

NZOIA Quarterly

Number 22

Newsletter of the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors' Association

September 2002

2002 TALL TOTARA AWARD

"Excellence in Outdoor Instruction"

This year's Tall Totara Award has been awarded to Mick Hopkinson. To find out a little more about Mick, we asked Sam Rainey an outdoor instructor at Westland High School, and one of Mick's apprentices to tell us more..... read on!

MICK HOPKINSON - THE GURU

The first time I ever laid eyes on Mick, I was a skinny school kid walking home from school in Murchison. He was sitting in Peter Ketterings', not that I knew him at that point either, beaten up old Peugeot outside the school office. He must have thought there was something wrong with me as I kept staring at him thinking I've seen that guy somewhere before. Sure enough I had, I got home and checked the Macpac catalogue there it was Mick Hopkinson alongside a long list of first descents, where the hell is the Indus anyway?

Our next meeting, though I didn't know it at the time, was going to have a major impact on the future direction of my life. My class turned up at the school pool to do some kayaking and were met by Mick in two wetsuits and a woolly hat, (this was in the days before the pool roof), asking us "What do you want to dooo"? We all wanted to learn to roll.

"You've got to keep your head downnnn", if I had a dollar for every time Mick's said that!

From those early dodgy rolls I ended up as the apprentice at the NZ Kayak School. I think it must be an English thing, Mick is a great believer in traditional values and one of these is the apprentice system.

The apprentice fixes the fence, paints the shed, cuts the grass, moves the van, fetches the beer and of course goes boating. I served my time and experienced many "teaching moments" along the way.



Mick Hopkinson

The thing I admired most about these was the approach of blunt honesty taken by Mick, you always knew where you stood and once he'd said what needed saying you'd move on and it wouldn't be mentioned again.

There probably aren't many people in the NZ outdoors scene that haven't experienced Micks' approach. It's ruffled a few feathers along the way but it's always been about the principle involved not the person, at times people have failed to see this.

Add to this direct approach Mick's eloquent grasp of the English language and razor wit, it's not surprising he's the character we know and love.

continued on page 3 ►

**ANNUAL NZOIA MEMBERSHIP
SUBSCRIPTION IS NOW DUE
for the 2002/2003 year!**

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New Zealand Outdoor Instructors Association

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Advertising enquiries:

Please contact the editor at:
editor@nzoia.org.nz

Editorial team:

Steve Scott
Jill Dalton

MEMBER ORGANISATION



OUTDOORS
NEW ZEALAND

Contacts

Executive Committee

President

Jill Dalton
11 Viewland Avenue
Onehunga
Auckland 1006
Phone 09 634 2471
Fax 09 634 5182
Mobile 025 887 803
Email jlld@clear.net.nz

Technical Sub-committee

Chris Burtenshaw
(see Exec. contact list)

John Entwistle
38 Wakatu Ave.
Redcliffs
CHRISTCHURCH 8008
Phone 04 384 3262

Matt Cant
50 Stansell Avenue
Tahunanui
Nelson
Ph/Fax 09 546 4602
Mobile 025 222 7331
Email matt.cant@xtra.co.nz

Brett Whiteley
55 Coronation Street
Spreydon
CHRISTCHURCH
Phone 03 942 1177
Mobile 0257 457 2285

Ian Logie
School of Outdoor Education
Aoraki Polytechnic
Private Bag 902
Timaru
Phone 03 684 0850
Fax 03 684 0809
Mobile 027 431 4353
Email web@nzoia.org.nz

Dave Moore
PO Box 1771
Taupo
Phone 025 237 9281
Email inspiredaction@paradise.net.nz

Steve Milgate
28 Rothsay Road
Ngaio
Wellington
Phone 04 479 1993 (h)
Mobile 027 495 7557
Email fusion@xtra.co.nz

Assessment Co-ordinator
Kate Bowes
1/15A Ida Street
BLENHEIM
Phone 03 579.4737
Email assessment@nzoia.org.nz

Chris Burtenshaw
PO 19 Motueka
Mobile 025 226 6456
Email lizard.climbing@xtra.co.nz

Newsletter
Email editor@nzoia.org.nz

Jason Marra
73C Esmeralda Street
Welcome Bay
Tauranga
Phone / Fax 07 544 0103
Mobile 021 702 701
Email marra@ihug.co.nz

Website
www.nzoia.org.nz

Jim Hepburn
11 Viewland Avenue
Onehunga
Auckland 1006
Phone 09 634 2471
Fax 09 634 5182
Mobile 025 926 823
Email jim.jill@clear.net.nz

Websmaster
Email web@nzoia.org.nz

Administration Officer

Steve Scott
PO Box 11-090
Manners Street
WELLINGTON 6034
Phone 04 385 6048
Fax 04 385 9680
Email ao@nzoia.org.nz

► **Mick Hopkinson** - continued from page 1

That grasp of English has been honed I'm sure by years of cryptic crosswords in the back of the Press, not to mention the encyclopaedia like recall of history and capes and bays geography. Mind you that memory seems to have no trouble remembering every person he's ever taught, boated, climbed or hitched a lift with either.

I find it hard to appreciate or even comprehend the amount of things Mick has done but every now and then he just does something you've never seen before which makes you sit up and take notice, still the apprentice!

