZ for advertising, led to widespread distribution by WSNZ and ultimately the need for a reprint of 30,000 copies, which was funded by WSNZ.

With a need to update the sixth page of the brochure, to show the fourth edition of the KASK Handbook, WSNZ suggested that KASK apply for funding to update and print a second edition of the brochure. Susan Cade - with a tad of help from the editor - managed to submit a funding application.

Distribution of 70,000 safe sea kayaking brochures since 2004 has been an outstandingly successful water safety initiative by KASK with help with distribution and publicity by WSNZ. A few key players have really helped with promotion and distribution of the brochure; Chris Robinson, Hamish Blanch, Max Grant and Cathye Haddock.

If you are able to promote, publicize or distribute the revised brochure in your region, please get in touch with the editor. Bulk orders will again be available from WSNZ.

KASK MEMBERSHIP
BROCHURES

If you can help with the distribution of membership brochures in your area, please get in touch.

KASK HANDBOOK 4th Edition
A Manual for Sea Kayaking in New Zealand

Since publishing a year ago, 584 copies of the fourth edition have been sold or distributed. From a print run of 750 copies, I suggest this is a great success and thanks to all of you who helped promote and publicize the manual. Please keep up the good work - if you need copies of a handbook promotional flier, get in touch.

SOUTH ISLAND ATTRACTS
WOMEN PADDLERS

As noted in the last newsletter, Freya Hoffmeister and Justine Curgenvén are both, but separately, attempting a South Island circumnavigation this summer but they will be joined by Swedish paddler Babs Lindman, who has emailed her intentions to start circuit in mid-December (See p.7).

PADDLER HOSTING

Some years ago, I raised the concept of setting up a visiting paddler host database, initially with the concept of contra visits by North and South island paddlers. So much of the concept is to do with being able to tap into local knowledge of an area to be paddled, plus having a floor or bed for a night in a distant region.

With an invasion of female foreigners this summer who are attempting the South Island, I emailed the Christchurch and Nelson paddler networks to see in anyone would help host (pick up from an airport, advice, drop off to the sea etc). And talking with Nora Flight (Nelson network co-ordinator), hosting of overseas paddlers can be beneficial not only when visiting distant countries but also in terms of

KASK MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS
Thanks to those KASK members who have paid promptly.
For those who haven't paid, this will be your last, the very last and final newsletter you will receive.
Please renew promptly!

equipment, kayaks, equipment, techniques and clothes used by overseas paddlers

Some of the preparatory paperwork was completed by the KASK committee but what is now required is someone who is willing to kick-start such a program, preferably with computer database experience. From memory we included a query with the annual renewal form and had a very positive response. Any thoughts re getting this idea off the ground? It can be on a regional basis with the networks and clubs.

KAYAKING KALENDAR

The middle four pages of this newsletter are a 'pull out' form for registration at the 2008 KASK Forum, to be held at Ohope Beach, near Whakatane in the Bay of Islands. Please book early and send your completed form and cheque to Evan Pugh.

The latest information on Coastbusters 2008 is included, also the website for registration.

The notice of the South Island Pilgrimage is a tad late, but these gatherings are considered to be the social event of the year for paddlers.

SUMMER FORECAST

Both NIWA and weather ambassador Bob McDavitt are forecasting a La Nina summer for New Zealand. This bodes extremely well for paddlers heading south this summer and the three ladies attempting the South Island. The highs travel eastwards in lower latitudes than they do for a El Nino summer pattern, with less westerly winds, less rain and calmer seas for Fiordland and the West Coast. Unfortunately I understand those in the far north must expect more rain.

OPINION PIECE

Following a suggestion from Mike Scanlan for inclusion of opinion pieces in the newsletter, John Kirk-Anderson has kindly contributed the first piece. If you have something you wish to have a rant and or rave about, and it is not a letter to the editor re something in the newsletter, please email to the editor: kayakpc@xtra.co.nz

ARTICLES & PHOTOS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Now with broadband to the 12 Mile, it sure beats sending smoke signal messages. For trip reports, Word file attachments are good like anything, and jpgs up to 1.5meg are best sent in separate messages with the photographer and caption per photo please.

'BUGGER!' OF THE YEAR AWARD

At the annual KASK Forum, there are two annual trophy awards, one for the paddler(s) who has (have) made a better than average contribution to sea kayaking for the year and a second for a better than average contribution to the KASK newsletter.

At a recent NZSS (Speleological Soc.) gathering at Punakaiki, nominations were called for the annual 'Arch Nana' award, which is made to the caver who had the biggest, most embarrassing moment in the previous 12 months.

Evan Pugh and I agree that KASK needs a similar award. Nominations now called for an inaugural 'Bugger!' Award. The newsletter has carried incident reports, where the word 'Bugger!' or worse was uttered, under the heading of 'The "Bugger!" File.' Evan and I will sort out a trophy for presentation, so please either email your nominations to Evan Pugh or bring them along to the 2008 forum.

FORUM PHOTO PRINT COMPETITION

As the inaugural photo print competition as the 2007 Anakiwa KASK forum was highly successful, it will be run again at Ohope Beach.

Entries must have a sea kayaking connection.

Entry Guidelines:

Photos may be entered for any or all of the following categories:

- Open
- Action (paddling)
- Seascape
- Coastal/marine flora or fauna

First, second and third places will be awarded for each category, and a paddler's choice for the best overall photo. The judging panel will include Paul Hayward who cleaned up the awards at the 2007 competition.

A limit of three photos per photographer, per category.

Colour or black and white prints to a maximum size of A3, mounted if possible, with the following noted on the back of each photo: category, caption or locale, name and address. Photos can be submitted by paddlers attending the forum, or from KASK members.

Mail entries to Evan Pugh, RD 2, Putaruru 3482. Waikato

On 1 December, the Victorian Sea Kayak Club is running a RAKE25 anniversary celebration - to acknowledge it is now 25 years since the Round Australia Kayak Expedition was completed at Queenscliff. Hopefully it will be the handsome bloke on the right who is the only one to be stuffed and mounted at the Queenscliff Maritime Museum.



Lesley Hadley and Andy Wood will be flying to Melbourne with Paul for the anniversary. Lalaguli is already in Melbourne, ready for her final paddle into Queenscliff.

OPINION COLUMN

Cell Phones and Inflatable PFD's by John Kirk-Anderson

I am very wary of opinions, as they are usually little more than an unwanted expression of prejudices, worth little except to those uttering them.

With that in mind, I offer my views in the hope that they provoke thought, and if they don't, then they are worthless, and should be treated as such.

Having said that, I love the idea of an Opinion Column in the KASK Newsletter - where else can we rant and rave?

Two subjects: Bags & Blow-ups.

BAGS

A recent suggestion for emergency communication while afloat has been to carry a cell phone in a snap-lock plastic bag, tucked into your PFD ready to use.

Better than nothing, I suppose.

Or is it?

Two incidents come to mind. A solo paddler in Otago Harbour, saved on dusk by having a cell phone in a plastic bag around his neck, and the recent fatality on Lake Rotorua, where the body of a solo paddler was found with a cell phone in a flooded bag.

My suspicion is that the first incident contributed to the second, as some agencies recommended the practice, as a minimum communication method.

Personally, I wouldn't carry my lunch in one of those bags and expect it to stay dry while paddling. They might be good at keeping the crumbs close to the sandwiches, but not as your last hope for survival, while up to your nostrils in cold water, scared and alone.

The danger of trusting an inherently unreliable safety device is that we

place our trust in it, often unconsciously, and take risks that we may otherwise wouldn't.

If paddlers were of the mindset that they are on their own, and so had better develop the required skills and the risk assessment practises, then the inability to call for outside help would not be so over-whelming.

Having said that, I then carry enough communication gear to talk to Scotty on the Starship Enterprise.

Just not in a Glad Bag.

BLOW-UPS

Inflatable PFD's are a great idea.

They meet any legislative requirements for wearing a floatation device.

They are comfortable and have little bulk.

They are cool in hot weather.

