

# NZOIA Quarterly

Number 26

Newsletter of the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors' Association

September 2003

## Will MacQueen - Obituary

by Mark Jones

Will MacQueen died in the mountains he loved and chose to earn his livelihood amongst. Will's professional involvement in the outdoors spanned twenty years and included important contributions to Rotoiti Lodge, The Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Outward Bound, The Army Adventurous Training Camp, various Ski Patrol snow safety programmes, Wanaka Polytech, Alpine Guides Ltd and most recently Adventure Consultants. Over this time he has instructed and guided, facilitated and educated, been a role model to and kept safe an enormous number of people.

Will brought a great deal of professionalism to everything he did. He was one of our most experienced and skilled assessors, bringing clarity and acceptance to difficult decisions and a good deal of humanity to the assessment process. He served on the Technical Sub-Committee during the mid nineties and did a large amount of work aligning the NZCA and NZOIA kayaking syllabi.



**Will MacQueen**  
(photo by Andy Thompson)

Recently he and Dave Irwin wrote a book for the NZMSC on avalanche fatality case studies.

It was possibly for his mountain skills and leadership that Will was most well known. He had a reputation for uncompromising safety and was contracted for these skills by the Southern Traverse, the Eco-Challenge and for the feature film Vertical Limit. But Will was extremely talented in any field he seemed to turn his hand to, be it skiing, mountaineering, first aid, rock climbing, instructing, and more lately home renovation. In 1990-91 he focused on kayaking and paddled in the international slalom series competing in Canada, Italy, Scandinavia and the USA.

In 2002 Will became a fully qualified mountain guide. This had been a goal since his earliest years as an outdoor instructor. Will possessed all the attributes of a good guide- he was patient,

had a genuine interest in people, he had an unflappable manner, a total dedication to safety and enormous experience of mountains and people. There was nothing flashy about Will, just a rock-steadiness and dependability that you could always rely on in a crisis.

Will MacQueen was generous of spirit and very loyal; someone who lived his life deliberately and with uncommon integrity. He was also had a wonderful sense of humour and remembering Will evokes memories of his characteristic chuckle.

His loss will be felt by many in the industry, none more acutely that by Ellen Sagmyr, his wife of twelve years. They have formed a strong team in work and play and have contributed an enormous amount to our industry.

Will leaves a hole as any tall totara does when it falls. But the ground he leaves is rich with those he taught and nurtured over his professional career in the outdoors.

His loss to outdoor recreation is mitigated by the many who are coming up through the industry having had the benefit of his tutelage and his example.

It is not possible to sum up the achievements and contributions of such a life in a page, but I think Will would agree that his greatest contribution was in the people he coaxed, and cajoled, mentored, gave confidence to, kept safe, shared his wisdom with, gave his experience to, and continues to inspire.

At his service several of his students spoke about Will. They spoke of the "positive and calming influence" he had on their lives, and his willingness to give generously of personal time". Perhaps their final statement best summed up the sort of person Will was. "Only through this talented man could we have aspired to and achieved what we have"

*We will miss you Will.*

# The NZOIA Quarterly

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www.safeoutside.org

## From the Presidents Wine Glass



Hi once again

Yes its me, the old vintage got re-elected at the recent AGM. Why I ask myself, and why is it that no one else wants this job? Well I'd have to say that over the last three years we have seen an enormous turnaround the organisation. The energy, interest, enthusiasm and support we are currently receiving and seeing throughout the industry is indeed reward for all the hard work, time and effort that the Executive has put in. Its kind of nice when people thank you, and give positive feedback on the organisation, and I suppose that's why I have hung in there for one more year (didn't I say that last year?). Anyway, this is definitely the last year for me. Jim and I need some time to kick back and drink that fine wine in the cellar, have more adventures, and occasionally watch a bit of TV.

What a great weekend the Industry Forum and AGMs turned out to be. We were a bit nervous at holding it in Wellington, thinking that few people would be bothered travelling so far. Well weren't we wrong about that. The room was full, more chairs needed, and there was lots of interest in the workshops. A resounding success I would say, and many thanks to Anne Trench and Miles Davidson of Outdoors NZ for their hard work in putting it all together.

Another fine thing to see were the new faces, and younger ones too - hooray for that. For those of us that were there on Saturday, the session by the Coroner David O'Crerar was really valuable. I don't think he expected to have so many people questioning the apparent legislative interpretations. It is interesting to see how the role of the coroner has changed from being a tax collector in the 1840s to now being more interested in death, and having an important role in making recommendations or comments on the avoidance of circumstances of a similar

nature. We were warned of carrying out in-house assessment of risk and advised to seek independent outside analysis, however this was rigorously questioned by the group, as we all know the value of owning the risk analysis and management process. The thought of contracting it out rather gives you the shivers. Isn't that like transferring responsibility - when we are emphasising the importance of self responsibility.

The Industry Award Dinner on Saturday night was a great acclamation of those who have excelled. The award ceremony was facilitated by Graham Charles (Adventure Philosophy and NZOIA member/assess/award holder) didn't let us down with his wit and ability to put things in perspective. It was just fine to celebrate the achievements of people like Jo Straker, Arthur Sutherland, Whenua-iti Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Kaiapoi High School, and Regan Edwards, and also to remember at that time Will MacQueen who contributed so much to the industry.

The NZOIA AGM produced an exciting situation in that we had to vote for people for the Executive. Now usually we have to prise nominations from the industry, but this time we were blessed with many people wanting to be on the committee - hey this is something to celebrate as well. As a result, the old were re-elected (I don't mean old in years) - Matt Cant, Steve Milgate, Ian Logie and Chris Burtenshaw, but we also had the pleasure of co-opting Kip Mandeno to the Technical Sub-Committee, and Paul Chaplow, Richard Dunn and Jenny Jordan to the Executive. Jim Hepburn will remain as our Finance minister and web guru.