When you get to the top of the outdoor instruction tree where do you go? If you're Mick you keep climbing. Whenever I wander into the NZ Kayak School there's always something new afoot, hip waders, free standing videos, eye patches the list goes on. Mick keeps telling me "you know you've made it when someone tries to sell you on one of your own ideas."

Working on the basis of rules like "Constant vigilance" and "Bringing them back alive" Mick must have taught literally thousands of people over the years.

From moulding flexi time, eddy line cart wheeling polytech students into kayak instructors, to getting school kids to master the art of "never being separated from their equipment" Mick has done it all.

All this aside though, after all these years Mick still loves nothing more than to just go boating. And he doesn't seem to be slowing down there either, if anything he's getting faster. It's never been said but I'm pretty sure Mick and Graham Charles have an unofficial West Coast DR competition going on. To quote Mick "You're on a mission to get home".

Apart from getting home ASAP Mick has never taken fondly to portaging rapids and he'll look long and hard at a line before opting to walk and even then he still won't like it.

Although he's not showing many signs of slowing down things are changing. You'll see Mick loading up the car and you wouldn't be mistaken for thinking he was heading down to Lyle Creek to do some spins. Well that's until you see the fluorescent orange Warehouse Raft going in the back. A quick check with Liam confirms it "We're going paddling down the Big Eddy, Sam, want to come?" "Maybe another day Liam."

Like Father like Son.

Cheers for everything Mick.

From the Presidents Wine Glass



Another year, another AGM, with lots happening (see my President's report). All of the 2001 committee were re-elected and will continue to pursue initiatives we started over the last year.

At the Outdoors NZ Industry Forum we gained an overview of what other organisations are doing, and some interesting perspectives from SPARC (formerly Hillary Commission). I gave a presentation on NZOIA and asked people what word sprang into their mind when NZOIA was mentioned. Responses included Qualifications (4), Instructors (4), Assessment (4), and other things like Benchmark, Standards, Representative, Skills etc, etc. All these tell me that we are still focused on what we say we are there for, and this will continue to be our focus for the coming year.

Digging around in the Hubbard's cereal packet I found that the latest Clipboard is entirely devoted to Outward Bound's 40th anniversary. Approximately 40,000 kiwis have been influenced by OB in that time - a significant achievement. Also interesting is the impact it had on Dick Hubbard who describes it as a 'life changing experience'. He uses words like mental toughness, resilience and perseverance, and promotes the value of the outdoors as being something every New Zealander should experience. What a great advertisement for our industry.

You will see later in this newsletter that Lotteries Grants Board has declined our application for funding. In previous years we have been funded through Water Safety NZ, but this year had to apply directly to Lotteries because of changes in their process. What this means is a lack of support for our Kayak assessment programme and while we acknowledge that Lotteries has experienced a decline in the total money it has to distribute, at least a percentage of support would have been appreciated. We have appealed against this decision, but we do encourage you to advocate on our behalf also by contacting your local MP or newspaper. Internally what this means for NZOIA is that we will have to use membership subscriptions to cover this gap, which in turns means less money available for other projects.

This is the last newsletter for those of you who have not renewed your subscription. We encourage you to continue your support of your qualification and our organisation, this is what helps to give value and recognition to NZOIA awards, and allows us to continue to work on your behalf.

Stay safe out there, but have lots of adventures!

Jill Dalton

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2002

NZOIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Here is my report to NZOIA members on the 2002 financial year's events. Firstly I want to formally thank all those members who supported this organisation, by paying the increased membership fee last year. This vote of support that you wanted to help NZOIA thrive and grow was very much appreciated by the Executive.

Its not always about what you as a member are going to get in a tangible way as a membership benefit, but about the intangible worth of having a professional organisation to represent you, and develop qualifications that are valued by employers and the industry. We pride ourselves on our award scheme, and will continue to strive to deliver a quality product.

Secondly I would like to thank the Executive Committee of Steve Milgate, Matthew Cant, Jim Hepburn, Chris Burtenshaw, Ian Logie, Jason Marra and Stuart Bell (who was only with us for a short time before resigning for personal reasons). Each of these people have contributed in a specific way to helping NZOIA thrive over the last year.

Thirdly a big vote of thanks to Steve Scott, our Administrator. Scotty has become familiar with the workings of NZOIA and is rapidly becoming a mine of useful information, as well as being the first point of contact for enquiries. He has also upgraded our systems, some of the more obvious results being an improved quality award certificate, and durable membership cards.

Kate Bowes joined our team earlier this year as Assessment Co-ordinator and is on a steep learning curve. Kate has a background in the outdoors, and is keen to make the assessment process flow for both candidates and assessors.

Our Technical Sub-Committee continued to headed by Chris Burtenshaw, assisted by John Entwistle, Brett Whiteley and more recently Dave Moore, have worked away revising awards, and handling some of the more sticky situations that occasionally pop up. The work of this team is critical to assessment quality and is much appreciated.

We held a very successful Assessor Training weekend in May. These weekends are an opportunity for us to moderate specific awards, moderate the quality of our assessment decisions, and review policies and procedures. We also produced an Assessor Newsletter.