When inflated they have a huge amount of floatation, far more than a foam one.

The problem that I see with them is related to the last sentence.

Unless a paddler inflates them, they offer no support at all, and as no-one practises to inflate them in training, they often don't when their life, and kayak, turns upside down.

Anecdotal evidence only, but three incidents that spring to mind:

1993, Lyme Bay, Dorset, England. Four teenagers drowned while on a poorly planned and led coastal kayaking trip. In the resulting trial, one of the leaders said she didn't get the paddlers, who were by this time in a

group huddle in the water, to inflate their PFD's as she didn't know if it was serious enough at the time.

2003, Garrettstown, County Cork, Ireland. Punching out through big surf, a very experienced paddler capsized and was forced to wet-exit. He spent a long time in the water, assisted by another paddler, and was eventually washed onto rocks, cutting himself badly. He hadn't inflated his PFD, and was surprised when this was pointed out to him. He hadn't even thought about it!

2005, Tory Channel, Marlborough Sounds. A paddler capsized, wet exited and attempted paddle float rescues, before being rescued by a fishing boat. She didn't inflate her PFD, despite being in the water for some time.

In an unexpected stressful situation, such as a capsize followed by roll-failure, the paddler who is mentally unprepared for the aftermath will be effected by adrenal dump, with the resultant effects of tunnel vision, loss of fine motor skills and diminished reasoning.

Small wonder then, that inflating a PFD is forgotten - it doesn't take panic, simply lack of physical and psychological preparation.

On a lighter note, I recently took a paddler for a wet exit drill. She had been sea kayaking for several years, while wearing an inflatable PFD which she insisted was self inflating. I explained that kayaking PFD's had to be manually inflated, either by pulling the large yellow tab, or by mouth.

On instruction she did a beautiful capsize, only to be dragged to the surface in a rapidly inflating PFD, which as she had pointed out, was indeed self-inflating!

John Kirk-Anderson

NOTES & WEBSITES

Sea Kayaker's Guide to NZ's upper North Island 2nd Edition

Vincent Maire has been asked by the publishers of this book to prepare a second edition. Vincent is keen to receive some photos and is especially interested in one of the new hut on Motukawanui Island (big Cavelli Island). Ideally the pic would have kayaks in the foreground. All pics should be high resolution, digital images. Vincent is also very keen to receive any news of errors or changes from the first edition that need to be fixed or noted in the new edition. Please send your pics and or notations to:

maire.family@clear.net.nz

Thanks, Vincent Maire

Authorities Plan Summer Crackdown on Jetskiers (from NZ Herald via Vincent Maire) **9 October 2007**

Anyone using a jetski in Northland waters from the start of November must have it registered with a regional council in Auckland, Northland or Waikato.

A local authority crackdown this summer aims to avoid repeat bad behaviour by some jetskiers who breach five-knot speed limits within 200 metres of a shore, or pass too close to other craft or people in the water.

Northland Regional Council regional harbourmaster Ian Niblock says the size of Northland's coastline and the seasonal influx of yachties and other seaside holidaymakers mean the risk of harm from jetskis can increase dramatically over summer months.

Although registration of 'personal water craft' (jetskis) has been compulsory in Northland under regional council bylaws for several years, the focus has been on educating users to improve their behaviour instead of enforcing registration rules.

Now, under an updated Navigation Safety bylaw effective from No-

vember 1 and spurred by increasing problems with jetskiers during warmer months and holidays, Mr Niblock says the council intends to start enforcing the registration.

It aims to have all jetskis used in Northland registered by January 1 to make users who breach bylaws easier to identify.

It has a new arrangement with the Auckland Regional Council under which the Auckland council maintains a single register of jetskis used in Auckland, Northland and Waikato. Registration costs \$35 (including GST) and forms are available from any of the three councils or their websites. A single registration with any one council is valid in all three regions.

Owners must clearly display their allocated registration number on the side of their jetski, either through a set of stickers costing an extra \$12.50 or by signwriting the number on the machine where it can be clearly seen.

From New Year's Day, users found to be breaking registration or other jetski bylaws risk instant fines of up to \$200 or prosecution under the Maritime Transport Act.

Fiordland Huts

The following email was to Stanley Mulvany of the Southland Sea Kayak Network, and reprinted from the 8 June SSKN newsletter.

'I am writing to let you know that it is likely that the old Deas Cove Hut (that was removed due to Geological instability in November 2006) will be replaced by another hut in a location approximately 100m to the West of where the old Hut was sited. The hut will have 10 bunks and will hopefully be completed by Mid October 2007. {Deas Cove is on the north side of Thompson Sound, opposite Secretary Island}

The flip side of this development is that the Gut hut on Secretary Island is likely to be removed shortly afterwards as it poses a significant risk to the species protection work already done on Secretary Island. A proposal to build

a campsite in the vicinity of the Gut Hut is under consideration (not on Secretary Island though) and Bauza Island is potentially a location for this - we would be interested to have SSKA's opinion on these developments and any advice on potential locations.

Please feel free to contact me on the numbers below if you would like to discuss any of the above.

Regards,

Warren Biggs

Contract/Project Manager

03 2499015 (VPN 5966)

Department of Conservation

Te Anau

Safety Equipment Testing In Auckland Harbour from Ian Calhaem

Within the next month I should have completed a report on various safety equipment based on recent 'on water' tests in Auckland Harbour. This was a joint exercise between the Harbourmaster's Office, Maritime New Zealand, Northern Region Coastguard and the Auckland Canoe Club (ACC).

We tested all equipment that we could get, both commercial and home-made in both day and night conditions. The tests included Visual, Audio and Radar devices. Most commercial equipment just did not perform to the claimed specifications, even if that specification was far below the desired (or legal) requirements - quite sobering!

Although I was the instigator of the testing, a large number of other people then became involved and I want to make sure each is recognized. Jim Dilley from the Harbourmaster's Office was the mainstay and he did the organization through Erica Law, our Safety and Training Officer for ACC. Jim is currently doing the collation of the results and then I will add the photos I took. This includes product shots of all equipment and then on the water shots both day and night.

If you want to put something in the next Kask newsletter, perhaps a note saying that the testing has been done, organized by the Club Safety Officer, Erica Law and the Deputy Harbourmaster, Jim Dilley and a report will be published soon.

WEBSITES

www.qajaqnz.org

New Zealand Greenland paddling enthusiasts now have a web site including a discussion forum at: www.qajaqnz.org. Grant Glazer set up a kayak builders' web site and has now added another one devoted to Greenland kayaks. Its discussion forum might eventually replace the one handled by Yahoo.
(from Sandy Ferguson)

From Turner Wilson & Cherry Perry 23-5-07

Kayak Ways has had a busy winter, doing pool sessions, a bit of website video work, building boats, and making custom paddles. We've also been paddling and rolling, as usual. And, if by any chance, you haven't seen the recent additions to our website, check 'em out! We have been busy adding rolling videos to our site:
<http://www.kayakways.net/rollingvideo.html>

We have added some content regarding our growing kayak building and paddle making endeavours:
<http://www.kayakways.net/kayak-build.html>

A slideshow of 2006 stuff at this link:
<http://qajaqways.smugmug.com/photos/sspopup.mg?AlbumID=2308362>

We have added several more extensive picture sets in our gallery:
<http://qajaqways.smugmug.com/>

EXPEDITION SITES

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

(from Sandy Ferguson)

Poke around this site, which leads to other expedition sites.

SVALBARD

<http://www.ohad.info/svalbard>
from Alon Ohad

(Alon paddled around Tasmania a year or two ago, and more recently Ireland).

I am planning my next expedition now which is planed to start in June 2008. This trip is bigger and more challenging than any trip I did in the past.

I plan to circumnavigate Svalbard with a kayak, distance of almost 2000km. Svalbard is an arctic archipelago located 650km north to Norway.