A copy of the President's report is on the website, rather than reproduce it here, and the financial

accounts will be there once they receive sign off by the auditor and Executive.

Which brings me to the website - what a great project this has turned out to be. We are really keen for people to get involved in the Forum, and if there is someone out there who would like to become the Forum manager, we would like to hear from you.

The Stage 2 developments have been discussed, and there are more exciting web developments planned for the near future.

Look out for a special NZOIA calendar which you can buy as a present for your friends - coming soon. This is a joint project with Adventure Philosophy, designed to inspire people to keep adventuring, having challenges, and continue with our goal of excellence in outdoor instruction.

Well I'm off to Australia to compete in the Australian Orienteering Champs and have a few adventures of my own. Thank you all for your continued support of the organisation - heres cheers to another good year.

Jill Dalton

**2003/2004  
NZOIA  
SUBSCRIPTIONS  
are now  
DUE**

## 2003 TALL TOTARA AWARD



**Recipient ~ JO STRAKER**

Way back when I was little (read wannabe instructor) I went to OPC on a Skills for Outdoor Leaders course (somewhere about 1982). There I met this gurulike instructor called Jo who lived in a little house with Brian, made pots, and was sooooo knowledgeable. I thought, now that's a good role model for me.

Years passed and I became a young instructor (learning curve era), and Jo appeared at conferences, meetings, and other important outdoor events. Her input was always valued, her instructing skills supreme and she espoused all the values that somehow seemed to be important in the great world of outdoor instruction.

As I got older and even got employed as an instructor, then an assessor, I found myself assessing with Jo. Wow, and there was still so much to learn. I learned to be ready for those comments from Jo that started with a long sort of "Well....."

Now I have grown up (or have I), I realise just how much Jo has contributed to the outdoor industry from those early days of instructing at OPC, her involvement with NZOIA as President, Assessor, Instructor, and that person who always has a couple of gnarly issues up her sleeve to keep us on our toes. Her involvement with the Degree programme at CPIT is the culmination of a long term dream, and this in turn gives our industry so much more credibility in academic terms, rather than just being a group of fleece clad layabouts who play in kayaks and on the rock.

So lets celebrate Jo's long standing contribution to the outdoor industry, and look forward to what's ahead.

*Jill Dalton*

## 2003 EMERGING INSTRUCTOR



**Recipient ~ REGAN EDWARDS**

### **THE PRESIDENT CHATS WITH REGAN**

**Pres** - So Regan, why did you decide to get into outdoor instruction?

**Regan** - I had an interest in giving people experiences in the outdoors. While I was at high school I started instructing junior students and was able to work with people who were 'off the street' and show them what is available to them in NZ's outdoors.

**Pres** - Who were key players in your choice of career?

**Regan** - Phil Kay and Jason Pearson of Colenso High School taught me the basics of personal skills in kayaking and tramping. Then Alistair Bramley of Salty Rock taught me how to instruct.

**Pres** - What are the highs of instructing and guiding at Black Water Rafting?

**Regan** - I never go to work grumpy, I always wake up looking forward to the job. In particular I like the days when we teach school groups rather than the guiding work.

**Pres** - What about the lows?

**Regan** - Wearing a wet suit 12 hours a day gets pretty clammy!

**Pres** - What are your goals for the future?

**Regan** - There's a group of us keen to get NZOIA Cave 2, then there's a SAREX in Bulmer in February 2004, plus the opportunity to do some South Island caving, plus maybe some travel overseas next winter.

**Pres** - Thanks Regan, congratulations and all the best for the future.

# The Non-Grown-Ups Guide to Big Events

by Holly Thompson,  
NZOIA member and award holder

Big Events in the outdoor world of New Zealand have taken on a whole new meaning for me in the past year. It used to be that Big Events were things like Bullerfest, the National Bouldering Series and of course the Adventure Philosophy boys getting naked in front of a crowd under the pretence of entertainment. Now, all these things still constitute Big Events of course, but I've recently discovered a different type of Big Event in the outdoor world.

As the Old Young Instructor of the Year (oops, I guess that makes Mick the Old Old Instructor of the Year! Sorry Mick) I feel it my duty to spread the word.

This new type of Big Event strangely enough, doesn't occur outdoors. I can hear the gasps of disbelief: "But how can it qualify as a Big Outdoors Event if it's not outdoors!" Sounds strange, I know. But stick with me here. I'm talking about the Forums and Conferences organised by the likes of Outdoors New Zealand every year.

Sounds kinda geeky to be even hanging around one of these Conferency things, and well, to tell the truth it probably is. But if that's the case, then I'm going to stick my neck out here as a proud complete & utter geek. Because these Big Events are GREAT!

As far as I can gather, here's what happens at a typical Big Event. You arrive to a roomful of oddly familiar faces, most of whom are (thankfully) wearing nametags (an embarrassment avoidance tactic kindly arranged by the organisers). The room probably contains at least one or two of your outdoors idols or mentors (generally the ones that are now all Grown Up and do Grown Up things like running courses, managing outdoor centres, outdoor businesses and of course attending Big Events), plus a whole bunch of other people you've either heard of, read about, learned from or want to - one day - work for.

Then everyone sits down and listens to someone speak about something surprisingly relevant to what you do outdoors. Then all the people talk, ask questions, argue, debate and a whole lot of surprisingly useful ideas come about. This process is then repeated throughout the day, sometimes with the speakers being NZ legend-gurus or even international experts.

