

Presidents AGM Report – March 2019

This is a special and sad presidents report – as in May, Paul Caffyn will celebrate his 200th and final edition as being editor of the KASK magazine.

A truly momentous achievement and at the same time a cause for reflection for all that the magazine has achieved, but more importantly what Paul has done for sea kayaking in New Zealand and around the world – thank you Paul.

Governance: A thank you to the 2018 Committee members of Ian McKenzie, Ruth Henderson, Sandy Ferguson, Paul Caffyn, Steve Flack, Peter Brooks and Tim Muhundan for their time and effort in working towards KASK being more sustainable for generations to come.

Special thanks to outgoing committee members, Peter Brooks and Sandy Ferguson for your help and time during the last year and in Sandy's case for being webmaster for the past decade.

Thank you also to Karen Grant who has done a wonderful job as administrator with the accounts and with email communication to members and preparing reports.

This year's AGM (required by our constitution) will be electronic giving a wider participation to all members. The AGM reports (as well as this report) is available to all KASK financial members by going to <https://kask.co.nz/agm>, allowing plenty of time for members to digest the information and make submissions / questions.

Continuing with the vision from 2017:



We have concentrated our efforts during the past year to what we believe is important to our members and the sustainability of KASK. Here is a summary of the outcomes we achieved that aligned with our vision:

- 1. Membership:** This year we have worked on improving the experience for new and existing members by upgrading our system with the introduction of a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform. We have continued to connect with established and emerging kayaking groups, networks and clubs to offer them the benefits of Club Affiliated Membership to their paddlers as well as to KASK.

- 2. External Relationships:** We have continued to build our relationship with our external partners in water safety and have been actively involved in various water safety initiatives such as the national Safer Boating Week campaign. More importantly, as a founder member of the Safer Boating Forum, we continue to represent the association on behalf of paddlers, networks, clubs and groups on the national stage.

3. CHECK THE WEATHER
The marine weather forecast is your friend.
Take note of wind speed over water and the size of waves or swell. If on inland waterways and lakes, check the land or mountain weather forecast.
• Download the free MetService Marine App
• Visit metservice.co.nz

**BE SAFE
BE SEEN**

1. You're responsible for your own safety, your craft and any passenger, so learn how to paddle safely. Remember, in some areas you can be fined for not wearing a lifejacket.
2. Keep a good lookout at all times and never assume you can be seen. Wear bright clothing and make sure your boat is highly visible with safety flags etc.
3. Wear a white head torch between sunset and sunrise so others can see you. Or even better, display an all-round white light.

WHAT'S THE PLAN, STAN?
Make sure someone on shore knows what you're up to. Tell a mate or family member where you're leaving from, where you're going, how many people you're with and when you think you'll be back. Tell them what to do if you don't return – call the Police.

MetService
ALL THE MARINE FORECASTS AND TIDES – PLUS HEAPS MORE IN ONE HANDY APP
SEARCH: **METSERVICE MARINE**

- 3. New Zealand Sea Kayaker Magazine:** The magazine and Paul may seem synonymous and it will be strange not having his direct input after the 200th edition in May. We have a new magazine editor waiting in the wings, Jacquie James of the Auckland Canoe Club and as a token of our respect and gratitude to Paul, it is planned that the 201st edition be in honour of Paul and his paddling achievements.

The future of the magazine will depend solely on the volume and quality of content that the editor has to work with from members and subscribers. It is intended that a more regional flavour be gradually be introduced

The magazine will continue to be offered to members in print, electronic version or both.

The long- term vision is for it to be produced in digital format only.

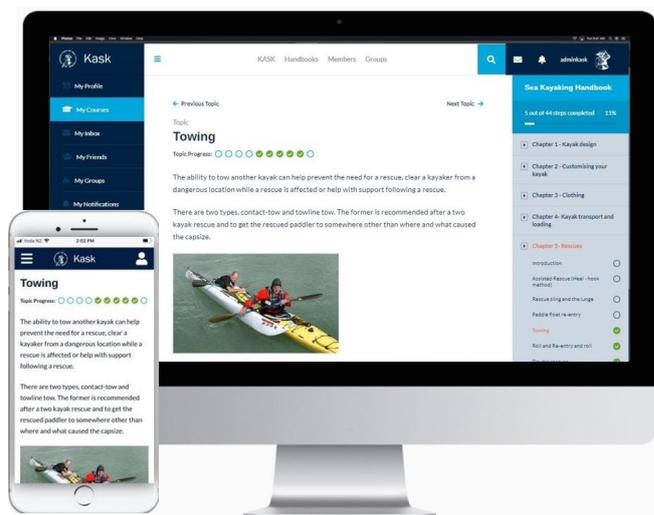
4. Web site and IT Systems:

I would like to thank Sandy Fergusson who has done a professional job over the last decade with the Website.

As part of the upgrade of our IT systems, I would like to thank our core sponsor, Tim Muhundan of BizX.nz, for the huge amount of hours that he and his team have dedicated to making our new website so professionally appealing to all who are directed to and enjoy the site.

The web site will be operated and managed by a web content team who will be trained to maintain the suite and keep it current. It will be a site where the KASK committee and members will be able to post content / blogs and be able to easily connect and interact with KASK members. The new web site also integrated with the new membership system and the Kayak Fest Events database and our eNewsletter system – so members have a consistent user experience across all touchpoints.

5. **KASK Sea Kayaking Web App:** The KASK 'interactive' app will be launched before the AGM in April. It will be free to paddlers from round the NZ. Not only will it contain the latest version of the KASK Handbook, technical and safety information, but will be a point of access for paddlers, networks, clubs and groups to be able to make use of the comprehensive 'NZ event and trip calendar'. Affiliated clubs, networks and groups will be able to display and promote what is going on around the country.



6. **Events:** Building on the great KASK Kayak Fest that was held last year at Mana, Wellington, Kayak Fest 2020 will very much be an 'on-water event, run over three days and be held in the Bay of Islands on Urupukapuka Island from 6 to 9 February. The organising team of Glenda Ray, Shelley Stuart, Chris Breen, Andy Harding, Mark Aspinall and Shaun Maclaren, all of whom were involved in Ponui Island in 2017 are excited about what the venue has to offer and the inclusion of 'non-paddling partners.'

Live registration was successful with good feedback. Early Bird is now finished with 60% of places filled. I encourage members to register sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment - <https://kask.co.nz/kayak-fest/>

It is hoped that the Kayak Fest returns to be an annual event, but with a two-year lead in for the organising team.

At this stage, we are looking at it returning to the South Island in 2021.

2018 saw us introduce the Paddling Film Festival to Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington. From the feedback and interest received, KASK would like to repeat the experience. This time for it to go to the regions and be hosted by Affiliated Clubs with monies raised remaining with the Clubs. At this stage, even though regions are keen for it to happen, no one has put their hand to host a screening.