You can check my website for more info... upon start, there will be an option to follow my trip with google map embedded in my website:
<http://www.ohad.info/svalbard>

FOR SALE

For Sale: Fujita 500Ex folding kayak. Teal deck and Charcoal hull. Expedition material. Rudder. Sea sock and own backpack. 5 metres length, 63 cm beam, weight 18kg (minus rudder), carrying capacity 160kg, packed size 100x37x35 cm, assembly time 15-30 minutes. 3 years old and in excellent condition as hardly used. Price \$2500.00
Contact Dr Stanley Mulvany:
eiger@xtra.co.nz
or phone 03-2157263 (home)

SOUTH ISLAND CIRCUIT by Paul Caffyn

This summer, three gorgeous European ladies are planning to paddle around the South Island, Freya Hoffmeister from Germany, Justine Curgenven from Great Britain and Babs Lindman from Sweden.

Paddlers who attended the 2006 Coast-busters will have met Freya, the lady in black who performed a headstand in her kayak, and Justine who was the keynote speaker.

All three ladies have websites, which I will include below with a bit of background on each paddler.

Freya Hoffmeister
(the Lady in Black- photo below)
<http://freyahoffmeister.blogspot.com/>
<http://www.kayakunderground.com/>



Freya arrived in Nelson late October where she was hosted by Bevan and Nora Walker. On 24 October, Bevan drove Freya out to Okiwi Bay, in Croisilles Harbour, to commence her South Island circumnavigation and she has made remarkably good time around the Marlborough Sounds and down the east coast to Te Oka Bay on the south side of Banks Peninsula. Martin and Fiona Fraser met Freya at 6pm on 3 November at the head of the bay with a picnic dinner. As of 8 November, Freya is waiting until the bumper dumpers guarding the coast south of Banks Peninsula ease.

Best know for her ability to do a headstand in here kayak, for those of you who have yet to meet Freya, she is drop dead gorgeous, her hair is black, her kayaks are black, and she wears a black paddling outfit.

Freya's paddling experience includes a recent fast circumnavigation of Iceland, with Greg Stamer who was also at the 2006 Coastbusters. The 1,620km circuit took 33 days – 25 paddling days and eight weatherbound or rest days (See photo on p.17).

Freya spent a few days at the 12 Mile prior to commencing her trip, and I was most impressed with her kayaking kit and trip preparation. Her kayak is a three piece Nigel Dennis 'Explorer' model kayak; each section has two stainless steel 'buckles' on the deck and hull which clip each section to the other; very quick and efficient to join the boat up.

I was also impressed with Freya's kit and equipment. Communication equipment includes a VHF radio, batphone (mobile), 406EPIRB, Iridium satphone and flares, all of which she carries attached in pockets on her PFD.

Freya's website has a daily blog updated via Karel Vissel (in Israel) after Freya texts her evening position to him with the satphone.

Babs Lindman

www.barbrolindman.com

Babs noted in an email (5 October 2007) she is a woman who, loves nature, always enjoys paddling and who cannot go anywhere without her camera. Bab's most challenging journey was paddling along the Norwegian coast during the summer of 2005. She has also paddled some white water paddling (class III without problems and her first class IV with big, big eyes) and this year I have started with some freestyle kayaking (by the age of 38).

Bab's next mission is to kayak around the South Island, and she made up her mind this Spring and, although some other kayakers have announced that they will do the same thing, Babs is determined to do this journey for her own personal reasons, not to be a first!

Before she paddled along the Norwegian coast, Babs did everything to be well prepared; studying the maps a couple of times, reading everything she could find about the coast (the Coast Pilot was the best one) and trying to get in contact with people with good knowledge. And she will try to do the same with New Zealand!

Babs flies into Auckland on 12 December.

Justine Curgenven

www.justine@cackletv.com

Justine with her distinctive laugh (cackle) should need little introduction. Through her 'This is the Sea' DVDs inspirational sea kayaking, Justine is no doubt the best-known woman paddler worldwide. Her trips include a solo paddle in the fjords of western Iceland, a Kamchatka expedition with two other paddlers and a bold first female circumnavigation of Tasmania in 2004 with Trys Morris and Gemma Rawlings.

She will be paddling with Barry Shaw, also an experienced expedition kayaker, and they fly into Christchurch on 24 January and fly home on 28 April. Their return flight should allow Justine and Barry just enough time to attend the 2008 KASK Forum at Ohope Beach.



Babs Lindman surfing in a huge tide race



Justine Curgenven on the cover of her DVD

(See also a profile on Justine in newsletter No. 121 – February – March 2006)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by Susan Cade

There have been quite a few events in the past few months that have been of interest to sea kayakers, and across the ditch there will be a commemoration of a kayak trip that set the benchmark for others to aspire to.

Water Safety New Zealand

On 8 August I attended two consultation meetings with WSNZ and other WSNZ member representation. The first meeting reflected on Maritime New Zealand's (MNZ) Draft Strategy for Safety in recreational and commercial kayaking. Recognized was the importance of utilizing individuals and bodies with existing knowledge. New Zealand Outdoor Instructor's Association (NZOIA) proposed a joint initiative with The Sports, Fitness and Recreation Industry Training Organization, (SFRITO) of a unified pathway of qualifications and the development of a national registration scheme for instructors, including a database of trained personnel and revalidation processes. They are also wishing to develop leader awards to fill a gap in the current training scheme.

I spoke on the importance of kayak skills development in recreational sea kayak clubs, and the ongoing need for funding for this. Beverley Burnett raised the issue of supporting those with disabilities into the sea kayaking arena and was offered some supportive sources of knowledge. WSNZ have a commitment to having two non-powered watercraft forums a year. The second meeting, reflected on a constitutional review of WSNZ.

On 18 September I attended the WSNZ AGM. At this there was further discussion about the constitution review and the Drowning Prevention Strategy. Of note, the annual drowning statistics since 1986 have currently been reduced to half that of the 1986 level. Funding was one of the key subjects under discussion. WSNZ will use performance indicators to assess funding applications. Criteria will include the project's aims, whether it aligns

with WSNZ's mission to 'Through Education Prevent Injury and Drowning,' the extent to which the proposal meets other WSNZ priorities, the cost to benefit relationships, and the ability of the provider to deliver the program. Projects thus assessed will be prioritized for funding and any proposals that are intended to run for more than one year may get agreement in principle, even though only one year's funding can be guaranteed.

In this year's approved funding allocations, KASK was successful with gaining a grant to update and print the 'A Basic Guide To Safe Sea Kayaking'.

Over the last few months WSNZ has initiated regular regional forums around NZ, providing feedback about WSNZ education and drowning prevention work. This will be an ongoing process of engaging with local areas around issues about education and water safety. KASK has been represented at a number of these meetings and we will be endeavoring to increase representation. If you have an interest in this please advise me.

In Wellington Beverley Burnett attended the local forum. Of interest she noted that statistically, adults in the age group 45-54 are most at risk and that's the demographic of many network members.

World Maritime Day

World Maritime day Celebrations took place in Wellington on 27 September supported by MNZ. Present were many dignitaries, port officials, local maritime identities and other notable attendees including the honourable Annette King.

The focus was on the International Maritime Organisation's, (IMO) identified goal for this year; that as a response to current environmental challenges and its environmental work, to intensify its efforts to protect and preserve the environment before it is too late.

Out of interest the IMO was formed in 1959, as a specialised agency of the United Nations. It currently has 170 Members.

This made me reflect on the importance for recreational users, like us, to support a clean marine ecosystem. KASK supports initiatives to protect and preserve the marine environment.

Outdoors New Zealand (ONZ)

The ONZ AGM which was held from 15 - 16 of September, was attended by Cathye Haddock who will submit a report on relevant proceedings in a future newsletter.

In January 2008, ONZ will be running an International Outdoor Recreation and Education Conference at which KASK will have two representatives. It will be an opportunity to bring together people with diverse interests from different countries to exchange ideas. The aim is to share research, education, new initiatives, and strategic developments and trends that impact on the outdoor education and recreation industry. A future newsletter will report post conference.