Bearing in mind that these Grown Ups are all still outdoors people, there is usually easy access to an exit, and frequent breaks for you to use it.

At the really good conferences there's a volleyball court right outside so in the breaks you can find yourself taking on some of those no-longer-intimidating legend-guru folk with whom you are now on a first name basis (who needs nametags!) At the very least there'd be piece of grass out in the fresh air (hackey sack could be a useful tool here).

Of course, there's always free food at these Conferency things (bonus!), and then the highlight, the Awards Dinner, where they present funny looking awards to people recognising Excellence in various categories. This one isn't free but it's worth it (besides, you can't win awards if you're not there, can you!)

In conclusion, I have never had such awesome opportunities to get together with other outdoors folk, and learn. It's a pearler of a way to meet people, rub shoulders, get ideas, ponder issues and find out what's going on in the real world. That is, the world outside of your daily outdoors adventures.

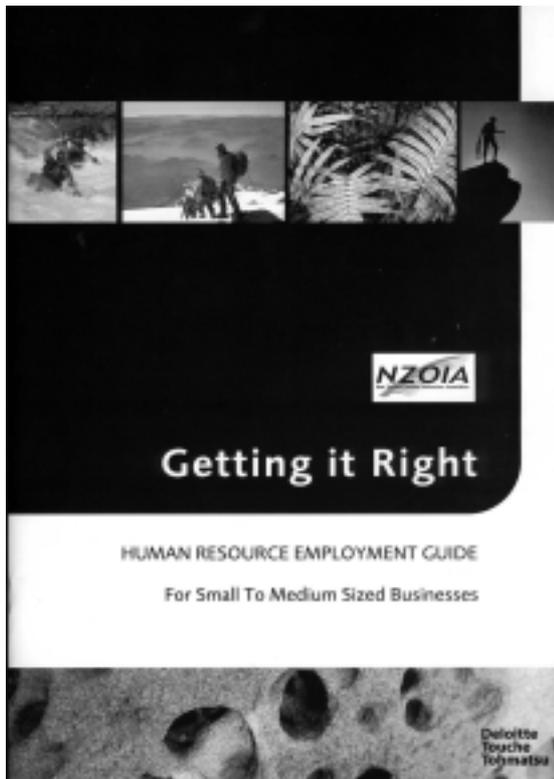
There's a whole bunch of really interesting stuff discussed at these Big Events. **One thing that truly inspired me at the two Big Events I've attended so far, is that they don't just talk about how to make what we do outdoors "safer", but they spend lots of time figuring out how to keep it adventurous.** In an increasingly litigious world culture, New Zealand is one of the last frontiers where this is happening. Go the Grown-Ups!

Even if you're not into all the big picture stuff that gets discussed, the opportunities for networking are massive. It's possible to leave one of these Big Events with a wad of business cards or phone numbers in your back pocket (just be careful of the one they call Lizzard - I'm not quite sure about him...!)

Outdoors New Zealand holds an Industry Forum every year, and it appears that a National Conference will be held every 2 years following the huge success of the 2002 Risk Conference.

To all those not-quite-yet-Grown-Ups out there who think spending two days indoors is incredibly Geeky, I challenge YOU! Step outside YOUR comfort zone and give it a go! Look out for the next Big Event. Don't miss it. They're incredibly cool.

# ITEMS available from NZOIA



## “NEW RESOURCE” - GETTING IT RIGHT

This is a Human Resource Guide for small to medium sized employers - a NZOIA resource written by Marcus Waters of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu.

This manual has been written for **employers in the outdoor industry**, employers such as adventure tourism providers, outdoor education providers, guiding and trekking companies. The information is structured for the busy employer who is grappling with taking on their first employees or for the small company that employs a few staff, most of them seasonally.

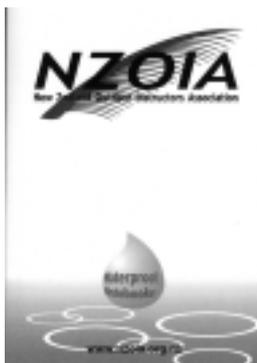
Contents include chapters on recruitment and selection of employees, employment agreements, performance management and leadership, induction and training, emuneration and rewards, health and safety, and much more.

By providing quality information through this employer resource, NZOIA hopes to continue to add value to businesses and help ensure a safe and healthy outdoor industry.

Priced at \$30 for members (\$50 non members) (Inc. P&P)  
 Order: via the NZOIA website ~ [www.nzoi.org.nz](http://www.nzoi.org.nz)  
 or: from the NZOIA Office, PO Box 11-090 Wellington

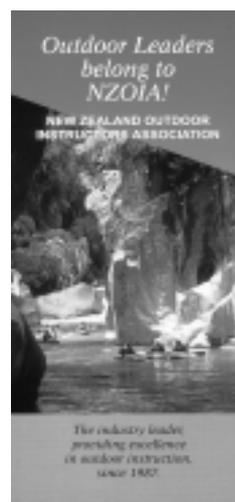
## Waterproof Notebooks

*A great little item that will fit in your shirt pocket.*



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 Non-members -\$8.50  
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## NZOIA Information Brochure

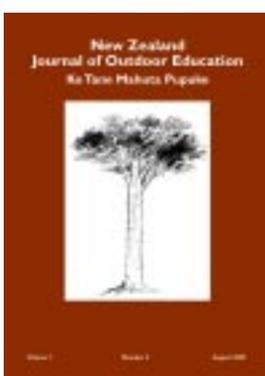
~ outlining NZOIA the aims and activities, including the Award Scheme.

email: [ao@nzoi.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoi.org.nz), for a supply.

