

Presidents Blog - December 2021

[e-Newsletters](#) / By [Shaun Maclaren](#)

***Wishing you all a Merry and Safe Christmas
and a Cracker of a New Year***



Kayak Week at Urupukapuka Bay 2021

As 2021 comes to a close, KASK would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout the year and wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

It has been a mixed year thanks to our friend Covid, but the events that I managed to attend around the country were full of fun and enthusiasm, both on and off the water and I look forward to more of the same in 2022, whether it be paddling amongst the rocks around the Coromandel Island in February and or the surf at Waihi over the Anzac Weekend.

Congratulations to Jacquie James, our KASK magazine editor for the 214 edition and a big thank you to all of the contributors.



Kayak Week 2021

KASK – ‘Meet the Paddlers’

In 2021, KASK ‘Meet the Paddlers’ roadshow has been to Tauranga, Whangarei, Whakatane, Auckland, Christchurch and Nelson with attendance continually growing.

I would like to make special mention of those who have given up their spare time to make these events such a success, Dallas Veitch, Caitlin Gillespie, Allen Snowsill, Jay Howell, Mark Aspinall, Ian McKenzie, David Welch, Aidan Frew, Steve Cooper of Auckland and Christchurch and Steve Flack.

In early 2022, it will be in Napier on Sat 22nd Jan and Wellington on Sat 29th Jan,

The theme has been about presenting information to the public about how to stay safe on the water. It is a showcase of how and where to access current information that people may not be aware of. It also includes some basic on-water training and recommends further training with local clubs, networks and associations.



Nelson

The training is applicable for all abilities, old and new and all paddle craft users. This is a great opportunity for local paddling groups to promote themselves. If you or anyone that you know who may be interested in assisting, please email Dallas

KASK Annual General Meeting - 2022

With the next AGM to be held at Kayak Fest 2022, only a few months away, it is time to think about submissions for the agenda, nominations for election and nominations for the Graham Egarr and Paul Caffyn Awards.

Submissions for the agenda and nominations for election will close at **8pm on Wed 26th Jan 2022**. Those seeking election or re-election will be advertised in the AGM agenda with a photo and a short bio explaining what she or he can bring to KASK.

Quoting Mike Gilbert from KASK Magazine No 208.

"Ask what not your paddle club or association can do for you, but what you can do for them."

"This is the time to ensure that you give as much support as possible to your local clubs and national association. Be sure they remain healthy and can serve their members needs, wants and desires. Their continued existence remains in your hands with your support".

I stress that these are not 'junct' positions and committee members are expected to work on behalf of the paddling community.

KASK encourages diversity along with regional representation.

We are looking for paddlers with fresh initiatives, energy, and an understanding of governance.

If you, or someone you know, would like to be a committee member, please get in touch with me via shaun@kask.co.nz. I am happy to talk through any questions or concerns in more detail before any commitment is made.

This is your chance to have a say about the future of KASK, to step up and make a difference, but more importantly to ensure that KASK is the voice of sea kayakers from around the country.

Graham Egarr Paddle Award

The Graham Egarr paddle award is for someone who has made a significant contribution to sea kayaking over the past year (or more). If you know of or are aware of, someone who is deserving, then please nominate them by getting in touch and sending a short portrayal to me at shaun@kask.co.nz before **Thu 20th Jan 2022**.

Paul Caffyn Bugger Award

The Paul Caffyn Bugger Trophy is awarded for the most humiliating, embarrassing, humorous sea kayaking encounter over the past year. If you would like to nominate someone for this prestigious award, please do so by sending a short description of the event to me at shaun@kask.co.nz before **Thu 20th Jan 2022**.



**KASK Kayak Fest 2022 at Hahei on the East Coromandel
Coast
Thu 10th to Sun 13th Feb**

With less than eight weeks to go, the excitement is now kicking in and I am so looking forward to the event. It promises to be a cracker and will be excellent to be able to catch up with fellow paddlers from around NZ.

As some overseas paddlers have had to cancel their participation, there are limited spots available, so come, join us [register](#) and have fun.

Covid 19 Vaccinations - it is imperative that all measures are taken to ensure the safety and well being of those participating at KASK sponsored events.

In line with Hahei Holiday Resort and KASK policies, participants are required to be fully vaccinated.

Proof of vaccination is to be provided on registration at the event.



Daniel O'Connor at Waihi Surf Camp 2021

Stop Press - Video Release

Surfing at Waihi earlier this year seems like a distant memory, but a great one at that.

From clips shot that weekend, Jay Howell with input from Deb Volturno and Daniel O'Connor, has created "**Sea Kayaking in the Surf Zone**" a KASK Introductory Training Video - A KASK Introductory Training Video -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqMEcZ7GSpM>

This video has been created with the following goals in mind:

- Provide a more comprehensive surf zone training resource to help introduce kayakers to the key safety and other considerations and skills necessary in the surf environment.
- Help promote KASK and kayaking in NZ, and provide KASK with a training resource that can be used in conjunction with the upcoming Kayak Fest event.

Thank you Jay for such a great training video and a must watch for those going to the Fest 2022

Help us grow KASK

If you have paddling friends who would like to join KASK as a member, please forward this link below to join online:

<https://kask.co.nz/join/> or as an Affiliated Club, please click on the link below: <https://kask.co.nz/kask-home/clubs/>



Happy paddling and wishing you all a safe and relaxing holiday.

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