Paul Caffyn Memorial Plaque

The Victorian Sea Kayak Club is preparing for a celebration on 1 December 2008 to commemorate 25 years since the completion of the Round Australia Kayak Expedition (RAKE). A plaque in honour of that unequalled trip will be unveiled at Queenscliff, the start and finish point of the expedition. Paul, Andy Woods and Lesley Hadley will all attend. There will be a re-enactment of the arrival by sea kayak at Queenscliff.

Paul will unveil the plaque, and long time friend and piper Ken Wilson will lead a procession to the Queenscliff Maritime Museum. Paul will loan the Australian kayak to the museum along with other memorabilia of the trip.

New Zealand Sea Kayak Industry meetings, hosted by Canoe and Kayak

I attended part of a meeting hosted by Canoe and Kayak on the 23 August in Wellington. There was a good turn up of interested people and representatives, and good discussion about the need for relevant training awards for the New Zealand kayaking Industry.

Also discussed were ways to promote and support Sea Kayaking in New Zealand.

One result of the meeting was a commitment of many attendees to join ONZ and to develop ways to strengthen the support and voice for the industry. There were also discussions about ways to access funding to support kayak skill development, at many levels including volunteer roles

Discussed also was a proposal to promote a voluntary Code of Compliance within the NZ kayak industry. This was a response to MNZ developing strategies to increase levels of safety for recreational and commercial kayaking. There is a plan to meet again as a group in the future.



At the 2006 Marlborough Sounds Sea Kayaking Pilgrimage, Susan Cade stole the show with her stunning Viking Costume

SAFETY **Raising Paddler Visibility** **PFD Mounted Chopper** **Flags**

by Paul Hayward

I seem to have inadvertently started a few people 'wearing' a flagpole. I liked the practicality of it - mentioned that I'd found it worked - and a number of people have taken it up.

Advantages are:

- portable from kayak to kayak,
- simpler construction - just a flag & a pole (no socket),
- easy to 'take down' for trees, bridges & surf-landings (or just lay back to lower momentarily),
- flag stays with you - not the boat
- should you part company.

I like mine with the pole simply slid down between myself and the PFD. (It's never thought of falling out.)

Natasha finds that irritating - so I made up a 'narrow quiver' that holds the pole on the outside of the PFD (centre back). Two long straps hold the quiver in place - they connect to the top & bottom of the 'quiver' and complete a loop on the inside of the PFD - where they Velcro to each other. Gives a flat (non-irritating) surface inside the PFD and seems to hold in a gale, as the Velcro is assisted to stay together by being squeezed between the PFD and the body. Made from heavyweight pack-cloth, the pocket in the quiver is about 10-15mm in diameter (for an 8mm pole) and the long straps would be about 25mm wide. Very lightweight. Downside of the quiver approach is that it's fiddly to replace the pole into the quiver

without removing the PFD - without a buddy to help.

I have increasingly been thinking that with the advent of workable LED lights - and their dramatically lower power (ie. lighter battery) requirements - I may make up a similarly wearable night-light. As I paddled along the other day, I was dreaming about a port and starboard light on each shoulder (of the PFD) and a stern light at the top of the PFD's back.

My flagstaff holds my flag up against the sky - to enhance its visibility. For lights, the dark water is a better background - so why bother with a mast? If one can't do 7 knots, one could just simplify to an all-rounder (white light) on top of one's head or hat!

All of the above advantages apply - along with a few additional electrical ones:

- nearby switch,
- easy 'on/off' checking & fault-finding
- replaceable batteries.

Natasha made an interesting comment the other day, after we had come in from strong wind paddling conditions. She said that she used, sometimes, to be aware of wind gust effects and flapping of her flag - when it was mounted to the rear deck of the kayak - but had not been aware of it since 'wearing' the flag.

That may be just due to increased familiarity - or perhaps when it is attached to the body, we treat it differently - the way we tend to ignore the wind tearing at a floppy hat or parka.



An on-the-person flags spotted this year - flag is vivid red.

2008 NATIONAL KASK FORUM

REGISTRATION FORM

APRIL 25/26/27

Ohope Beach - Bay of Plenty

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Mobile _____



Accommodation:
BUNKROOM: Yes / No

CAMPSITE: Yes / No

Emergency Contact

Name _____

Relationship _____

Address _____

Phone _____

ACCOMMODATION

Bunkrooms sleep eight or you may also camp on site. Please advise when registering if you prefer to camp.

MEALS

Your registration fee includes Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, Sunday breakfast and lunch. It may pay to bring some snacks in case you are on any long paddles or sessions away from camp; lunches will be eaten at the camp or pre packed if need be. Also weather dependent if we have a day paddle to Whale Island you will need drink for the day.

The Venue is Smoke free

Ohope is on the east coast right next door to Whakatane, with the ocean beach across the road from the Forum and Ohiwa Harbour just down the road for calm water sessions.

Refund Policy

No Registrations are refundable after April 4 2008, due to catering and set up costs for the forum.

SKILL LEVEL

Please circle your skill level

NOVICE

Just started kayaking and/or very little skill level

INTERMEDIATE

Some support strokes, can do wet exit and assisted rescue in calm conditions

ADVANCED-
INTERMEDIATE

Can complete an assisted and self rescue in moderate conditions and have completed day trips in a variety of conditions

ADVANCED

Can roll a kayak in rough conditions. Have completed several challenging sea kayak trips

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE Please circle your response

Do you currently lead trips in your area? Yes / No

If yes are you happy to lead a pod of up to six paddlers at the Forum Yes / No

SESSIONS/EVENTS

Please circle your response

I am available to lead a workshop/instruction session Yes / No

If so what Topics

I am willing to share some great slides of a recent trip Yes / No

NOTE ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO ABIDE BY THE FORUM RULES

FORUM COST

\$150 per person (KASK MEMBER)

\$160 per person (non KASK member)

(includes bunkroom accommodation and meals Friday dinner, all day Saturday, Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday as well as training sessions/speakers and organised trips)

Note once maximum numbers are reached, registrations will close

NUMBER OF PADDLERS ATTENDING _____

ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FEE _____

MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: SEA KAYAK FORUM 2008

Please return forms with payment to.

EVAN PUGH

RD2

PUTARURU 3482

Enquires to Evan Pugh Ph: 07 883 6898

E-Mail: sheepskinsnstuff@extra.co.nz

This form is also available at www.kask.co.nz and go to the Events page

Internet Banking Details - ensure your name is included

Bank: Westpac Branch: Putaruru

Account No: 03 0418 0165427 00

Name: Sea Kayak Forum 2008

SESSIONS

What are you interested in participating in over the weekend, please tick topics or sessions that may be of interest to you. Not all sessions may be covered over the weekend and some may be added but we will endeavour to cover all popular areas. The Whale Island paddle 10kms from shore a stop on the beach and a choice of a lap of the Island (8kms) or rest and wait for those lapping the Island before returning to the mainland, this is a beautiful Island and seals usually frequent some areas. Obviously you need to be fit enough and confident enough for the distance and will be in pods of one leader and up to six paddlers.

The Whale Island trip will only go ahead if weather conditions are favourable, if not other sessions or trip will take place

ACTIVITY	I am interested in participating
Day paddle to Whale Island 10km offshore 20 or 28k total	
Day Paddle to Lake Matahina 18km total (30k drive to start)	
Half day paddle Ohiwa Harbour	
Friday 1pm paddle (2hours) First day registration from 12pm	
Photo competition	

PRACTICAL SKILLS	I am interested in participating	Happy to teach others at the Forum
Wet exits (learning to get out of your kayak after capsize)		
Towing		
Rescues		
Surf training for beginners		
Surf training for intermediate		
Forward paddling strokes		
Manoeuvring strokes		
Boat set up for paddling		

TOPICS	I am interested in participating	Happy to teach others at the Forum
Wooden boat session		
First aid for kayakers		
Navigation		
Tidal streams		
Weather and tides		
Boat maintenance		
Trip slide shows		
Other topics		

Fold

From:

To
EVAN PUGH
RD2
PUTARURU 3482

Fold

BOOK REVIEW

Title: 'Kayaks of Greenland'

Subtitle: The History and Development of the Greenlandic Hunting Kayak, 1600-2000

Author: Harvey Golden

Publisher: White House Grocery Press (author)

Year of Publication: 2006

ISBN: 0-9787221-0-8

Content: 580pp, illustrated; 400+ figures and photos, 106 scale drawings of kayaks, 79 scale drawings of paddles

Cover: softcover

Size: Portrait format, 217 x 279mm

RRP: US\$69 + US\$36 p&p

Availability: Author's website or see at end of review.