## Also - NZOIA Promotional Posters

~ A3 full colour posters (same style as brochure)

## New Zealand Journal of Outdoor Education



Published by: Outdoors NZ  
 Editor: Dr. Mike Boyes

Provided free to NZOIA members by Outdoors New Zealand.



## Kayaking is Life ~ a FREE Beginners Guide to Kayaking

email: [ao@nzoi.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoi.org.nz), for a supply.

# SKOANZ / NZOIA

## Joint Sea Kayak Awards

### Background

A long long time ago, in a far away ..... well you know the story, this one is just about as long. The idea of putting a sea kayaking instruction award together goes way back to 1995 and probably longer. There are many people that have been involved with the idea and I think it is only fair to say a huge thank you to them all, for their energy and frustrations in this process.

A special thanks goes to:

Al Rynn, Graham Charles, Ray Button, Bret Whitely, Peter Garlick, Hugh Canard, Bill Gibson, Paul Caffyn, John Maxted, Roy Dumble, Chris Gully, Mark Hutson, Dave Watson, Gareth Wheeler, Matt Cant.

There may people that have been involved with the developing of this award over the years and I have not got a record of you. I really do apologies for that, and we all thank you for your input and hope you may still be interested in being involved some day.

The development of this award has stopped and started over the years and nothing has really eventuated for one reason or another. I saw the ball rolling around the room and thought, that can't be to hard to pick up - surely!! Hmmmmmmmmm.....A year and half later, and far longer than I anticipated we are grandparenting a sea kayak award - it is amazing how difficult a simple idea can become! However, we now have made good progress and through a joint partnership with NZOIA and SKOANZ it is becoming a reality.

How is it going work you might ask? – The structure looks like this:

### *Sea Kayak Proficiency Award*

This can be done through unit standards through ATTTO /SFRITO and would be done through a credited provider. The units are yet to placed on the NZQA Framework.

### *Sea kayak Guides Level 1*

Completed through SKOANZ - the syllabus remains the same.

### *Sea kayak Instructors Award Level 1*

This will be an extra day assessment to the guides course that will give an instructors award to add onto the exiting guides award. It is based on the NZOIA Level 1 award aims and objectives.

### *Sea kayak Instructors Award Level 2*

This assessment concentrates on multi day sea kayaking and instruction. It is based on the NZOIA Level 2 awards aims and objectives.

There is a draft syllabus put together and this will form the basis of the awards, which in turn will be scrutinised by the pool of selected assessors between both organisations. It is important to remember that this first round will not be perfect and the refining of this award will come with re-evaluating the process and syllabus as time evolves. I challenge everybody to give it a chance and help it become a reality.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> November SKOANZ and NZOIA will be running a grandparenting assessment in Christchurch to establish the assessors for the instructor Level 1 and Level 2. This has to start somewhere. It will be open to **existing** assessors with relevant experience for the awards. Criteria will be set and if the candidates for the weekend meet the criteria they will be selected to be assessors. An independent guest will facilitate this weekend.

After the grandparenting, NZOAI and SKOANZ will be running assessments for candidates wanting to gain these awards.

**Andy Thompson**

**SKOANZ Assessment Coordinator**

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*The web site at [www.skoanz.org.nz](http://www.skoanz.org.nz) has further information on Assessment Costs and Guides Syllabus, Assessment Information and Assessment Application Form.*

### **New Executive Director OUTDOORS NEW ZEALAND**

**~ MIKE SIM ~**

Mike has a background in senior sales and marketing management roles in the commercial marketplace in technical industries both in NZ and overseas where managing relationships was crucial.

Has had an increasing involvement in outdoor interests and sporting activities such as snow sports, trail running, kayaking, cycling and multi-sports has fuelled a passion for the NZ outdoors. This passion is further reinforced after every time spent overseas.

Won 2003 Coast-to-Coast One Day Veterans section, placed at many other multi-sport races and multiple NZ representative at World Duathlon Championships.

# Risk Management of the Financial Kind \$\$\$

Insurance is not a substitute for good management practices. It is a safety net for those occasions when mistakes and oversights occur – regardless of systems you have put in place. This article, sparked by questions from a number of my clients, looks at some of the risks (sources of financial loss) facing Outdoor Professionals operating under a Sole Trader or Company structure and where insurance fits into their business risk management.

1. **Motor Vehicle.** Many outdoor professionals depend on their vehicle for transporting students or equipment as a part of their work. Make sure your vehicle insurance is for 'business' or 'commercial' use, or you may not be covered. One of our members was running back to back courses and his vehicle was damaged. His policy included a rental van benefit allowing him free rental for 28 days. His van took 23 days to be repaired. Having that benefit allowed him to operate without interruption.
2. **Breach of Professional Duty.** Outdoor Instructors owe a duty of care to their clients whether in a direct supervision situation (such as teaching mountaineering) or giving advice (such as safety audit reports). **Professional Indemnity Insurance** provides the resources to defend yourself or your organization against allegations of negligence, but not criminal offences. These allegations are becoming more common and the financial impact can be huge. E.g. Buller River accident 2002, Le Race in Christchurch 2002, Clarence River canoe accident 2002.
3. **Damage to Property or Person (not under your professional care).** An example of this might be a scrub fire started by your camping activities, which then burns down someone's building, or civil liability arising from trespass. Public Liability Insurance offers protection against a civil lawsuit or fines ordered by a Court for compensatory damages.
4. **Loss of Income due to Accident or Illness.** This is an area where people have been disappointed at claim time and many plans I have looked at are quite inappropriate for people running outdoor adventure businesses.