Liaison - Steve Milgate has continued to represent us on Water Safety NZ, and NZ Mountain Safety Council, Matt Cant and I are on the Outdoors NZ Board, Lyndsay Simpkin represents NZOIA on the SFRITO Outdoor Recreation Advisory Group and Steve Milgate and I have attended SFRITO Shareholder meetings.

During the year we have had meetings/liaison with the following groups – National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), Chinese Mountaineering Assn (CMA), Tourism Industry Assn, Sea Kayak Operators NZ (SKOANZ), Kiwi Association of Sea Kayakers (KASK), NZ Mountain Guides Assn (NZMGA), Maritime Safety Assn (MSA), and probably a few more I've forgotten! Ian Logie attended a meeting convened by SFRITO regarding International qualifications.

We have made some good headway on our proposed Memorandum of Understanding with SFRITO in terms of how trainees can gain credit for unit standards as a result of being assessed for our awards. Andy Thompson and Matt Cant attended a meeting with SKOANZ & KASK earlier this year and as a result a three tier joint award scheme has been proposed. The details of the agreement are just being completed.

Jason Marra has worked hard on our new brochure, which is being printed this month, and we have also advertised in the Wilderness and Adventure magazines, as well as Graham Charles' revision of NZ Whitewater.

Trying to get training opportunities off the ground has been a project taken on by the Technical Sub-Committee. We have advertised some trial training courses and also acknowledge the need to look at ways of encouraging organisations and individuals to offer NZOIA accredited training courses. Criteria for this are currently being drawn up.

Don Paterson has continued to work as Cross Crediting Co-ordinator and his work often goes on quietly in the background, however this is an important part of our qualifications scheme. Don is also working on a comparison chart which looks at overseas qualifications and how they fit into the NZOIA award structure.

The website developments have continued to be frustratingly slow to proceed for a variety of reasons. The Executive sees this project as top priority for this coming year and will be looking at strategies to make this happen. Day to day updates are not such a problem.

Developing an accident investigation policy has been a recent challenge for us, and Ray Button has helped with this. We have been involved with three MSA investigations this year, and can contribute expertise to the process.

Our finances are in an extremely healthy state due in no small part to the efforts of Jim Hepburn. Jim has spent hours streamlining the accounting system and we are indebted to his commitment to make things run as smoothly as possible and ensure the continued financial stability of NZOIA.

We are facing an increasingly unstable funding environment with major changes to Lotteries Grants Board distributions, and to SPARC funding guidelines. While we continue to look for opportunities for funding, we do have to safeguard our future security by careful spending and prudent decisions. Unfortunately this does mean relying heavily on volunteer input, with minimal paid staff considering some of the workload and I remain indebted to all those people both on the Executive, and other members, who so generously give their time.

We are grateful to both Water Safety NZ, and Sport & Recreation NZ for the long term support and confidence they have shown in NZOIA.

Sometimes it seems things move slowly within NZOIA, but it does seem that we have made big advances in improving the quality of communication to members by email news items, email Employment Opportunities, an improved Quarterly, updated website, syllabus reviews, increased membership benefits (discounts, and the NZOIA 'beanie' for members), and marketing.

I believe NZOIA remains at the forefront of being a professional organisation for outdoor instructors, and offers a quality assessment scheme that is recognized by both employers and aspiring instructors as being 'the' industry award to aspire to. Again, thanks to all our members who continue to support NZOIA.

Jill Dalton
President

MEMBERSHIP MYSTERY PRIZE DRAW

@ 2002 AGM

A big thank you to BIVOUAC for their generosity in contributing a voucher for an Icebreaker item.

The lucky winner was: **Jo Straker**

Visibility of Kayaks

There have been a number of collisions and many near miss situations involving kayaks and other vessels on lakes, bays and on the coast.

Power craft must give way to kayaks! However it is very difficult, and at some times impossible, to see kayaks that are more than a few meters away. Kayaks are very low on the water, easily lost from sight among waves, and do not appear on radar screens.

Kayak skippers must make sure that they can be readily seen by the operators of other vessels. While brightly coloured hulls and clothing assist to some degree, a much more effective means of being seen is required.

A brightly coloured (orange or yellow) flag on a whip or thin pole at least one meter high and brightly coloured paddle blades both assist greatly if kayaks are to be seen at a safe distance by day.

It is necessary for kayaks to carry a light when operating at night/twilight. Unless sidelights and a stern light are displayed, a white light must be displayed in sufficient time to prevent a collision. Kayaks should carry a bright torch to shine so that other vessels will be aware of their position.

Kayaks should not use flashing or strobe lights as these are used to indicate a person has fallen overboard. Other vessels are likely to investigate allowing close quarters situations to develop.

*From "Waterwise"
Issue 25 - Winter 2002*



NZOIA Instructor Training Workshops

Instructor training workshops will start this coming September.

South Island Rock 1

Wednesday 2nd October 2002 @ Castle Rock
 Thursday 3rd October 2002 @ Charleston
 Saturday 5th October 2002 @ Hospital Flat, Wanaka

North Island Rock 1

Sunday 13th October 2002 @ Taupo
 Sunday 20th October 2002 @ Wharepapa
 Saturday 26th October 2002 @ Auckland

WHO FOR ! These workshops are specifically designed for:

- People who are looking towards attending a Level 1 assessment, AND
- Existing Level 1 Award holders who wish to "brush up" on their knowledge and check out the latest tips and techniques.