<http://www.traditionalkayaks.com/KOG.html>

Reviewed by: Grant Glazer

THUMP! That was the sound from the phone book sized *Kayaks of Greenland* hitting my coffee table while I made myself comfortable to quickly browse through my latest acquisition. That quick browse turned into three days of almost solid reading while I found myself immersed in the fascinating history of traditional Greenland kayak use and construction.

The author, Harvey Golden, makes no bones about the book being a reference instead of a 'how too' and has written it in a scholastic manner, concentrating on the design and construction of the Greenland kayak. But amongst it all are fascinating nuggets of information about how a fitting was used or why a hull is a particular shape, thus exposing the reader to the Greenlandic way of life and how the kayak was used as a tool of survival.

Harvey has personally surveyed the 104 kayaks and 78 paddles (included in the book) from examples preserved in museums. As part of the survey he has included scale drawings detailed enough for the building of a replica, as well as detailed information and

drawings on any unique design or construction aspects of the kayaks. In fact for 18 of the designs, he has gone a step further and built replicas of the original museum artefacts which has enabled him to discover why a kayak was built a certain way and how it performs on the water. As one the first foreigners who was welcomed to participate in the modern Greenland Kayak Championships in 2000, Harvey is more than qualified to judge the characteristics of the surveyed or replicated kayaks. Interspersed amongst all this, are historical and modern photos of the type of kayak being made or used on the sea. Most of these photos allow the reader to have a rare glimpse of the Greenlandic lifestyle from the age that a particular design of kayak was paddled.

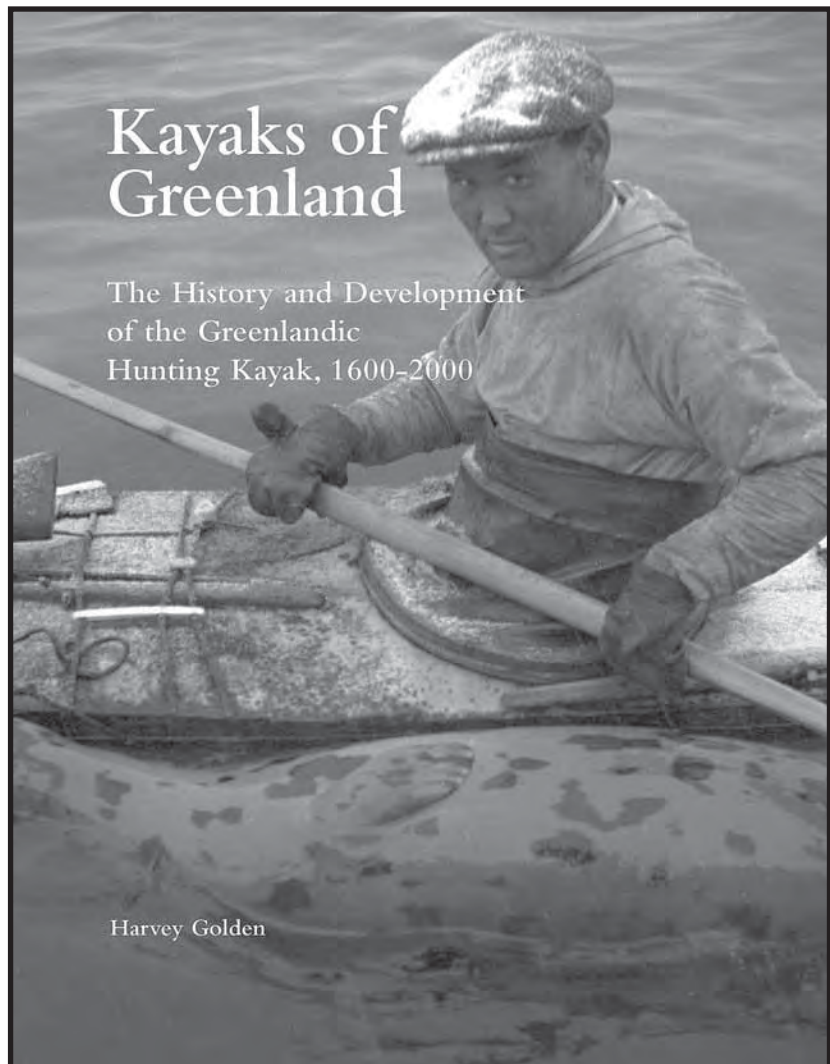
For the Greenlanders, the kayak was a way of harvesting food from the sea and travelling in a hostile environment. *Kayaks of Greenland* highlights the

ingenuity in using available materials to build vessels as advanced as today's modern Kevlar and fibreglass kayaks. 400 years later than the first kayak surveyed in the book, we are using similar hull shapes and concepts for pleasure rather than survival, but with *Kayaks of Greenland*, Harvey has shown us the roots of our sport and the history behind the craft you will be out paddling in next weekend.

At a hefty 2kg and 580 pages, there is no way it can be described as 'light reading' but *Kayaks of Greenland* is a book that has taken a place of honour on my shelves, and one I find myself returning to again and again.

New Zealand Availability:

Paul Caffyn has imported 10 copies for sale in New Zealand. Price including p&p or courier delivery at approximately NZ\$110. For more information, phone (03) 7311806 or email: kayakpc@xtra.co.nz



CHANGING TIMES IN EAST GREENLAND

by Paul Caffyn

Why would two Kiwi blokes go to extraordinary lengths and expense to fly themselves and two kayaks to East Greenland? Conrad Edwards and I had previously paddled much of the west coast of Greenland over two northern summers, but had yet to make a pilgrimage to the Angmagssalik region of east Greenland.

The 2007 trip was for several reasons; a shakedown cruise for me to see if I still had the mettle for long kayak expeditions, an introduction to Conrad for paddling in serious sea ice, to paddle in the conditions that produced some of the finest skin kayaks in the world, and to pay homage to Gino Watkins who in my view was largely responsible for introducing the skill of rolling skinny kayaks to the Western world.

In 1930, Gino led a 14-man expedition to East Greenland to establish weather stations for a proposed trans-Atlantic air route – it was termed BAARE or British Arctic Air Route Expedition. He and his fellow expedition members could not fit into the local skin kayaks, so they had made-to-measure kayaks built for them. Gino mastered the art of not only rolling his kayak, but also hunting seals. When they returned to England in 1931 they took their kayaks and gave demonstrations, which were captured on early black and white movies.

Sadly, when Gino returned with a small four-man expedition to Lake Fiord in 1932, he went missing while hunting for seals in his skin kayak. It is thought that a massive calving episode from the fiord's glacier, caused his kayak to slide off an ice floe, and that he attempted to swim after it, but succumbed to the cold.

We flew two specially built take-apart kayaks from New Zealand, via Hea-

throw and Reykjavik to a dirt strip in East Greenland near the village of Kulusuk. The two piece, kevlar kayaks which bolted together with flanges in the cockpit were built by Grahame Sissons. He made the bow sections quite strong for bashing through brash ice.

Back in 1932, when expedition leader Gino Watkins returned to the village of Tasilaq he was met by over 100 local East Greenlanders in skin kayaks. Today the only traditional East Greenland skin kayaks are in museums. Aluminium and fibreglass dinghies have totally replaced them. When we began our East Greenland trip from Kulusuk in July 2007, a local Greenlandic family boated past us in a fast runabout. The father held up his small child and pointed out the two white people in kayaks. How times have changed.