Firstly, if it's accident related, ACC should help out. But if you are taking only small personal drawings and reinvesting much of your revenue to grow your business, ACC's supplement will be quite inadequate. Look at ACC Cover Plus and Cover Plus Extra on their website if this sounds like you.

Secondly, illness is the more common reason for people to be unable to work so **Income Protection Insurance** is usually the only real solution here.

If your income is variable (good years and bad years as opposed to a steady salary) an Agreed Value contract is generally best because you don't have to prove your income at claim time. Benefits are generally offset against ongoing income, (eg outstanding invoices etc), and other payouts relating to the disability, so Business Overheads or Locum Cover or Mortgage Protection may be a part of the solution as these forms of cover generally do not offset.

The best income protection plan will be tailor made for your situation. Seek specialist advice; don't buy it off the shelf.

5. **Theft or Loss of your Equipment.** Outdoor Instructors invest heavily in expensive equipment. Seen as 'toys' by some; these are the tools of your trade and most Home and Contents policies do not cover items used for business purposes. Use a **Business Insurance Tools of Trade cover**. This is more cost effective and should cover your gear if it's stolen from your vehicle.
6. **Loss of a Key Person.** E.g. when a south island outdoors business lost a key person in a river accident, the Key Person Insurance allowed the remaining business partner to employ a contractor, clear debts and restructure the business. This is especially important if the remaining family are dependent on the ongoing success of the business.

If you identified all the risks associated with mountaineering, and put something in your pack to deal with each one, your pack would be so heavy you'd never get out of the car park! Likewise your business can only allocate certain resources to insurance.

Work out your priorities based on the financial impact of the loss. (I.e. insure the big stuff).

The quality of insurance is in the precision of the policy wording, minimizing the uncertainty. Review your levels of cover annually with someone who knows the risks associated with your business and understands the differences in policies. Insurance premiums can be hard on the pocket so make sure you know that what you've got is going to do what you want it to at claim time.

**Nigel Sutherland** is financial adviser at Moneta Financial Group, NZOIA award holder and instructor.

Contact him... [nigel@moneta.co.nz](mailto:nigel@moneta.co.nz)

# hot tips for cold climbs

by Brian Alder

*I have always preferred mountaineering in winter. This wasn't a choice but rather I always need a job during the summer holidays, so my climbing became restricted to spring and winter months. In winter I don't have to worry about whether there's been a freeze, or whether the hut is full of guides and their clients. In winter the huts are quite and the snow is always cold. Climbing in the dark months can tread a fine line between enjoyment and suffering, comfort and pain. Strength, fitness and technical expertise help, but a strong mind, good preparation and a bit of cunning are the key. Practice these tips and you'll be well prepared to take on some classics.*

## DON'T SWEAT

Our most successful winter climber, Bill McLeod, would go to extraordinary lengths to avoid sweating on winter approaches and routes. The logic is simple - wet gear freezes. Wear as few clothes as possible on the approach, especially avoiding those that can hold the sweat. Move slowly and steadily rather than working up a lather. If there is no need to hurry, don't. No one is watching.

## DO IT IN THE DARK

Nights are long, days are short - which is good as you get more time in bed. To make the most of limited daylight hours scope the routes the day before, plugging (the snow will be deep!) steps to the base if possible. This will save on wasted time at 6am when you are concentrating on keeping your breakfast in your stomach. Plan to be at the base of the first pitch just as the sky lightens allowing plenty of time for racking up and nervous pees. Also, check your descent as you might be doing that in the dark too.

## IT'S GOING TO HURT

Winter climbing is challenging, rewarding, exciting and exhilarating. It's rarely fun, you'll get cold toes that you won't feel for a month afterwards. You'll get the hot aches and you'll want to scream and probably will. Your food will freeze in your pack. This is normal and no amount of the latest gear and gadgets will make it better. Deal with it as best you can and get on with it.

## DON'T BIVVY, BUT BE PREPARED

A bivvy in winter is a serious undertaking and should be avoided if at all possible. Climb from a warm hut with a big breakfast and your toes will love you for it. However, always be prepared as a night out in winter can have serious consequences. A stove, billy, spare gloves and socks, a fat balaclava, insulated jacket, foam pad and bivvy bag will allow good quality survival when things go wrong. Extra food is a luxury.

## DO IT IN THE DARK II

Take the best headtorch you can afford, spare batteries and bulbs and use it for more than trips to the toilet. Make sure it fits to your helmet and can't drop off. The

best way to stay warm at night is to keep moving; so with your descent sussed there are no excuses for not making it to the hut.

## CLIMB COLD, STOP HOT

When it's your turn to lead do it in the minimum clothes you can get away with. You'll be climbing fast so you'll soon be warm. At the belay put a big warm jacket on over everything and a big pair of fat mitts on. A thermos of hot drink is a great idea on short routes, or insulating your water bottle and filling with hot water will stop it freezing and warm you up too.

## GEAR THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

It's going to be cold so get the best gear you can. Fit boots a little roomy so there is space to wriggle your toes. For longer routes or the depths of winter, plastics are a good idea. Wear supergaitors if you are prone to cold feet. Take plenty of liner gloves so you always have a dry pair—windproof gloves are great. Make sure the hood of your jacket will go over your helmet and zip up when spindrift hits. Take goggles and use them when it gets ugly. Make sure your chosen gloves/mitt system is practical for steep ice and placing protection.

## THINGS THAT GO WHUMPF!

Many good (and living!) climbers I know don't carry avalanche transceivers or shovels. They believe that although they can save your life if buried, they create a false sense of security and encourage you to run the gauntlet. My advice is to learn to read the terrain and avoid avalanche prone slopes and runouts. Sometimes this will just mean going home or finding a different route to climb. Often it means climbing around the risk even though it's longer and more difficult. Abseil the steep face rather than walk down the low angle death trap. At the end of the day, surviving while winter mountaineering can be a fine line, so a flashing light may just tip the balance. Whatever you choose, keep the control in your hands.

