

# President's Blog – November 2022

Well judging by the lack of submissions for the last magazine it's been a quiet time kayaking wise for most of us but your Committee and the Kayak Fest organising team have been anything but quiet....

## **Magazine**

Please let us know what you want to see in your magazine and take the time to send us a contribution in the form of an article and or pictures of what keeps you kayaking, contributions to [Jacquie@KASK.co.nz](mailto:Jacquie@KASK.co.nz) by 25th November for the next issue please.

## **Website and Systems Re-Development**

For some time there has been some rumbling disquiet about our subscription system and this has not gone unnoticed. We had issues with our membership database not updating correctly and the payment system acting up so some people weren't getting the magazine and others weren't getting notified of their subscription expiring whilst others had their subscription fee taken from their credit card without prior notification.

Working with Karen our Administration Officer we have now got a good basic membership database and hopefully the distribution of the magazine and this e-newsletter is reaching the people it's supposed to. Sorting the payment systems is a bit more involved the way it has been created but we're on to it so please bear with us and drop Karen ([Admin@kask.co.nz](mailto:Admin@kask.co.nz)) and myself ([Steve@KASK.co.nz](mailto:Steve@KASK.co.nz)) a line if you have any issues and we will resolve it promptly.

BizX has devoted a lot of time and resources supporting KASK and developing our IT systems and without BizX and Tim Muhanadan's support KASK would not have got to where it is today but it was mutually decided that KASK needed to move forward and BizX could not continue to provide all it has for no return so we have gone to the market and selected a new web developer to update our website and get our membership system more aligned with our needs.

We selected The Web Guys who are based in Parnell (<https://thewebguys.co.nz/>) and they are busy redeveloping our website from the strong foundation BizX provided. Here's a sneak peek at the style we're going for.



Part of the website redevelopment will include a members only area where members will once again be able to access the KASK Handbook as well as find other resources like discounts for members and the library of KASK magazines. The new website should go live sometime before Christmas, the web address ([www.KASK.co.nz](http://www.KASK.co.nz)) will not change but the look and feel and organisation within the site will be updated.

### **A New President**

In a Moment of Weakness (and I can't even blame alcohol these days!) I discussed with Shaun and Ian the idea that I could take on the role of President. After some discussion it was agreed that I would take over as President once we as a Committee had resolved a clear path for our website and IT systems moving forward. This was minuted in our Committee meeting minutes of 2nd October so I guess that's it.

I would like to thank Ian for stepping up in February this year to hold the role of President as an interim measure and then help me move into the role. I would also like to particularly thank Shaun for helping guide me through what needs to be done. Many big boots to fill indeed. . And on that note I need to get things rolling for the various annual awards and the AGM that will be held at KayakFest in Hahei in February 2023.

## **Kayak Fest at Hahei February 2023**



I am working with the organising team (well actually just irritating them whilst they organise it I think in reality) and I have to say I'm super excited to get to Hahei in February and be amongst all the great instructors they have lined up in such a fantastic location. If you haven't already, check out the details and register at <https://kask.co.nz/kayakfest/>, Also check out the event page in our [Facebook KASK Event page](#)

**The Annual KASK AGM will be held at the Kayak Fest in Hahei.**

### **We Need Your Input for YOUR Association:**

I have convinced the organising team for KayakFest to make a SHORT spot available for the AGM to be held at KayakFest, probably up to an hour straight after the gourmet breakfast on Sunday morning, we will give you chance to raise any issues on the various reports that I'll circulate ahead of the event then settle in to confirm the new committee membership and then not to be missed present awards recognising achievements through the year (See below and have your say about who should receive these prestigious awards).....

**Submissions for the agenda and nominations for election will close at 8pm on Wed 11th Jan 2023.**

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 'junket' 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 [Steve@kask.co.nz](mailto:Steve@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 Memorial Paddle trophy for outstanding contribution to New Zealand Sea Kayaking** ([click to go to the website and take a look](#))

The Graham Egarr Memorial Paddle Trophy is awarded to 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 by email to [Steve@kask.co.nz](mailto:Steve@kask.co.nz). before **Wednesday 11th Jan 2023** .

**Graham Egarr Memorial Paddle trophy for outstanding contribution(s) to the KASK newsletter (now named New Zealand Sea Kayaker)** ([click to go to the website and take a look](#))

The Graham Egarr Memorial Paddle trophy for outstanding contribution(s) to the KASK newsletter, please consider the magazine you receive and what makes it something you look forward to receiving then nominate the relevant person who made that happen... Let me know your nomination by email to [Steve@KASK.co.nz](mailto:Steve@KASK.co.nz) before **Wednesday 11th January 2023**.

**The Paul Caffyn “Bugger! of the Year” award** ([click to go to the website and take a look](#))



The Paul Caffyn Bigger 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 [Steve@kask.co.nz](mailto:Steve@kask.co.nz). before **Wednesday 11th Jan 2023** .

Well that is (as usual) too much from me I'm off to prepare for KayakSafe presentations in Nelson and Dunedin at the beginning of December, [check it out here and let your friends know](#) (The flights will give me time to read **your contributions** in the next magazine get them to [Jacquie@kask.co.nz](mailto:Jacquie@kask.co.nz) by 25th November)....

As always stay safe on the water....

**Learn**

- PFDs
- Communication
- Marine forecasts
- What to wear
- Hazards
- Emergencies

**Practice**

- Local conditions
- Kayaks and paddles
- Trip planning
- VHF radios
- Staying out of trouble!

**Meet**

**Your kayaking community!**

Tauranga, 12 Nov 2022

- Christchurch, 22 Nov (Presentation) 26 Nov (Practical) • Waitangi, 3 Dec 2022
- Auckland, 8 Dec 2022 (Presentation) 10 Dec 2022 (Practical)
- Wellington, 10 Dec 2022
- Nelson 2 December (Presentation) 3 December (Practical)
- Dunedin 4 December • Timaru TBD

**Safer Boating Forum**

Steve Cooper  
President  
Kiwi Association of Sea Kayakers

<http://www.kask.co.nz>

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