HOW to BOOK for a Workshop -

Contact the NZOIA Office:

via email ao@nzoia.org.nz,
 post PO Box 11-090 Wellington,
 or phone 04-385.6048

Please make sure that you provide your full name, contact details (email, phone, address) **and preferred workshop date.**

The COST - per day, payable at time of booking and non-refundable except in the event of cancellation of course.

Members - \$65

Non-members - \$90

Safety Guidelines in the Outdoors.

*for an "alternative" view
 have a look at this website -*

<http://homepages.paradise.net.nz/petemcd/>

CAPRICORN BOOKS 2002 CATALOGUE

Reviewed by Jill Dalton

Well, what a real treasure trove of information this catalogue turned out to be.

Capricorn have specialised in books on the outdoors since 1992 and sell by mail order. There is everything from NZ Climbing Guides, alpine history, tramping and adventure guides, caving, to the more interesting bits on Instruction manuals for mountaineering, ice and snow, rock climbing, ski instruction, navigation, heaps of paddle sports books (I counted 33 kayak related books) and even a few on leadership.

Latest additions included:

Alan Richardson's Rock Climbing for Instructors; Sea Kayaking Safety and Rescue, and Climbing Your Best (training to maximise your performance), to name a few.

Capricorn's contact details are:

Phone 04 382 8639, Fax 04 382 8634, and email: wdaimer@attglobal.ne

CHECK THEM OUT!

REMEMBER

Use your membership card at

BIVOUAC

- you get a good discount on your purchases and NZOIA gets a small commission as well.

Still doing IT when I'm Seventy?

by Chris Burtenshaw (Lizard),

*a member of the NZOIA Executive as Technical Sub-Committee Convenor,
Rock Assessor and long time NZOIA member - lives in a van and climbs and tramps a lot !*

I feel like I've got something to write about now. When I was asked to write this I felt I had nothing interesting to tell you, Andy Thompson's article in the previous Quarterly said everything I wanted to say, but now something has come up.

Let me tell you about it.

Now, I've been climbing for a good few years now, 15 at last count, so you'd think I'm OK at the game and I think I am too.

Then recently I was climbing with my girlfriend in Wanaka. A friend of ours, Glen, had spirited us away to a new crag called Wishbone Falls, 40m slab routes, yummy.

We'd climbed one of these, probably a 17 which finishes on a small ramp, a bit less angled than the slab we'd been climbing and less than one foot wide. When I got to the anchors I couldn't use my usual dodgy trick on sport routes of clipping myself in with a couple of quickdraws (why do I normally do this? Because it means I have a versatile tool, the quickdraw, and no tangley cowtail. It works well so long as I keep the 'draws under tension) because I'd used them all up on the route. I had a snaplink and a screwgate, so I tied myself off with a clove hitch to the snaplink and bought Jules up on the screwgate off the anchors.

Jules was trailing a rope so when she joined me at the cramped stance we set to work joining the ropes together to rap off. Jules clipped in and untied, I didn't clip in and.....untied.....Wait a minute something's not right here. A while after I'd done it realized what was up. I quite calmly reached for the anchors and clipped in with a couple of 'draws that I grabbed off Jules's harness.

Now I'm no prude about exposure and will move confidently and unroped over terrain most other old(er) climbers would. This was something else. I didn't plan to unclip myself and if I'd been knocked, not very much, off balance, and this was a cramped ledge, I would've bounced only a couple of times on my way to the deck.

I was a bit pale after that one. After the rest of the days climbing was taken up with through consciousness and lots of double checking I sat down and had a think about how this could come to happen so unexpectedly.

There were a few things going on that day. Firstly, I was attaching myself at the top with a system different to what I had been using all week, 'cos I'd run out of quickdraws.

Secondly I had a preoccupation with managing Jules (she doesn't need it, just the usual relationship roleplay stuff) so my focus was too much on getting the ropes ready to abseil and not on my own safety.

The brain's a funny thing, well mine is anyway and I don't mind admitting that. The thing I've come away from this with is how easy it is to let the attention wander from where it needs to be, I get to think I'm good at this, my actions slip into the automatic and subconscious, and when influenced by stress or emotions (grief and anger seem to have the best hit rates with me) a wholly inappropriate action can happen.

To take something I've learnt from Yoga, injuries don't happen during practice when you're "in the moment" meaning you're engaged in what you're doing, not something else and not trying to fulfill the ego's idea of where you should be at and not dwelling on life's bullshit.

Then I got to thinking: What about when I'm working? Could it just as easily happen there? For me I think it's less likely, when I'm working there seems to be some sort of edge, a more onto-it-ness that comes from being paid for it?... Being responsible for others?... Who knows? It's still possible something could happen though.

In conclusion I reckon that if you keep putting yourself out there, keep crossing busy streets, keep playing games involving gravity and physical risk, then the longer you're in the firing line the more onto it you have to be. It's a bit of a numbers game and if I want to be climbing/tramping/whatever for life then I better make sure I don't become too casual with it or very simply I up the odds of having an accident.