## ACCESS AND EGRESS

Getting in and out of the mountains in winter is both easy and problematical. Air access will get you there fast but won't help your route knowledge when you need to get out under your own steam in bad weather and poor visibility. Prepare and be prepared to make a dash for home in marginal weather rather than waiting for the good weather required for air transport. Take the opportunity to walk out in good conditions - the knowledge might be useful on future trips.

Acknowledgement ~

*the*CLIMBER *issue 44 / winter 2003*

## Congratulations ~

to the following members who recently gained NZOIA Awards

### **Alpine 1**

Andrew McKenzie  
Rod Pancoust  
Simon Tuck

### **Rock 1**

Scott Barker  
Christopher Bell  
Kristen Cooley  
Bong Errazo  
Dean Garner  
Merryn Herlihy  
Damion McDonald  
Tamra Olson  
Terry Simpson  
Melanie Weir  
Andrew White

### **Rock 2**

John Hammond

### **Outdoor Safety Management**

Mike Brien

## Recipients of Awards at the recent OUTDOORS NEW ZEALAND AGM

SPARC Supreme Award  
for contribution to  
Outdoor Recreation  
**Arthur Sutherland**

NZOIA  
Emerging Instructor Award

**Regan Edwards**

EONZ Programme Award  
**Kaiapoi High School**

ONZ Facility Award  
**Whenua Iti Trust**

## OUTDOOR EVENT & ACTIVITIES ORGANISERS

*The following is a letter received by NZOIA, from  
Nicholas Hill, Chief Executive of SPARC.*

The decision of the District Court in Christchurch to find Le Race Organiser, Astrid Anderson, guilty of criminal nuisance has raised levels of anxiety amongst event organisers across the sport and recreation sector.

We have been receiving (unsubstantiated) reports that some events in New Zealand are being cancelled on the basis of this decision. It is important that event organisers, including clubs and individuals do not over-react to the decision. If in doubt about the legal position, SPARC has published guidelines on its website dealing with legal liability for health and safety for sport and recreation organisations.

Nevertheless, SPARC is establishing a project to clarify further the potential exposure of event organisers in New Zealand. The project will evaluate the likely impact of the Le Race decision on the cost of running events, and identify measures that can be taken to reduce cost and mitigate risk for event organisers. The exercise will also explore whether there are specific policy measures the Government should consider. We envisage that the project will provide you and others within the sector with a better understanding of the issues, as well as some practical tools to assist with risk management and mitigation.

The project has 3 phases:

- i) Develop an issues and options discussion paper;
- ii) Consult with the sector; and
- iii) Develop and implement an action plan

Phases I and II should be completed by Christmas.

A working group is being established to assist SPARC to define the issues and options. (Nominations are not required.) However, we would value your input, (as soon as possible), in the form of specific examples of events that have been cancelled and why (ie. as a result of risk management costs or potential exposure to risk). SPARC will also be seeking your input through the consultation phase in due course.

This project has strong linkages to another exercise SPARC is sponsoring with Standards New Zealand; the development of guidelines for managing risk in the sport and recreation sector.

The project is being led by Jude Ellis in SPARC. Jude can be contacted on (04) 496 3994, and her email address is: [jude.ellis@sparc.org.nz](mailto:jude.ellis@sparc.org.nz)

***SPARC will be happy to receive  
comment and input from NZOIA  
members.***

# Expedition success for NZOIA kayak instructors in Bolivia

By Dave Moore

The Bolivian Whitewater Expedition consisted of Simon Coward, Luke Boddington, Zac Shaw, Nate Mack and Dave Moore. All active NZOIA instructors in a range of pursuits and all keen for some time “amongst it” following their passion for kayaking. Except Nate. He’s a mad creek boater from the States otherwise known as the probe! Full credit to Simon who plotted this adventure a year ago and had the drive to make it happen.

First challenge was flying in and landing at over 4000m a day after leaving NZ. A couple of days on oxygen in a La Paz hospital soon sorted Luke out and the team was good to go! Magnificent peaks, cloud forests, bad roads and friendly locals greeted the boys, not to mention a vast range of gastrointestinal problems. Poor hygiene, thin air, desperate travel methods and a bunch fresh whitewater was our world. As is the way of the outdoors we had good days and bad. From classic picture perfect drops on sunny days to scary chocolate super-highways and team beatings in serious hydraulics... yes three at the same time, in the same hole. A good chapter in the book of when good days go bad... An unforeseen bonus in our adventure was a journey to the source of our liquid roads, Mt Illimani 6500m.



L-R Dave Moore, Luke Boddington, Simon Coward, Nate Mack, Zac Shaw.

It’s satisfying to be home after a classy top end adventure with a bunch of talented people. Success is measured in a safe return, some incredible memories and a bunch of new knowledge about whitewater paddling in one of the world’s coolest countries.

Big thanks to the Kiwi sponsors who helped make it happen:

Bliss-stick Kayaks Hydraulics, and Adventure Philosophy.

You can check out the team’s website at: [www.geocities.com/worldpaddlers](http://www.geocities.com/worldpaddlers)

**Contributions to the NZOIA Quarterly ~**

The *NZOIA Quarterly* welcomes articles, letters, news, details of coming events and bits and pieces from all readers. Submissions may be edited.