Our initial northern journey was up the outer coast to Tugtilik or Lake Fiord where, in front of the glacier which claimed Gino Watkin's life, with New Zealand whisky and ice from a small bergy bit, we drank a toast to Gino and the heritage of kayaking he gave to the Western world.

It was 75 years since he went missing on 20 August 1932. With two large wooden beams left over from the 1932 expedition hut (built at the head of Lake Fjord), John Rymill and Freddie Spencer Chapman made a stout wooden cross, which they erected towards the end of November, on a headland with a commanding view over the fjord and out to sea. The wooden cross deteriorated over time however it was replaced in 1982 by a strong metal cross, erected by a British Schools Exploring Society expedition, which was mounted to mark the 50th anniversary of Gino's disappearance (See photo on p.2).

Although Gino was only 25, it was the fourth expedition he had led. I can only wonder what he would have gone on to achieve had he not drowned at such a young age.

We then paddled south to Isortok, the southern most village on the east coast

and were able to climb a glacier onto the massive frozen vastness of the Greenland icecap. We spent two days in the fjord where in 1930 a substantial hut was built, capable of housing the 14 BAARE members, plus a hangar for the floatplane, and substantial radio masts erected. Despite knowledge of where the hut was sited, we spent some time trying to find traces of the expedition base camp. Conrad found it eventually, at least a metal section of stove flue and a rectangle of rocks marking the outside wall of the hut. Apart from a few shards of broken glass, small chunks of coal and bullet shells, there is virtually no sign now after 77 years since the expedition.

At the hut site with the last dregs of our medicinal whisky, we drank another toast to Gino, the BAARE team members, the three Greenlandic sisters who spent time at the hut, and the dog teams.

For Kiwis, picturing a sea level 1000m above current sea level is a good way to picture East Greenland – sea level above the bush-line and glaciers from the ice cap extending into the sea.

Most of the East Greenland coastline is either rounded glacial terrain or steep cliffs, with very rare beaches. Old Inuit hut sites or summer campsites marked on the 1:250,000-scale Angmagssalik region map showed us where to find sheltered landing sites and ideal places for camping. All that remains now of the old house sites are rock and sod walls. How the East Greenlanders continued to survive for centuries by living off the land and sea in what is such a harsh unforgiving climate is just so amazing.

To cope with the near freezing sea temperature, and wind chill factor caused by both by katabatic winds blowing off the ice cap and also onshore winds over the sea ice and icebergs, we both wore waterproof immersion suits over polypro and fleece clothing.

A mixture of flat pans of sea ice (floes) and icebergs made navigation difficult at times, and finding leads occasionally required landing on floes to search for open water. The sheer size of the

icebergs was staggering, with bergs the size of a football field and as high as five or six storey buildings.

Our interest in kayaking heritage and seeking a place to leave our kayaks for the winter led to a meeting with Anne-Mette Holm, a schoolteacher at Kulusuk. Today her school children have no experience of the old traditional ways of life, that is hunting and gathering from kayaks and umiaks during summer to allow the Inuit to survive through winter. Anne-Mette has arranged sponsorship for her school to purchase a fleet of 15 kayaks for the kids and two for the teachers. Next June hopefully we can pass on some of our kayaking knowledge to the Kulusuk kids.

During our final paddle back to the airport at Kulusuk, a pod of huge sei whales accompanied us for half an hour, one of the major highlights of our expedition. Our kayaks are now in storage at Kulusuk, ready for the trip 2008 paddle down the south-east coast of Greenland.

To the first Thule era Greenlander who capsized but thrashed around with his paddle to achieve the first roll, I take my hat off to him. What a life-saving breakthrough in terms of survival on the frigid Arctic seas he achieved.



A meeting of long distance expedition paddlers at Reykjavik, Iceland in July 2007. Standing from left, Paul Caffyn, Conrad Edwards & Greg Stamer. On her knees, but showing the biggest biceps muscles, Freya Hoffmeister. Photo: Olafur Vigfusson

LETTERS/EMAILS TO THE EDITOR

Newsletter 129

Dear Paul,

Congratulations on the latest publication. The pictures and Max and Melanie Grant's trip are really superb. I enjoyed reading of their adventures. The inclusion of a map is really helpful, as sometimes my maps are not detailed enough to follow some of the trips that are reported. I found the details of their equipment good.

My husband and I try to do some camping and kayaking trips usually with John Flemming and friends in and around the Rotorua and Waikato. Our trips are lots of fun but not so adventurous as some.

Keep up the good work.

We enjoy the magazine.

Judith Beuth

My thanks to Judith for her lovely email It makes my day to receive such positive feedback. Linda Ingram has also advised that many of your membership renewal forms have included positive comments re Max Grant's superb article and photos and the new colour cover style newsletter.

**ANNUAL
CANTERBURY
SEA KAYAK
NETWORK
OKAINS BAY
WEEKEND
DATE: 19-20
JANUARY 2008**

(earlier than usual to suit tides)

CALENDAR

**Annual Marlborough Sounds
Sea Kayak Pilgrimage
Date: 24 - 25 November 2008**

**Location: Ratimera Bay DoC campsite,
Ruakaka Bay, Queen Charlotte Sound, opposite
Dieffenbach Point.**

**The dress theme for the Saturday night formal dinner is
'Dancing with the Stars'.**

Dressing up for Saturday night is obligatory.

Judging of costumes will be carried out from 6pm, the ladies by Conrad Edwards and the blokes by Cathye Haddock (See photos at right).

For overseas paddlers arriving at Picton on the Friday night, the now traditional red light will be illuminated for arrival at the campsite; cups of tea only by prior arrangement.

You need to bring your usual camping equipment, tent, stove, tinctures of medicinal alcohol. The campsite has toilets, a water supply and plenty of room for tents.

Just in the remote chance of a postponement, if the weather turns to custard as it did on both the Viking and Virgins weekends, please supply your contact details – home phone, work phone, email address and bat-phone number - to:

North Island: Susan Cade, (04) 567 5593 - email:

susan.cade@xtra.co.nz

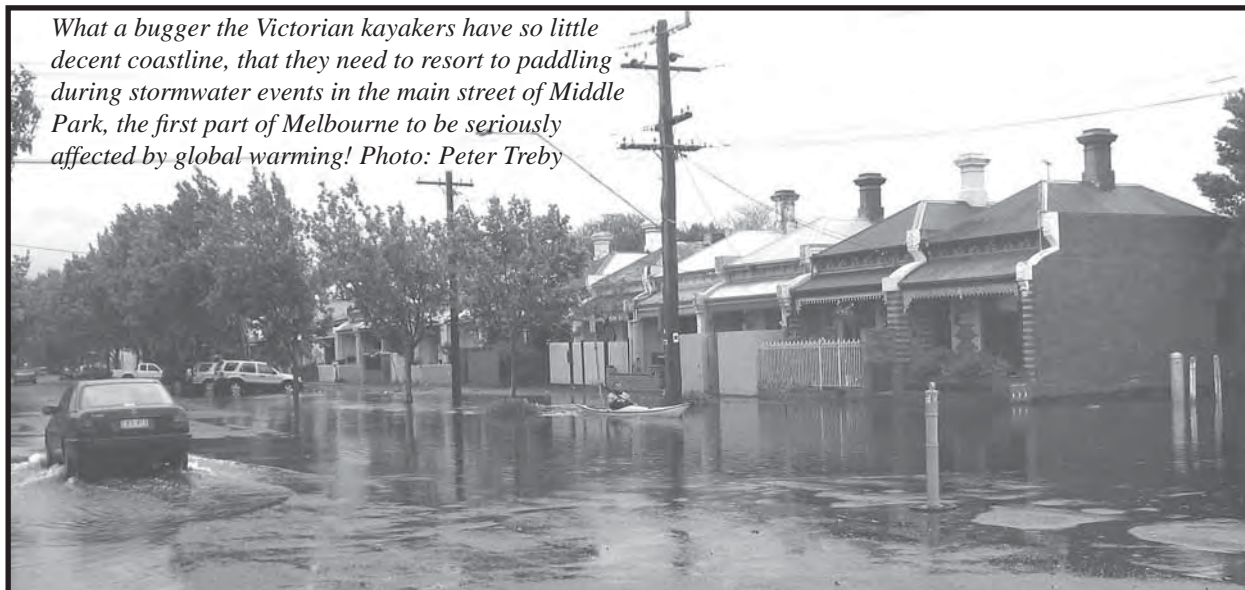
South Island: Paul Caffyn, (03) 731 1806 – email:

kayakpc@xtra.co.nz

If you wish to join a pod paddling from Picton – nice alliteration – contact either Paul or Susan.



