

# NZOIA Quarterly

NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

Issue 43

December 2007

## 2007 OUTDOOR EXCELLENCE AWARDS



The **2007 NZOIA EMERGING INSTRUCTOR AWARD** was won by **Vashti Duncan** (pictured below). Vashti was nominated by Tihoi Venture School where she is currently a junior instructor. In addition to instructing kayaking, alpine and bush, her responsibilities include looking after a house of eight 14 year old male students. Chris Wynn from Tihoi Venture School applauds Vashti for her “calm demeanour in any situation, her ability to inspire young students in the outdoors, and her interest in learning new skills and developing her repertoire of soft and hard skills”. Vashti was not present at the Awards Night; Callum Finlay from St Paul’s Collegiate Tihoi Venture School accepted the award on her behalf.



**William Colenso College** in Napier received the **EONZ PROGRAMME AWARD FOR 2007**. The school has a long-standing history of excellence in outdoor education programmes, with a reputation for the diversity of the programmes it offers and the school-wide nature of the programme. Tracy Aitchison, the teacher in charge of outdoor education at the school, commented on the school’s outdoor programmes as having “a proven track record of increasing students’ self esteem, building teamwork, increasing motivation and offering practical hands-on life-long skills”. Tracy was present at the Awards Ceremony to receive the award on behalf of the school.

The winner of the **ONZ FACILITY AWARD** was **St Paul’s Collegiate Tihoi Venture School**. Located on the edge of the Pureora Forest Park, the Venture school operates a successful residential outdoor facility for year 10 students from St Paul’s Collegiate School. Its focus is on combining social development, academic study and outdoor activities during its 18 week programmes. The school’s director, Chris Wynn, remarks that “we live in the most amazing country in the world, yet young people would rather be in a virtual world than a real one”. Tihoi gives students opportunities to discover the world around them while developing themselves personally and socially. Callum Finlay from St Paul’s Collegiate Tihoi Venture School accepted this award on the school’s behalf.

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# The NZOIA Quarterly

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## MEMBER ORGANISATION



# Executive Report

This quarterly should be with you by Christmas which for many of you signals that work will be hotting up as we head into peak tourist season while for others, especially those in education, its wind down time and a chance for a break. Either way there will be lots of people out there either working or recreating in the outdoors and hopefully having an enjoyable and adventurous time.

If you can make time available in January consider attending the **International Outdoor Recreation and Education Conference**, Christchurch, January 21-24. This promises to be an excellent event with interesting speakers from around the globe. If you are not yet booked to attend check out the conference website at [www.outdoorsnz.org.nz](http://www.outdoorsnz.org.nz)

## NEW COMBINED OUTDOOR PUBLICATION

Together with a raft of other organisations we are once again in the process of developing a combined periodical magazine. Outdoors NZ is leading the charge and recently appointed Anne Johnston as Communications Manager. Key to her role is the production of this new outdoor magazine, so it will be a wonderful step forward for all concerned to have a professional who is dedicated to the task. The aim is to have the first edition out in autumn and a copy will automatically be sent to all members. In terms of the Quarterly things are likely to change, though the final format of the new publication will determine what remains to be provided to members through this internal newsletter. In the meantime, if you have articles you'd like to present to members just send them in as usual.

## WATER SAFETY NZ AND MARITIME NZ

A meeting of the Non-powered Craft Forum recently occurred and presented its collective recommendations and comments to Maritime NZ in response to the Draft Strategy for Safety in Kayaking. MNZ are now in the process of reviewing all feedback and will present a second draft in the near future. Once we have this we'll distribute it by email so those paddlers amongst you can check out what is proposed and either comment directly to MNZ or send your views through to us so we can add them to our NZOIA response.

Since you received your last Quarterly the Executive have continued to work on the various projects that have been highlighted to you this year, in particular the Registration Board, revalidation process and development of the new leader awards. You can expect to hear more of our work on these priorities in the New Year but in the meantime please contact myself or any Executive members if you have questions or concerns.

Make the most of the sunshine and whether at work or play have an enjoyable and above all safe summer.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

**Matthew Cant – Chief Executive**  
[ce@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ce@nzoia.org.nz)

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

*The Staff and Executive of NZOIA wish all members and their families all the best for the festive season.*

*Enjoy this time and safe adventures.*



...2007 Outdoor Excellence Awards

The inaugural winner of the **SIR EDMUND HILLARY OUTDOOR PURSUITS CENTRE ENVIRONMENT LEADERSHIP AWARD** was **Dr Barry Law**, Senior Lecturer in Education for Sustainability at the University of Canterbury. The Environment Leadership Award is designed to acknowledge outstanding individuals or programmes that have influenced the ecological worldview of participants or that have demonstrated a significant commitment to conservation or protection of adventure places. Barry is recognised for his sustained commitment to the education of future teachers and leaders, as well as for his leadership in education for sustainability and for outdoor environmental education. Barry is an education advisor to Untouched World Foundation and the Enviroschools Foundation, and is National In-service Coordinator for Education for Sustainability. Barry's wife accepted the award on his behalf.