Please forward all items to:  
 Administration Officer,  
 PO Box 11-325  
 Manners St,  
 Wellington;

or by email to: [ao@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoia.org.nz)



## Department of Conservation Consultation - have your say !

DOC is to start Public Consultation on Recreation Opportunities. The largest increase in funding for outdoor recreation facilities on public conservation land ever agreed to by any government was announced in the 2002/03 Budget. This increase effectively doubles DOC's budget for maintaining huts, tracks, and other facilities over the next ten years. It also ensures that people going to conservation areas will have, for the foreseeable future, continued access to the present range of recreational opportunities. This would not have been possible at current levels of funding.

DOC wants your input in discussions about the best mix of recreational opportunities to best meet your recreational needs. A public consultation process will be held by DOC's thirteen conservancies to look at recreational opportunities (and the facilities needed to support them). What this means is all conservancies want to talk to as many people as possible about which of the many huts, tracks, car parks, roads, picnic areas and campgrounds are essential to the New Zealand recreation experience (in management-speak - using the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum and other key tools as a basis for discussion and decision making).

Planning for the review of recreational opportunities provided by DOC began earlier in 2003. A number of national recreational organisations have contributed to discussions on the style of consultation and the tools being used to help make decisions, and that group have agreed that consultation should now proceed. From September through to December 2003, each conservancy will have information available that describes the recreation opportunities provided by each conservancy.

If you want to know more about the process and the detail of proposals, the DOC Website ([www.doc.govt.nz](http://www.doc.govt.nz)) will have this information from September. DOC will also hold meetings around the country to explain the process and where there is interest, to explore in more detail the reasons for the proposals. Because there are more than 3600 different sites, it is not expected that full details about every site will be required by people, but you are encouraged to look through the prepared information (when it is available in September) and then request specific information you might want from the relevant Conservancy or Area office.

Contacts for this consultation:

Steve Sutton  
Southern Regional Office  
Department of Conservation  
or  
Catherine Clark, Policy Advisor  
Sport and Recreation New Zealand  
Email: [cath.clark@sparc.org.nz](mailto:cath.clark@sparc.org.nz)

## ANOTHER EXPEDITION IN THE PLANNING

A group of four NZOIA instructors and one Kenyan are heading to Kenya next April/May to run first descents in the western and central regions. The group includes most of the Bolivian expedition team from last year (*see page 11*): Simon Coward, Luke Boddington, Zak Shaw (maybe) Andrew Dyer and Kenyan James Savage. Their website is up & running at:

[www.adventuretrippin.com/kenya2004.html](http://www.adventuretrippin.com/kenya2004.html).

The site has an expedition plan, diary, team profile including videos. Also on the adventuretrippin home page there are image galleries from South America, Africa and other wonderful destinations.

*Worth a look - Ed.*

## EMPLOYMENT !

### LOOKING for a JOB?

Check out the "**JOB BOARD**" in the members only section of the NZOIA website. Better still go to: "Modify your Membership Details" in the members only section of the website and put a "tick" in the "Subscriptions - Job Board Emails" box. You will be advised automatically of all new jobs that are added to the job board. OR just advertise for a job.

### LOOKING to fill a VACANCY ?

Enter the position details and contact details on to the "**JOB BOARD**" in the members only section of the NZOIA website.

## WANTED ~ ALIVE !

Have you visited the NZOIA Website lately and checked that your contact details in the "Members Only" section of the website are up to date?

## WANTED ~ ALIVE !

Your current email address (if we don't already have it) - **in "your contact details" of the members only section of the and we don't**, if you did not receive at least half a dozen emails from NZOIA in June - Sept 03.

Any problems - flick an email to:  
**[ao@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoia.org.nz)** and we will fix them.

## Publications from NZOIA



### NZOIA Logbooks .....

The format is an A5, plastic ringbinder (with standard 2 ring).

**Cost** - single copy: Members \$20, Non-members \$23 (including p&p in NZ). A discount is available for orders in multiples of 5 copies - please ask.

### Abseiling for Instructors by Bev Smith

A practical guide on techniques and risk management considerations for instructors when taking Abseiling. Special - 3 for \$10.00. inc p&p, or 1 for \$5, inc. p&p.

## Kayak Instructor Manuals

special price  
**\$10 per copy**

Orders for above publications to:  
NZOIA Administration Officer  
PO Box 11-090  
Manners Street  
Wellington 6034 .....with payment.

### The Eskimo Roll by Bev Smith

A practical guide for instructors and students of kayaking. Available directly from:  
Bev Smith, 12 Runuku Grove, Turangi.  
Cost: \$20 each (inc.P&P).

# NZOIA PROMOTIONAL POSTERS

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membership of NZOIA.

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colour posters available.