What a bugger the Victorian kayakers have so little decent coastline, that they need to resort to paddling during stormwater events in the main street of Middle Park, the first part of Melbourne to be seriously affected by global warming! Photo: Peter Treby



COASTBUSTERS 2008

SEA KAYAK SYMPOSIUM

Milford (Auckland) & Sullivans Bay
29 February to 2 March 2008

Coastbusters is a great weekend, full of fun, knowledge, demonstrations, and on-the-water adventures. From novice to expert in experience, you can enjoy interaction with New Zealand's best sea kayakers and some of the world's finest who we've flown in to add a little extra flavour.

The last event filled up quickly so please book early on the website below:

See: www.coastbusters.org.nz

Not internet connected? Don't worry, mail any queries to the address below, and you will receive an answer:

**Coastbusters,
POB 101-257,
NSMC**



Guest Presenters include:

- Sandy Robson who gave herself a year to get round Australia - solo. An outdoor pursuits educator from West Australia, she's already completed an amazing amount of the 14,000 km journey since launching away from Queenscliff in January 2007. After 166 days, nearing the northernmost tip of the continent, her courage met its sternest challenge. A 5m crocodile attack on her kayak stern caused Sandy to postpone her trip in North Queensland. So, she's skipped to the wild coast of Western Australia. Sandy has a wealth of experiences to draw on for her after-dinner talk. Take a look at: <http://netstorage.penrhos.wa.edu.au/slap/index.html>

- Paul Caffyn should need no introduction. Amongst other achievements, it's his footsteps that Sandy is treading as she attempts to circumnavigate Australia - a feat Paul pioneered exactly 25 years ago. Fresh from his latest expedition along Greenland's icy, exposed east coast in August, Paul will continue to inspire and inform.

- Mark Jones is one of the Adventure Philosophy trio who have set themselves mighty challenges - Antarctica, Tierra del Fuego and South Georgia. Mark will tempt us to stretch our horizons.

- John Kirk-Anderson - one of our regular and most popular speakers - returns with another thought provoking and amusing workshop. John is not only a kayaker of great skill and experience, but he is New Zealand's highest qualified instructor.

- New Zealand experts on a host of topics. Get ready for some hard choices, as you won't fit them all in! Trips and Expeditions - local & esoteric - why & how, Technology for fun and safety, History & Tradition, Yak Maintenance, Be-Kind-to-Your-Body Physio, Foodie Frenzies - sensible and extreme, make your own kayak - would you enjoy the challenge? A return of DoC, for an update on their plans for kayaking resources. Keep an eye on the Coastbusters website for updates.

Display of Cedar-Strip, Stitch & Glue and Fabric-on-Frame kayaks - examine these interesting and beautiful boats and discuss them with their builders. You'll get an opportunity to try one out on Sunday afternoon.

Sunday morning's justly famous, on-the-water, 'pod' session - don't leave your boat at home!

Sunday's BBQ, Saturday's lunch and buffet dinner are included in the price. You look after fine wine & camping / accommodation (see website for suggestions). Sunday afternoon on-the-water workshops - a range of try it activities - and hands-on-the-water experiences.

Plus - this year we're continuing the fun for the weekdays - to link into the New Zealand Kayak Builder's Get-Together on the Rotorua Lakes. Shift to Martin's Bay Camp (just north of Sullivan's) on Sunday evening and use that as a laid-back base. Day & night paddles, special events and sessions will allow local paddlers to extend their CB experience and help introduce overseas visitors to some of NZ's finest waters. At the end of the week, pack up and head down to the Blue Lake camp for the NZKBGT's lazy weekend of paddles on the lakes, sharing tips and kayaks and socialising.

BOOK REVIEW

Title: *Unclaimed Coast*
Subtitle: The first kayak journey around Shackleton's South Georgia

Authors: Graham Charles, Mark Jones and Marcus Waters

Publisher: Penguin

Date: October 2007

Content: 144pp, illustrated

Cover: softcover

Size: Landscape format, 262x230mm

RRP: \$39.95

Availability: NZ Bookshops

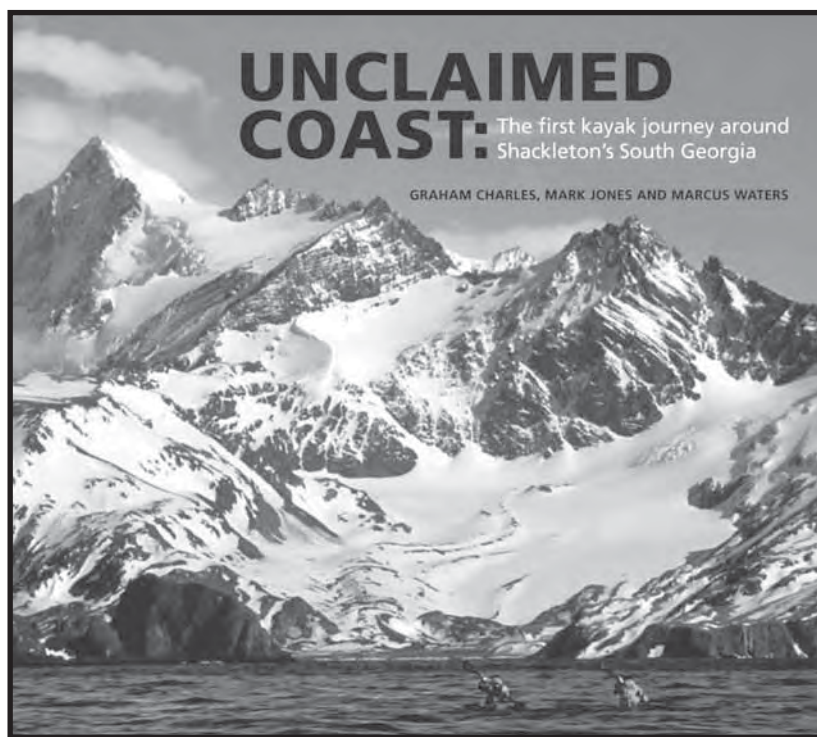
Reviewer: Paul Caffyn

Visually, this book is a stunner.

Format - although landscape format books do not sit well on shop, or book shelves as those in portrait format, the former allow a graphic designer to play to their heart's content with text and photographic layout. But with a name like Renee Greenland, for design and typesetting, surely paddlers would expect nothing less than an exceptional layout with *Unclaimed Coast*.

Photos - the landscape format works exceedingly well with full single or double page pics of island panoramas, the paddlers and the rather unique wildlife. A layout-designer needs to start with photos of better than average quality, and Graham Charles as principal photographer, with additional pics by Mark and Marcus, has provided superb shots to play with. Many real life narrative books, which describe exceptional expeditions, include a central colour plate section with small photos surrounded by vast expanses of white glossy paper. Visual impact of the photos is sucked into the page rather than jumping out at you. When photos are 'bled' to a page edge, not a skerrick of white gloss to be seen, as in *Unclaimed Coast*, you can almost smell the penguin's fishy breath, and feel the biting cold.

Text - following a foreword by seasoned adventurer Colin Monteath,



Graham Charles wrote the introductory chapter with, vignettes of himself, Marcus Waters and Mark Jones, a summary of their previous expeditions, the detailed planning and also the bureaucratic hoops that had to be jumped through before the South Georgia trip could commence. He also describes two unsuccessful earlier attempts to round South Georgia, one in 1991 and a second in 1996.