**Dr Mike Boyes** was the recipient of the **2007 SPARC NZ SUPREME AWARD**. He was nominated jointly by two peers, Matthew Cant and John Maxted. John acknowledged Mike for his "outstanding and long-lasting contribution to the New Zealand outdoor education and adventure recreation scene", including the service and wisdom he has provided to a wide number of committees and organisations. Moreover, Mike has inspired and supported many students and colleagues during his teaching career at University of Otago. Mike's generosity in advice, support and adventurous exploits are well-known, with many agreeing that he is a worthy recipient of this Supreme Award.

## Editors Note for 2007 Outdoor Excellence Awards

Tihoi Venture School employs a number of NZOIA qualified staff as does William Colenso College. Mike Boyes also holds NZOIA qualifications. These individuals and organisations have been strong supporters of NZOIA for many years.

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discovering, together.

**OPC National Diploma in Outdoor Recreation (Instruction) (level 5).**  
35 week programme (level 5).  
Course commences Feb 08.

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Further develop your personal skills in rock climbing, white water kayaking, mountaineering and bushcraft and focus on teaching these skills to others.

This course also includes 8 weeks work experience with clients, 4 weeks co-instructing with OPC groups and a 4 week placement at **Full On**, an outdoor education company with sites in Rotorua and Methven.

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Develop group leadership and facilitation skills and observe and practice these skills working alongside one of our professional instructors on a school programme.

**WHAT MAKES THIS COURSE UNIQUE?**

The course provides the opportunity to:

- study in one of New Zealand's leading outdoor centres and work alongside professional instructors on real programmes
- obtain all the skills you require to start work in an outdoor education centre
- gain experience with **Full On** and maybe even future employment and
- develop a wide range of outdoor skills that can be the base for your career.

**WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT?**

- The opportunity to study in one of New Zealand's leading outdoor centres and observe real programmes happening
- We will train you with a view to working in an outdoor centre and the adventure tourism industry
- You will build a wide range of solid outdoor skills that can be the base for your career
- The opportunity to progress on to OPC's National Diploma in Outdoor Recreation (Instruction Level 5).

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# Aspects of Outdoor Leadership: THE CHALLENGE OF THE PLACENTA

by Ray Hollingsworth

I have two placenta in my freezer, somewhere, frozen lumps of meaty tissue surrounded by peas and pizza, barbeque steak, sausages, milk and bread. The usual stuff for a freezer, except for the placenta. I haven't seen them for a while. It was our intention - Ginny and I – to place the placenta in the ground in a hole that we had dug, in a 'significant' place, and plant a suitable tree on top. The impasses started then: where was 'significant' enough for both to agree? What was a 'suitable' tree? Seemingly a simple task had morphed into an ideological and philosophical monster. Possibly we should have seen it coming, given the difficulty we had with choosing a paint colour for the bathroom.

The idea was to connect our children with the land, to link them inextricably to a place, so that no matter how far they travelled, no matter what they sought to do with their lives, they would always have a sense of 'place' and 'home'. These are things I wanted for them because the lack of them has haunted my own upbringing. I was born in Kawakawa, lived in Moerewa until the age of five, and then my family moved to Hamilton. We rented in Whitiara, a gritty inner suburb, before moving in to a newly constructed house on the outskirts of Hamilton, at Chartwell. All around was farm and construction as new developments pushed away the green. Boyhood days were spent eeling with my brothers, constructing huts in the gorse and hawthorns in the gullies down the road, having dirt fights with the Scott Brothers and their gang, playing sport on the road and on the front lawn. Happy enough, yet always there was a small fear that we would move, that the place would be gone, that I would be adrift. The small and silly fear of a child to be sure, yet as an adult it persists. Where do I belong? Who do I belong to? In this respect I admire those Maori who have a turangawaewae, who know their forebears, who have a strong connection to a single place.