CANOE ASSESSMENT

7th / 8th December 2002
CHRISTCHURCH

Get your application in now !

TO BOAT AND NOT TO BE

*by Mick Hopkinson,
Cave, Kayak and Rock Assessor and long time NZOIA member.*

Well I guess the season of 99/2000 will be remembered for things other than the millenium. The words of H.M. Queen spring to mind .. an "annus horribilis". First we had the tragic death of Niamh Tomkins which largely overshadowed the World Rodeo championships and left it a poor sideshow to the cretinous remarks of the Taupo harbourmaster whose sole purpose seemed to be to add insult to injury. The general public were left with the vague impression that Niamh, (a passing Irish Tourist!!) had kayaked/swum Huka Falls without a lifejacket. Why is it that as soon as anybody mentions the word kayak within 50 miles of Taupo the media trot out the harbourmaster again.

It's time to record that Huka falls is not the hardest water in the country; It was first run in fibreglass boats; it has been run for twenty years and has absolutely nothing to do with a pompous idiot responsible for licensing water taxis and counting fishing boats on the flat "navigable waters of Lake Taupo."

Sadly Niamh lost her life almost casually on a river that she was very familiar with and probably as aware of the dangers as anyone. Her death is very reminiscent of similar tragic accidents at the Mike Jones Rally in Britain where deaths have occurred in the midst of large groups of kayakers despite the organisers best efforts.

Both Gunther Schuppman and Robin Dodd died in rock sieves. Gunther was on the Nevis at what was arguably too high a flow for that run. But the group were leaving the country in two days! By contrast Robin died because the Hokitika was probably a bit too low. In the same time frame there were four other potentially serious accidents on west coast rivers...two shoulder injuries, a back injury and a broken foot. The one common thread between all three deaths and the various accidents was in each case a small lack of focus.. I am forced to hark back to the words of Edward Whymper who made the first successful ascent of the Matterhorn which was subsequently marred by the deaths of three of his party on the descent..."Remember that a moments inattention can ruin the happiness of a lifetime".

A further factor in the deaths of Robin and Gunther was that they were paddling rodeo boats. Gunther was in a Gliss; the rest of his team were in larger "creek" boats. Robin was in a Redline. Gunther missed a line, pulled out into what he thought was an eddy, waved to his friends before doing an involuntary tail stand and being sucked into a powerful sieve at the bottom of the eddy. Robin hit a small hole that marginally slowed him down as he ran a not very hard drop. He subbed out on the seam line below and never re-surfaced.

At the end of this article is an email from Chris Emerick who was on the Hokitika trip. I asked his opinion about boats although I knew he already had made up his mind. We had paddled the Hokitika together before Christmas. Our whole team were in creek boats. He was in a "Y" and I had a "Phat". I would like to bring your attention to one particular line "It is a judgement call for all travellers to New Zealand to bring either a playboat or a creekboat". I guess it was certainly a judgement call for Gunther and Robin.

But is it a judgement call for New Zealanders? The assumption here is that New Zealanders ..locals..Us.. don't have the problem of bringing two boats on an unsympathetic airline from some other part of the world.

No...the assumption is that here on our own turf we go out into the back shed and before every trip we look at our rack of boats and select a boat appropriate for the particular river we are about to paddle.

Sadly this isn't even close to the truth. Even after the two deaths I have seen numerous people pushing their grades, their experience and their luck in totally inappropriate boats. Lets spell it out...Super Sports, RPMs, Kendos, Medievals, Centrifuges, FJs, Ina Zones, Xs, Zs etc are all PLAY boats. They have no place on the West Coast for the average New Zealand "weekend warrior" (And even if you are some young stud running everything on testosterone and the "Full on" music playing in your head spare a thought for your parents and friends..they like to think you know what you are doing!) Just get it straight... playboats are designed to do all the manouevres that you absolutely don't want them to do on harder runs at the edge of your comfort/life zone. They have sharp edges and minimum bouyancy and pointy ends that fit neatly into the cracks between boulders.

A Mr Clean on the Rangitikei?? And he only broke his leg.. Does he deserve our sympathy?? ..absolutely not ..but his parents sure do! Darwin was right!

Those of you who have Graham Charles's new guidebook turn to page 146. Place your left thumb over the kayaker running the waterfall on the left of the bottom photo and focus your attention on what turned out to be a stunning cross section of the Hokitika river. It should be immediately apparent that the whole river bed is simply a huge jumble of boulders, a collection of sieves and caves and rock crevasses!! This is typical of almost all the Hokitika river bed (and a lot of other West coast rivers as well) including the "easy" grade four run that is becoming everyones first helicopter run.

Ironically its only in the latter half of the various gorges that the riverbed probably becomes bedrock. To paraphrase Dave Ritchie, who found Gunthers body in the Nevis river:- "It's like paddling through a load of old cars with their windows open". Now seriously assess your boat. Is it a "surface boat"? Has it got enough buoyancy to keep you on top of the aerated water when you are paddling over this series of man/woman traps. If not what are you doing in it? Are you stupid? Blindly optimistic? Or worse just cheap! If you can afford the helicopter trip then start prioritising..How much is your life worth???

I've seen trips where the better boaters have bought bigger, more modern creek boats but the rest of the rank and file are in play boats on what for them are the hardest runs they have ever done. I repeat "How much is your life worth????"

