

Presidents Blog - November 2021

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



Ken Jackson - Rock Gardening at Tawharanui

Hi Everyone,

As usual, it has been a fairly temperamental Spring with some great paddling weather as well as some wild windy conditions. There have been some great reports and excellent footage of surfing, playing amongst the rocks and caves around the country.

Being in Covid Level 3 continues to be a pain, but no excuse for not getting out on the water.

The past couple of months have been busy off the water with Committee members participating in online Safer Boating Forum meetings, workshops, the Water Safety NZ AGM, a Surf Lifesaving Working Group and a Sport NZ initiative for youth involvement.

The KASK Events Calendar is now up and [running](#) and I hope that with your support, we will see it flourish and allow paddlers to see what is going on around New Zealand. Thank you to Regional Reps and to those who have submitted event information as it allows paddlers to plan participation in advance. If you have a paddling related event that you would like to promote, then please let us know by either contacting your KASK Regional Rep or sending the information to [Steve Cooper](#)

The first of the 'Meet the Paddlers' roadshows kicked off in Tauranga and was well attended by paddlers old and new. Registrations for upcoming MTPs are extremely encouraging, which I believe is due to the effort that Dallas Veitch and Caitlin Gillespie have spent on promoting via Facebook.

The Auckland roadshow planned for Sat 27th November has been postponed to Sat 11th December due to L3 restrictions.

Thank you to all of the regional organisers, Dallas and Caitlin for stepping up to the plate, especially with Steve Flack currently stranded in the UK after having

lost his place in MIQ.

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 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.

I stress that these are not 'junktet' 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**.

Graham Egarr Bugger Award

The Graham Egarr 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**.



This will be of interest to old and new paddlers alike, whether you paddle conventional sea kayaks or something different. We will showcase what you need to know and how and how to access current information.

It will include some on-water demonstrations and training.

This is a great [opportunity](#) for local paddling groups to put themselves forward. If you or anyone that you know who may be interested in assisting, please email Steve Flack

Lockdown - Kayak Development - Takapu

For Dan Furkert, lockdown in late 2021 has been difficult and stressful at times, but on the upside there was a chance to spend more time with the family and get some long-standing projects finished. For some time he had been in the process of designing and building a new skin-on-frame boat that he hoped would be perfect for exploring the wild west coast rock gardens, and negotiating its powerful surf. The design took elements of well-known kayaks that surf well, along with some features from NZ longboards and traditional Alaskan rough-water kayaks. It was all put together using techniques he'd learnt building a traditional Greenland craft, with Brian Schulz at Cape Falcon Kayaks in Oregon in 2016.

The shape came together finally, just as he had [imagined](#) it, custom artwork by all the family 😊 and so far, it has more than lived up to its planned job of surviving fun ocean whitewater, and exploring the details of the [west coast](#).

Dan is now looking forward to pushing it further in new paddling spots soon, without lockdown barriers!

Tasman Crossing

NSWSKC paddler Richard Barnes is planning to set off from Sydney any day now on his solo crossing of the Tasman in Blue Moon, his incredible self-built kayak.

Paddlers from both sides of the ditch wish him well on this inspirational adventure and look forward to listening about his adventure in the New Year. Richard's adventure can be followed on the [Blue Moon FB group](#) and it will be possible to track his journey by [following](#)



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

With less than a hundred days 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.

Although registrations were closed there are still some places available for the Fest after cancellations and places held aside for possible instructors and students were not taken.

To register please email the organisers at hq@kask.co.nz

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 Top Ten Campsite and KASK policies, participants are required to be fully vaccinated.

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



International Kayakers Week (IKW) - 2022

Will be based at Stony Bay DOC, between Port Jackson and Port Charles on the north-eastern coast of the Coromandel Peninsula, following the KASK Kayak Fest. It will be hosted by the [Te Henga Caving Club \(THCC\)](#)

The plan is to enjoy the remote and beautiful location, and take advantage of the chance to explore and play along the coastline, caves and stony beaches.

With the right swell there may be surf at Waikawau a short drive or half-day paddle to the south. Great Barrier is only 20 km away, so a circumnavigation or two-day return trip may be an option for those always looking to the horizon.

Details can be found at on the [KASK website](#) and for the latest and up to the minute info - please go to [International Kayakers Week \(IKW\) 2022 NZ facebook group](#)

New Zealand Sea Kayaker Magazine

Edition 214 is planned for mid December with submission cut-off for articles and photographs being at the end of this week, Thu 25th Nov 21.

If you have any material, articles, reviews, humour and any stunning 'portrait' photographs that should be on the cover, please send to Jacquie@kask.co.nz

A Christmas present idea for the kayaker that has everything?

Kayakasia making bags from kayaks - a story about what one adventure tourism company in the Philippines did when the tourists stopped coming due to Covid. To keep their staff employed they recycled their inflatable kayaks into kayak-themed bags, which they are now selling online - [see](#)

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/>



Stay Safe on the Water and Match your Skills to the Conditions

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