Now I live in Auckland. We could plant the placenta here but other problems appear. I do not feel particularly enamoured enough of anywhere in Auckland, to want my children connected to it, physically or metaphysically. My strongest yearnings are for either Hamilton where I grew up (the irony is I wasn't particularly enamoured of Cow Town while I was growing up) or Fiordland, where a kind of spiritual connection occurred over the course of many days tramping. My wife has strong family connections to Te Kuiti. How to decide? We can't leave the placenta in the

freezer forever. Imagine the effects of a power-cut, or a hastily constructed barbeque where one just grabs a likely chunk of meat? How do people make these decisions?

The New Zealand ecologist Geoff Park writes eloquently of the meanings of such a ritual (burying the placenta, not the ritual of the barbeque) in his latest offering, entitled *Theatre Country: essays on landscape and whenua*. The Maori word for placenta is whenua; it is no coincidence that it is also the word used for land, as it implies much more than the geographic space. History, life and death, connection, geneology, and belief systems are wrapped up in the elegance of a simple word. Park goes on to outline the words origins in Polynesia, outlining too the implication of the connections inherent in the word.

He suggests that as the social systems discovered a way of working with the ecological systems, through trial and error, they evolved a resilience, understanding and land use ethic that allowed them to work within the limits of ecology. The burying of the placenta or whenua, and the concept of connection to a place that the word whenua implies, is an act and a concept as old as history. Park suggests that in modern cultures this connection has been lost. That it is rare to have a generational knowledge of a place, of the seasonal food that a single area offers; that people don't make the connection between the food that they eat and the earth that grows that food and helps sustain them.

Park quotes Richard Nelson, an anthropologist and writer, who issues a challenge to those professing a relationship with nature:

*continued over...*

“...consider [that relationships] limitations in a world in which so much of what we eat comes from supermarkets, to which it has been transported vast distances from places that we don't know, will never see, and can barely imagine.” (Park, p.243)

It is a theme expounded upon in the field of ecopsychology- that there is a disconnection in the modern world, that people no longer equate the land with the provider of food, sustenance, well-being. There are several reasons offered for this disconnection. Metzner, (1999), posits that this disconnection first happened 12000 years ago when people started living in cities. He suggests that the two main impacts of moving into cities were the loss of the child / carer bond, and the loss of the rite of passage for adolescents – resulting in child-like adults who sense loss but don't know cause and lash out – often at others or the Earth. The rise of science and the influence of Christianity with its split from and dominion over, nature, has also been suggested as a cause of disconnection in the west (Preston & Griffith, 2004).

Mander, (1991), argues that the root of most of the problems in the west is the rise of the technology juggernaut. That the industries creating and manufacturing the technology, are the same industries promoting the technology as a way to a better, happier life, and encouraging people to consume. He focuses specifically on television (but you could choose a variety of technologies here) and offers case studies of aboriginal cultures who have either resisted the technology to retain their community and cultural practices, or seen these things altered dramatically. TV changes expectations – of careers, of lifestyle, of sexual relationships, of what is poor and what is rich.

O'Connor, (1995), notices that the relationship issues he sees as a counsellor, mirror the relationships that people have with nature – control, denial, abuse. These same patterns, he suggests, threaten the world. When he advocates not dropping the tools of his trade, but using them with awareness of a changing planet, I found myself contemplating how my own practice could be better informed and more action oriented.

Geoff Park is the latest in a line of people offering a mirror to how we live our lives in relation to the Earth. His discussion of whenua is compelling and echoes other philosopher/ writers like Aldo Leopold, Richard Nelson and Colin Mortlock.

Mortlock, who has a long and venerated history as an outdoor educator and philosopher, suggests that the central and underlying problem of the modern world is that it is built on the concept of separateness, that people

take more than they give. But, he notes, the central message from wilderness is that everything is connected to everything else. Mortlock suggests the following principles may enable Western humans to alter their world for the better: “An awareness of, respect for, and love of self; an awareness of, respect for, and love of others; an awareness of, respect for, and love of the environment” (Mortlock, (2001), p. 105).

That I can not decide where to plant my children's placenta possibly says something about my indecisiveness. But it also says something about my disconnection from place, a place, any place with roots for me. My family is uni-generational in terms of place: like many other families, we move on with each generation, losing the physical, spiritual and ecological connection in the process. The challenge for me, and a challenge for outdoor educators, is to reconnect.