On Helicopters trips to the coast my worst expectations are that I make a mistake that ends up with me upside down. I take my punishment ..facial cuts, bruises, smashed elbows, bruised shoulders, cut knuckles. If I swim then up goes the ante..bruised knees, ankles, possible broken bones, certainly exhaustion and possible drowning if my friends aren't quick to rescue me. But I always expect to have the boat re-surface after every drop. I expect the chance to make that first crucial roll. I don't expect to get pinned underwater because my boat is too small!!

Subsequent to the deaths I've been approached to join a West Coast Rescue Team. Do I think its a good idea? Yes and no. Its a good idea if the team is composed of current kayakers who are boating on the West coast because it means that the Alpine rescue team is less likely to get itself into situations its not trained to handle. But it's a bad idea because it breaks one of my most basic tenets. You are already paddling with your rescue team!!! You always have been! It behoves every kayaker to be good at CPR, first aid and boat recovery. You can't hold your breath long enough for the team to be called out!! Witness the fuss about the three New Zealand snowboarders in Japan. The media never got to the bottom line. There were six snowboarders. Three survived the initial avalanche. The ONLY chance the victims had was if the whole team were wearing avalanche transcievers and the three survivors were carrying shovels.

So a few points about going to the coast:-

1. Paddle a creek boat first time there and only if you are really bored go back in a rodeo boat.
2. Sharpen up your paddling before you go. (In other sports its called training!)
3. Buy a new throwbag that won't break when you try to unpin a boat!

4. Carry a split.
5. Wear good portaging shoes and practise portaging. Remember the basic rule ..the minute the kayak comes off your shoulder then the job gets harder and slower.

6. But above all go with a good team which can look after all its members.

Deck carrys on rodeo boats in hard water are almost impossible!!!

Paddling in an all rodeo boat team is an enormous statement about your personal ability and your lack of need for a rescue.

7. Don't just run the Glenroy (or the Wairoa!) once and think you have passed the magic test. Go do it on a rainy day. If you are going well it takes 25 minutes! Now go and run it another 10 or eleven times consecutively and see when you start to make mistakes! Five or six hours paddling would be AVERAGE for most harder runs.

And you know what.... in the cold light of day or in some dark, rock bound gorge on the west coast when you are cold, wet, tired and a long way from home, to quote Cathy Lynch when I asked her opinion. "Its bloody common sense!!!

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SPARC RISK 2002 Conference

December 14 - 16

For further details and registration form visit:
www.safeoutside.org



www.safeoutside.org.nz

Water Safety Media Release: 10 Sept 2002

Water Safety Services Gasp To Survive

Essential water safety services who are already under resourced are reeling at significant funding reductions just advised by the New Zealand Lottery Grants Board. A further 25% cut of approximately \$1.5m for this season will cripple rescue and safety agencies.

Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ), the Royal New Zealand Coastguard Federation (RNZCF) and Water Safety New Zealand (WSNZ) today united to comment on the dramatic consequences of these cuts. These will include an increase in loss of life, the loss of infrastructure and a lack of ability to service the community.

In real terms, the impact on rescue services will mean:

- Rescue boats will be laid up if they break down and there will be insufficient budget for discretionary repairs,
- Training programmes for emergency service crews will be cut back,
- Drastic reduction in services,
- Lifeguard training compromised,
- Reduced ability to recruit new lifeguard,
- Rescue and lifesaving first aid equipment not maintained.

Despite the proven worth of preventative education initiatives, there will be reduced educational services to the community, including schools, meaning that:

- 15,000 kids will miss beach education programmes,
- A variety of boating safety programs will be impacted and some withdrawn completely,
- Initiatives for under 5's, one of the highest drowning rates, will be curtailed,
- River safety, where a third of all drownings occur, will be dramatically affected,
- The ability to reduce the incidence of amateur fisherman, who are drowning in significant numbers, is now a dream,
- Proposed new Maori and ethnic initiatives have been scuttled.

These dramatic cuts come at a time when planning for the coming summer has been completed thereby leaving these community water safety organisations with virtually no lead time to find alternative sources of income.

The outcome is that the public/communities will suffer in the coming summer. There is no doubt that injury and death related incidents will occur that could have been prevented. The safety net will soon exhibit large holes which will not be able to be repaired.

SLSNZ, RNZCF and WSNZ are urgently seeking Government support to make up the shortfall in funding for the coming year.

"Without such support from the Government we are not even thinking about making a dent in what is one of the worst drowning tolls in the Western World despite having some of the best services on offer internationally".

For more information contact:
 Alan Muir, Executive Director
 Water Safety New Zealand
 Phone 04-801 9600
 Mobile 025-725 028
 Email alanm@watersafety.org.nz



CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS !

Did you realise that WSNZ has funded NZOIA since 1994. This year the Lotteries Grants Board moved to direct funding and allocated NZOIA **\$ 00.00**

Take this article to your local MP and/or newspaper - help us to restore our ability to contribute to quality assessment and instruction on the waterways.

Police Advice to Hunters

Over the past two years both the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council and the Police, at the request of two coroners, have considered what advice to give hunters to avoid being shot and in particular the use of "blaze orange".