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Phone - 04 385.6048

## Useful and Interesting Websites !

[nzoia.org.nz](http://nzoia.org.nz) ~ is where you will find the **NZOIA website**.  
[outdoorsnz.org.nz](http://outdoorsnz.org.nz) ~ Outdoors New Zealand with many links  
[safeoutside.org](http://safeoutside.org) ~ associated with Outdoors New Zealand  
 - Safety in the Outdoors  
[adventurepro.com.au](http://adventurepro.com.au) ~ an Aussie / NZ "outdoors" site  
[climb.co.nz](http://climb.co.nz) ~ one for the climbers  
[nzkayakbuyersguide.co.nz](http://nzkayakbuyersguide.co.nz) ~ everything for the kayaker  
[watersafety.org.nz](http://watersafety.org.nz) ~ Water Safety New Zealand  
[www.riversafe.org.nz](http://www.riversafe.org.nz)  
[www.boatsafe.org.nz](http://www.boatsafe.org.nz)  
[www.poolsafe.org.nz](http://www.poolsafe.org.nz)  
 Websites of Water Safety NZ  
 in conjunction with ACC.  
[sparc.org.nz](http://sparc.org.nz) ~ Sport & Recreation New Zealand  
[sfrito.org.nz](http://sfrito.org.nz) ~ Sport, Fitness & Recreation Industry Training  
[mountainsafety.org.nz](http://mountainsafety.org.nz) ~ the NZ Mountain Safety Council  
[nzalpine.org.nz](http://nzalpine.org.nz) ~ NZ Alpine Club Newsletters  
[acc.co.nz](http://acc.co.nz) ~ the ACC site - a good place to check services  
[tourisminfo.govt.nz](http://tourisminfo.govt.nz) ~ the website for Tourism NZ  
[wildernessmag.com](http://wildernessmag.com) ~ the Wilderness Magazine  
[sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm](http://sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm) ~ weather cams in NZ  
[nzmgga.co.nz](http://nzmgga.co.nz) ~ NZ Mountain Guides Assn  
[seakayak.org.nz](http://seakayak.org.nz) ~ Sea Kayak Operators Association of NZ  
[nz-rafting.co.nz](http://nz-rafting.co.nz) ~ NZ Rafting Assn.  
[www.nzunderwater.org.nz](http://www.nzunderwater.org.nz) ~ NZ Underwater Assn  
[rivers.org.nz](http://rivers.org.nz) ~ NZ Recreational Canoeing Assn  
[apnz.ac.nz](http://apnz.ac.nz) ~ Association of Polytechnics in New Zealand and  
 links to at the polytechnics in NZ  
[refdesk.com/instant.html](http://refdesk.com/instant.html) - the A-Z of everything website  
[adventurepro.com.au/outdoorjobs/outdoorjobs.cgi](http://adventurepro.com.au/outdoorjobs/outdoorjobs.cgi)  
 ~ NZ / Aussie outdoor jobs.  
 ~ **if you have any that you think other members would  
 find useful, please let the Editor know.**

## Web Cameras in the New Zealand mountains that may interest you.

These cameras scroll back 12 - 24 hours, and show pictures of  
the weather and snow conditions at these locations:

### North Island

Ruapehu Ski Club, Whakapapa Ski Area, National Park Village,  
Turoa from Rangataua, and Turoa Ski Area.

### South Island

Nelson Lakes St Arnaud, Hanmer Springs, Mt Olympus Ski Area,  
Mt Hutt Ski Area, Mt Cook Hooker Valley, Treble Cone Ski Area,  
Cardrona, Remarkables & Coronet Ski Areas, Lake Whakatipu,  
and Lake Wanaka.

You can find the link at:

[www.sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm](http://www.sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm)

# NZOIA ASSESSMENT CALENDAR for 2003

Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date	Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date
<b>Kayak FW</b> Auckland	November 8-9	October 11	<b>Rock 1</b> Auckland Christchurch	October 18-19 Nov. 8-9	September 19 October 11
<b>Kayak 1</b> Christchurch Central NI Christchurch	October 17-19 November 14-16 November 21-23	September 19 October 17 October 24	<b>Rock 2</b> Whanganui Bay Christchurch	Nov. 14-16 <b>Jan. 16-18/2004</b>	October 18 <b>Dec 15 2003</b>
<b>Abseil 1</b> Auckland	November 22-23	October 24	<b>Bush 1</b> South Island	Nov 29-Dec. 1	November 1
<b>Alpine 1</b> South Island	October 18-20	September 19	<b>Bush 2</b> North Island	Nov 18-20	October 17

- NOTES:**
1. The **16-18th January 2004 Rock 2** assessment date (above) has only just been added to the assessment schedule.
  2. **Check the NZOIA website for additional assessments that may have been scheduled since the publication of this Quarterly.**

## Booking for a NZOIA assessment !

**Booking Routine** - You must have completed the prerequisites before applying for assessment; check the syllabus - they are all available on the NZOIA website at: [www.nzoia.org.nz](http://www.nzoia.org.nz). You must also be a current member of NZOIA as at the date of the assessment. To apply for a place on an assessment, obtain an assessment application form from the website (or administration officer) and forward it to NZOIA by the closing date with:

- a \$100 deposit;
- a **copy** of your log;
- a **copy** of your current first-aid certificate, (and the application form).

**APPLICATIONS close 4 weeks before the assessment date.**

**We allocate places on assessment courses a on first-in, first-served basis.** After the closing date, we will send you confirmation of your booking. You must pay the balance of the course fee before the assessment. If we cancel the course, we will refund all fees. If you withdraw before the closing date, we will refund your deposit. If you withdraw after the closing date, we will refund 50% of your deposit.

Course fees: Two day - \$370; Three day - \$495; Four day - \$640.

**Assessment by special arrangement** - It is possible to arrange assessments on dates other than those scheduled (generally subject to the availability of assessors). Contact the Assessment Co-ordinator or Steve Scott, telephone 04-385 6048.

### ASSESSMENTS in OCTOBER and NOVEMBER 2003

Current indications are that for some assessments scheduled in the next two months, there will be more applicants than places available !!!

If you are intending to participate in an assessment this year, don't be disappointed - please secure your place early - **don't delay in forwarding your application and deposit.**

### 2004 NZOIA Assessment Schedule

**will be published on  
the NZOIA website  
very shortly.**

### NZOIA Cave 1, Cave 2 Canoe and Climbing Wall Assessments

These assessments are conducted "on request". If you are interested in participating in one of these assessments, please contact the NZOIA Administration Officer at: [ao@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoia.org.nz). When we have sufficient interested persons, we will organise an assessment.



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PO Box 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6034, New Zealand.  
Phone 04 385 6048, Fax 04 385 9680 Email ao@nzoia.org.nz



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