*Ray Hollingsworth teaches at AUT University, has two small children, a cat, a fish, and a wife with the brain of a rocket scientist. There are no power issues in his house as Ray knows his place at the bottom of the pecking order.*

## References

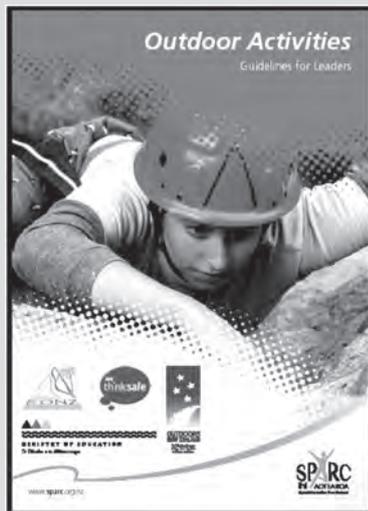
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# Outdoor Activities

*Guidelines for Leaders*

This edition replaces the 1996 publication OUTDOOR PURSUITS - GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATORS (4th Edition)

**The resource can be ordered from Outdoors New Zealand (ONZ) by downloading an order form from [www.sparc.org.nz](http://www.sparc.org.nz)**



Book \$20 / CD \$5  
(both prices include GST and P&P)



## Instructors

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Outward Bound New Zealand  
Private Bag 403, Picton 7372 Ph: 03 520 8290  
or email: [dmangnall@outwardbound.co.nz](mailto:dmangnall@outwardbound.co.nz)



NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION

# 2008 Assessment Calendar

Activity/Location	Date	Closing Date	Activity/Location	Date	Closing Date
<b>Kayak FW</b>			<b>Rock 1</b>		
Auckland	October 11-12 2008	Aug 27	Central North Is.	March 8-9 2008	Jan 23
Christchurch	November 1-2 2008	Sept 17	Christchurch	March 15-16 2008	Jan 30
<b>Kayak 1</b>			Auckland	May 3-4 2008	Mar 19
Murchison	March 29 - 31 2008	Feb 13	Christchurch	May 17-18 2008	April 2
Central NI	April 4-6 2008	Feb 20	Christchurch	October 18-19 2008	Sept 3
Central NI	October 17-19 2008	Sept 2	Auckland	November 1-2 2008	Sept 17
Christchurch	November 7-9 2008	Sept 22	Christchurch	November 8-9 2008	Sept 24
<b>Kayak 2</b>			Central North Is.	November 22-23 2008	Oct 8
Central North Is	March 14-16 2008	Jan 29	<b>Sport Climbing 1</b>	On request	
Murchison	April 11-13 2008	Feb 26	<b>Sport Climbing 2</b>	On request	
<b>Multi Sport Kayak</b>			<b>Abseil 1</b>		
Auckland	On request		Auckland	November 15-16 2008	Oct 1
Christchurch	On request		<b>Rock 2</b>		
<b>SKOANZ Guide &amp; Sea Kayak 1</b>			Whanganui Bay	Feb 29 - Mar 2 2008	Jan 15
Christchurch	May 8-10,11 2008	Mar 25	Christchurch	April 11-13 2008	Feb 26
Auckland	May 15-17,18 2008	Mar 31	<b>Bush 1</b>		
Auckland	October 2-4,5 2008	Aug 19	Central North Is.	January 16-18 2008	Dec 3 07
Christchurch	October 9-11,12 2008	Aug 26	Central South Is.	March 15-17 2008	Jan 30
<b>Sea Kayak 1</b>			Central South Is.	October 11-13 2008	Aug 27
Christchurch	May 11 2008	Mar 25	Central South Is.	November 1-3 2008	Sept 10
Auckland	May 18 2008	Apr 8	Central North Is.	November 8-10 2008	Sept 17
Auckland	October 5 2008	Aug 19	<b>Bush 2</b>		
Christchurch	October 12 2008	Aug 26	Central North Is.	May 2-4 2008	Mar 18
<b>Canoe</b>			South Island	April 18-20 2008	March 4
South Island	November 28-30 2008	Oct 14	<b>Alpine 1</b>		
<b>Canoe</b>			North Island	August 29-31 2008	July 15
South Island	November 28-30 2008	Oct 14	South Island	Sept 19-21 2008	Aug 5
<b>Cave 1</b>			South Island	Sept 26-28 2008	Aug 12
Central North Is.	April 12-13 2008	Feb 27	<b>Alpine 2</b>		
Nelson	May 10-11 2008	Mar 26	South Island	September 4-7 2008	July 21
<b>Cave 2</b>					
	On request				

**Closing Date \*\*** ~ assessment applications, associated documentation and assessment deposit (\$100) must be received by closing date. Assessment applications received after closing date may be declined.

**NOTE:**

- It is always possible to run assessments on other dates, either by special request or if sufficient candidate are available.
- There are a minimum number of candidates required for each assessment.
- If you are interested please register your interest with our office.
- We will contact you if there are sufficient numbers.