In this regard, after careful consideration the current police approach is that the responsibility for shooting remains with the shooter at all times and that choice of clothing colour rests with the hunter. A key factor in this decision is the fact that when the wearing of blaze orange was made compulsory in North America, accidental shootings of hunters increased - until hunters were trained not to shoot at it!

The wearing of blaze orange originates very much from countries with hunting environments very different from the New Zealand bush, where ground cover, terrain and bush density and colour are all different.

The Manager, Licensing and Vetting, is currently carrying out research into the accidental shootings of hunters. This includes analysis of coroners reports going back to 1979, photographs of a range of colours in a range of bush settings, interviews of shooters, collation of research into what deer can see, and review by an optometrist.

This project is expected to be completed before the beginning of the 2003 deer stalking season.

Based on early analysis, police advice to hunters is - If hunting separately with a mate, have a plan, hunt only in the area you agree to go to. Don't move into your mate's area, or hunt outside the agreed hunting area. Many of the accidental shootings while hunting involve either the shooter or the deceased moving into the others area, knowing that was their mates area.

If hunting together with a mate, don't move into their firing zone without telling them.

The scope is for placing the shot. Use binocular vision to find and identify game.

Current advice is that hunters should wear colours that are not similar to a deer, and which contrasts with the New Zealand bush. By next year the police hope to know a lot more about the accidental deaths of hunters, and will be able to offer more solid advice.



The new "NZOIA" Brochure

The image shows the front cover of a brochure for the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors Association (NZOIA). The top half of the cover has a dark grey background with white text. The text reads 'Outdoor Leaders belong to NZOIA!' in a large, flowing, cursive-style font, followed by 'NEW ZEALAND OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS ASSOCIATION' in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. Below this text is a large, black and white photograph of a group of people in kayaks navigating through a narrow, rocky canyon with towering rock walls. The bottom half of the cover has a light grey background with white text. The text reads 'The industry leader, providing excellence in outdoor instruction, since 1987.' in a serif font.

A copy of the above brochure is included with this issue of the Quarterly. It outlines the activities of NZOIA and if you would like additional copies, please contact the Administration Officer.



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 post & packaging 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 postage, (or 1 for \$5, inc. p&p).

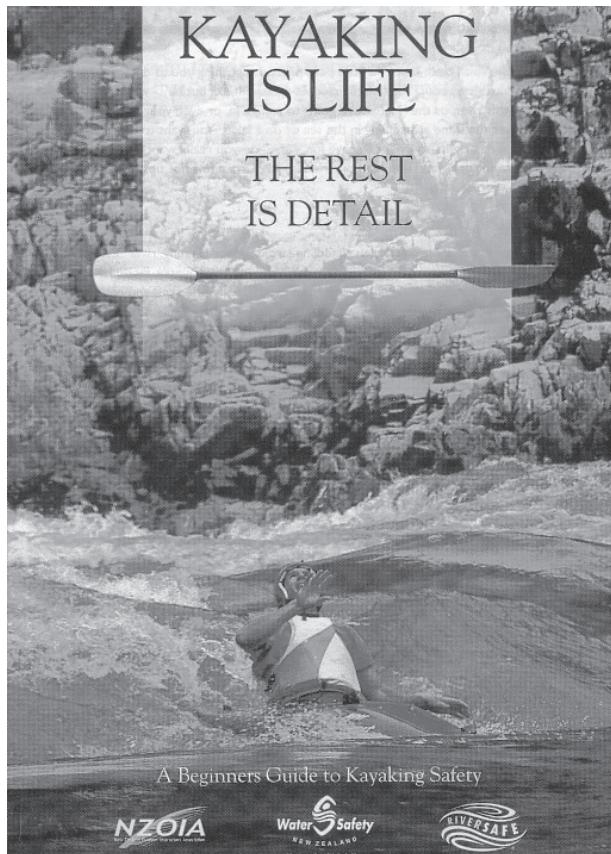
NZOIA Kayak Instructors Manual

by Martin Bell

A practical guide on instructing kayaking for instructors and course designers. 1 or 2 copies - \$25.00 each, inc postage. 3 or more copies - \$20.00 each, plus p&p.

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).



Kayaking is Life

This brochure is produced by in conjunction with Water Safety NZ, by NZOIA.

It's a great "Introduction to Kayaking Safety" and is **FREE**.

A copy of the latest version has been included with this issue of the Quarterly and further supplies are available from the NZOIA office:

Administration Officer
NZOIA, PO Box 11-090
Manners Street
Wellington 6034

Ph. 04 385.6048, or
Email ao@nzoia.org.nz

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

Booking for a NZOIA Assessment - *the routine !*

1. You must have completed the prerequisites before applying to attend an assessment. Please check the syllabus - they are all available on the NZOIA website at: www.nzoia.org.nz
2. Obtain an Assessment Application and Summary Sheet(s) from the Administration Officer (or from the website) and **return it by the closing date** with:
 - your assessment deposit - \$100 - cheque or Visa/Bankcard authorisation;
 - a **copy** of your log;
 - a **copy** of your current first-aid certificate (issued within the last three years);
 - membership payment (if applicable) - see note 3.
3. NZOIA Membership - to participate in an Assessment and obtain a NZOIA Award, you are required to be a current "full" financial member of NZOIA - membership details are on the Assessment Application form.