In Chapter 1, Mark Jones covers travel to the Falklands and the voyage on the yacht *Northanger* to South Georgia, where landfall was made at King Edward Point (KEP), near the old whaling station of Grytviken. Graham again for Chapter 2, from KEP to Elsehul at the western tip of the island, then Marcus Waters with the windswept south-west coast, and Mark again for the final chapter on a north-east coast leg back to the start point. The narrative ends back at KEP with completion of the first successful circumnavigation of South Georgia.

A single page maps highlights the paddling route, campsites, place names and old historical sites - achieved with good use of different colours. I kept referring back to the map for narrative locations and perhaps a map enlargement at the start of each chapter to cover the section described would

have enhanced the book. But this is a minor niggle.

Interspersed between the narrative chapters, are separate, two page sections which, with photos and text, describe topics such as penguins, seals, albatrosses, sovereignty, whaling, ice and Shackleton. These sections work well, as the narrative can be followed with baited breath to its happy end, and then the sections read at leisure.

A postscript by Mark Jones notes a vodka toast to Ernest Shackleton at his hillside gravesite, and a hope that the island wildlife will fully recover after its early plundering by whalers and sealers. A brief glossary and bibliography are listed on the final page.

All three paddlers write well without getting too bogged down in detail. Their South Georgia circumnavigation was a gutsy trip, one that required a heap of research, planning, sponsorship and great tolerance to cold, to pull off successfully. Apart from my initial disappointment that the book was not a hard cover, this book is a superb blend of photos and text, which provides a colourful picture of the island, as Colin Monteath commented to Graham Charles, 'bar none - South Georgia is the most amazing place on the planet.'

HUMOUR

Subject: Old people

An elderly couple were celebrating their golden anniversary and were out having a few drinks together. The husband leans over and asks his wife, "Do you remember the first time we had sex together over fifty years ago?"

"We went behind this very tavern where you leaned against the back fence and I made love to you for the first time."

"Oh Yes, she says, "I remember it well."

"OK," he says, "How about taking a stroll around there again and we can do it for old time's sake?"

"Oh Charlie, you old devil, that sounds like a crazy, but fun idea!"

A police officer sitting in the next booth heard their conversation and, having a chuckle to himself, he thinks, "I've got to see these two old-timers having sex against a fence. I'll just keep an eye on them so there's no trouble. So he follows them.

The elderly couple walks haltingly along, leaning on each other for support aided by walking sticks. Finally, they get to the back of the tavern and make their way to the fence. The old lady lifts her skirt and the old man drops his trousers. As she leans against the fence, the old man moves in.

Then suddenly they erupt into the most furious/violent sex that the policeman has ever seen. This goes on for about 10 minutes while both are making loud noises and moaning and screaming, the old lady's fingers clawing/scratching the old guy's back. Finally, they both collapse, gasping/panting and trembling on the ground.

Bloody hell, thinks the amazed cop. He thinks he has learned something about life and old age that he didn't know. After about half an hour of lying on the ground recovering, the old couple struggle to their feet and put their clothes back on.

The policeman, who is still watching thinks to himself, this is truly amazing, I've got to ask them what their secret is. So, as the couple passes, the old lady with a glazed happy look, and

the old man wheezing and struggling to walk, he says to them, "Excuse me, but that was something else. You must've had a fantastic sex life together. Is there some sort of secret to this?"

Shaking, the old man's hoarse whisper barely able to be heard, replies,

"Fifty years ago that fence wasn't electric!"

Subject: Why Men Don't Write Advice Columns - Bill Walter's Problem Page

Dear Bill,

I hope you can help me here. The other day I set off for work leaving my husband in the house watching the TV as usual. I hadn't gone more than a few hundred yards down the road when my engine conked out and the car shuddered to a halt. I walked back home to get my husband's help.

When I got home I couldn't believe my eyes. He was parading in front of the wardrobe mirror dressed in my underwear and high-heel shoes, and he was wearing my make up.

I am 32, my husband is 34 and we have been married for twelve years. When I confronted him, he tried to make out that he had dressed in my lingerie because he couldn't find his own underwear. But when I asked him about the make up, he broke down and admitted that he'd been wearing my clothes for six months. I told him to stop or I would leave him.

He was let go from his job six months ago and he says he has been feeling increasingly depressed and worthless. I love him very much, but ever since I gave him the ultimatum he has become increasingly distant. I don't feel I can get through to him anymore. Can you please help?

Sincerely,

Mrs. Norma Melia

Dear Norma:

A car stalling after being driven a short distance can be caused by a variety of faults with the engine. Start by checking that there is no debris in the fuel line. If it is clear, check the jubilee clips holding the vacuum pipes onto the inlet manifold. If none of these

approaches solves the problem, it could be that the fuel pump itself is faulty, causing low delivery pressure to the carburettor float chamber. I hope this helps.

Subject: Fairy Tale

A young blonde woman in Auckland was so depressed that she decided to end her life by throwing herself from the harbour bridge. She was about to leap into the cold dark water when a handsome young sailor saw her tottering on the edge of the bridge, crying. He took pity on her and said, "Look, you have so much to live for. I'm off to Europe in the morning, and if you like, I can stow you away on my ship. I'll take good care of you and bring you food every day."

Moving closer, he slipped his arm around her shoulder and added: "I'll keep you happy, and you'll keep me happy" The girl nodded yes. After all, what did she have to lose? Perhaps a fresh start in Europe would give her life new meaning. That night, the sailor brought her aboard and hid her in a lifeboat.

From then on, every night he brought her three sandwiches and a piece of fruit, and they made passionate love until dawn.

Three weeks later, during a routine inspection, she was discovered by the captain. "What are you doing here?" the captain asked.

"I have an arrangement with one of the crew, who's stowed me away," she explained. "I get food and free passage to Europe, and he's screwing me."

"He certainly is," the captain said. "This is the Waiheke Island ferry."

Subject: Octapussies

An octopus walks into a bar and says, "I can play any musical instrument you like".

The Englishman gives it a guitar, which it plays better than Jimi Hendrix. The Irishman places it on a piano, which it plays better than Elton John. The Scotsman throws it a set of bagpipes. The octopus fumbles about for a couple of minutes with narry a sound from the bagpipes.

The Scotsman asks, "What's wrong, can ye no play it?"

The octopus says, "Play It? I'm gonna shag her once I get her pyjamas off."

KASK

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

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

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

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

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

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4th. Ed. KASK HANDBOOK Updated to July 2006

For a copy (or trade orders) of this mother of all sea kayaking handbooks, contact Paul Caffyn, RD 1, Runanga, 7873, West Coast.
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The fourth edition of the KASK Handbook, is a mammoth compilation on all aspects of sea kayaking in New Zealand, by many of the most experienced paddlers in the Universe. Following a brief introduction, the handbook is divided into six sections:

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

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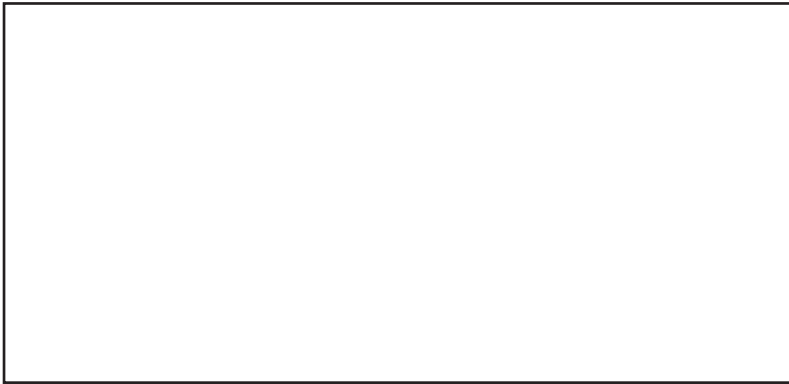
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*Photos on Opposite page:
Top: Greenland dog at Isortoq
Bottom: Arctic fox in summer
colours. Photos: P. Caffyn*



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*Conrad Edwards nipped in brash ice, near Kulusuk, in East Greenland.
Photo: P. Caffyn*

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.