**Website:** [www.nzoia.org.nz](http://www.nzoia.org.nz)

**Email Administration Officer:** [ao@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoia.org.nz) **Assessment Co-ordinator:** [assessment@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:assessment@nzoia.org.nz)

**Postal address:** PO Box 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6142. Telephone: 04 385 6048, Fax: 04 385 9680.



# BOOKING FOR A NZOIA ASSESSMENT

## BOOKING ROUTINE

You must have completed the prerequisites before applying for an assessment; check the syllabus - they are all available on the NZOIA website at: [www.nzoi.org.nz](http://www.nzoi.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 the administration officer) and forward it to NZOIA by the closing date with:

- a \$100 deposit
- a copy of your logbook
- a copy of your current first-aid certificate
- application\* form

**\*APPLICATIONS close SIX weeks before the assessment date.**

We allocate places on assessment courses on a first-in, with deposit and application, first-accepted basis. After the closing date, we will confirm that the assessment will run. You then need pay the balance of the course fee before the assessment. If we cancel the course, we will refund all fees.

The deposit will be refunded in full if you withdraw from a course six weeks or more before the course starts, (or you can transfer to another course). Deposits will not be refunded where the withdrawal is within six weeks of the course, but may be transferred to another course. Where a withdrawal occurs within four weeks of the course 50% of the course fee will be charged.

## Course fees:

- Two day \$425
- Three day \$570
- Four day \$735
- Sea Kayak Guide/Instructor - please contact the NZOIA office for fees

## ASSESSMENTS BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

It is possible to arrange assessments on dates other than those scheduled (generally subject to the availability of assessors). Please contact either the Assessment Co-ordinator (email - [assessment@nzoi.org.nz](mailto:assessment@nzoi.org.nz)); or Administration Officer (email - [ao@nzoi.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoi.org.nz)). Phone 04-385 6048.

## Wellington Office Hours

The office will close p.m. Friday 21st December and reopen a.m. Monday 7th January 2008.



## Important Dates for 2008



IOREC Confluence	21-24 January	Christchurch
Assessors Meeting	24-25 May	Christchurch
ONZ Outdoor Forum	12-13 September	Wellington **
NZOIA AGM	13 September	Wellington **

\*\* subject to confirmation in early 2008

# CONGRATULATIONS! CONGRATULATIONS!

The following members recently gained NZOIA Awards:

- BUSH 1:** Jamie L'Huillier, Karla Blumberg, Patrick O'Connell, Gareth Cox, Josh Geddes, Martin Leslie, Shane Roberts, Jonathan Taylor, Jaron Frost, Clinton Fee, Richard Hunter, David Felstead, Matthew Johnston, Michelle Clyne, Maria Coppard, Jeff Lappin, Michael Wilkes, David van der Guilk.
- KAYAK 2:** Mark Johns.
- ROCK 1:** John Broadwell, Ashley Burgess, Sam Langridge, Philippa Taylor, Justin King, Jens Ludwig, Ruth Cornelius, Kelly Blayney, Matt Wright, Gaike Knottenbelt, Karla Blumberg, Josh Geddes, Shane Roberts, Ginney Deavoll, Heidi McQuillan, Neil Silverwood.

## FOR SALE

via the NZOIA website: [www.nzoia.org.nz](http://www.nzoia.org.nz)

- **NZOIA LOGBOOKS**  
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Keep that drink /soup hot for longer.
- **WATERPROOF NOTEBOOKS**  
No more soggy notes after that 'wet' day outdoors.
- **GETTING IT RIGHT**  
How to successfully run your outdoor business.
- **NZOIA T-SHIRTS**

### LEGAL INFORMATION WEBSITE

Here is a useful link to simple, easy to use legal information for the non-profit sector.

<http://www.nzfwo.org.nz/keepingitlegal>

AND CHECK OUT THE NZOIA WEB SITE AT

[www.nzoia.org.nz](http://www.nzoia.org.nz)

...your comments and suggestions are welcome!

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NZOIA QUARTERLY

The NZOIA Quarterly welcomes articles, photos, 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 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6142, or email to: [ao@nzoia.org.nz](mailto:ao@nzoia.org.nz)  
Articles should be submitted in Word format. All photographs must be supplied individually in jpg format and cannot be used if embedded in a Word document.

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# GETTING THE ADVENTURE BACK

Motueka High School



Photos courtesy Josh Burrell

Photo contributions are welcomed for the back page series 'GETTING THE ADVENTURE BACK'.  
Please submit as files of no less than 700kb in individual jpg format.