Please note:

1. Full assessment fees are: Two day \$370 Three day \$495 Four day \$640
2. We allocate places on assessment courses on first-in (with deposit), first accepted basis. On receipt of your assessment application, we will send you confirmation of your booking. The balance of the assessment fee is payable BEFORE the assessment date. (If we cancel the assessment), 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.
3. Advance bookings for assessments - we will take advance "pencil" bookings for assessments - this assists NZOIA with determining the location of assessments and other pre-assessment arrangements.
4. Assessment by special arrangement - it is possible to arrange assessments on other dates or for specific groups. Please contact Kate Bowes, assessment co-ordinator, (assessment@nzoia.org.nz) or Steve Scott, administration officer (ao@nzoia.org.nz) - see page 2 for full contact details.
5. Workplace training - If you are training on the job, SFRITO funds may be available to subsidise the cost of a NZOIA assessment.

POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS "ADVANCE" BOOKING FOR AN ASSESSMENT

If your polytechnic course requires you to undertake an Assessment in 2003 as part of your educational studies, we will take an "advance pencil booking" for you. The advance booking will assist us in planning to meet the demand for assessments at specific times and locations, especially where there are likely to be more applicants than places available. Please remember, assessment places are allocated on a first in (with deposit), first accepted.

Confirmation of the advance booking will still be required in the normal manner, with an Assessment Application and deposit, accompanied by a copy of your logbook and copy of your first aid certificate, **prior to closing date**.

NOTE. If your polytechnic will be paying your assessment fee, NZOIA will issue an invoice to the polytechnic, however you **MUST** provide a "purchase order number" from the polytechnic, at the time of submitting your assessment application to NZOIA.

NZOIA ASSESSMENT CALENDAR for balance of 2002

Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date	Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date
Kayak FW			Rock 1		
Auckland	November 2-3	October 1	Christchurch	Nov. 2-3	October 1
			Dunedin	Nov. 23-24	October 15
Kayak 1			Rock 2		
Central NI	November 15-17	October 5	Whanganui Bay	Nov. 15-17	October 10
Christchurch	November 22-24	October 10			
Abseil 1			Bush 1		
Auckland	November 23-24	October 18	South Island	Nov 2-4	October 1
Abseil 2			Bush 2		
Christchurch	October 26-27	September 20	North Island	Nov 14-17	October 10
Cave 2			Alpine 1		
Nelson	October 11-13	September 10	South Island	October 12-14	October 1
Canoe	December 7-8	December 1	Indoor Wall	On request	

NZOIA ASSESSMENT CALENDAR for 2003

Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date	Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date
Kayak FW			Rock 1		
Christchurch	March 8-9	February 5	Auckland	March 15-16	February 14
Auckland	November 8-9	October 11	Christchurch	March 15-16	February 14
			Christchurch	April 19-20	March 21
Kayak 1			Central NI	April 26-27	March 28
Central NI	February 21-23	January 17	Christchurch	Sept 20-21	August 22
Christchurch	February 21-23	January 17	Auckland	October 18-19	September 19
Murchison	March 21-23	February 17	Christchurch	Nov. 8-9	October 11
Christchurch	October 17-19	September 19			
Central NI	November 14-16	October 17	Rock 2		
Christchurch	November 21-23	October 24	Christchurch	March 21-23	February 17
Kayak 2			Whanganui Bay	Nov. 14-16	October 18
Murchison	March 28-30	February 24	Bush 1		
Abseil 1			Central North Is.	April 26-28	March 28
Auckland	November 22-23	October 24	South Island	Nov 29-Dec. 1	November 1
Cave 1			Bush 2		
Waitomo	September 13-14	August 15	North Island	Nov 7-9	October 11
Cave 2			Alpine 1		
	On request		North Island	September 6-8	August 8
Canoe			South Island	Sept 20-22	August 22
	On request		South Island	October 18-20	September 19
Indoor Wall	On request		Alpine 2		
			South Island	October 10-12	September 12

Come and check us out in... Auckland, Newmarket, Hamilton, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin or call us on 0800 BIVOUAC (248682) for more info!



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you get 20% discount on presentation of your
membership card at all Bivouac Outdoor stores.

Discount applies to normal retail price.



PO Box 11-090 Manners Street Wellington 6034 New Zealand



The *NZOIA Quarterly* is the newsletter of the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors' Association,
PO Box 11-090, Manners Street, Wellington 6034, New Zealand.
Phone 04 385 6048, Fax 04 385 9680 Email @ao@nzoia.org.nz



Educating In, On and Under the Water

Supporting NZ outdoor instructors

Advertise in *The NZOIA Quarterly*

A whole page	(170mm wide x 245mm high):	\$150 + GST
Half Page	(170mm wide x 125mm high, OR 85mm wide x 245mm high):	\$100 + GST
Quarter Page	(85mm wide x 125mm high):	\$70 + GST

Address for advertising copy:

The Editor NZOIA PO Box 11090

Manners Street Wellington 6034

Email ao@nzoia.org.nz

Check out the
NZOIA
WEBSITE
at
www.nzoia.org.nz

your comments and
suggestions are
welcome !