



Presidents AGM Report – January 2021

This past year has been challenging with the arrival of Covid-19 and the effect of its subsequent restrictions on businesses and people throughout the world. What it has taught all of us is about being adaptable and dealing with what you have in front of you. The paddling community has been no different and it has been encouraging to see how businesses, associations, networks, clubs and groups have successfully risen to those challenges.

Governance: I am incredibly grateful to the 2020 Committee members; Ian McKenzie, Paula Renouf, Allen Snowsill and Russell Williams for their total support, time and effort in working towards KASK being more sustainable for generations to come.

A special thanks to Tim Muhundan, a Committee member of six years standing and past president who resigned mid-year, for his advice, patience, drive, vision and time that he generously gave to KASK.

It is important that the committee has a sufficient number of members to be able to manage, implement and carry out work that helps the organisation achieve its mission and overall purpose. I encourage anyone who wishes to give back to the paddling community and be involved on the committee and the association's future to step forward and make themselves known. I cannot stress enough the importance of having positive thinking, diligent committee members that enjoy working hard on the behalf of the KASK membership and are not there as of right.

Thank you also to Karen Grant who continues to do a wonderful job as administrator with the accounts, 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 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 and subsequent years:



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:

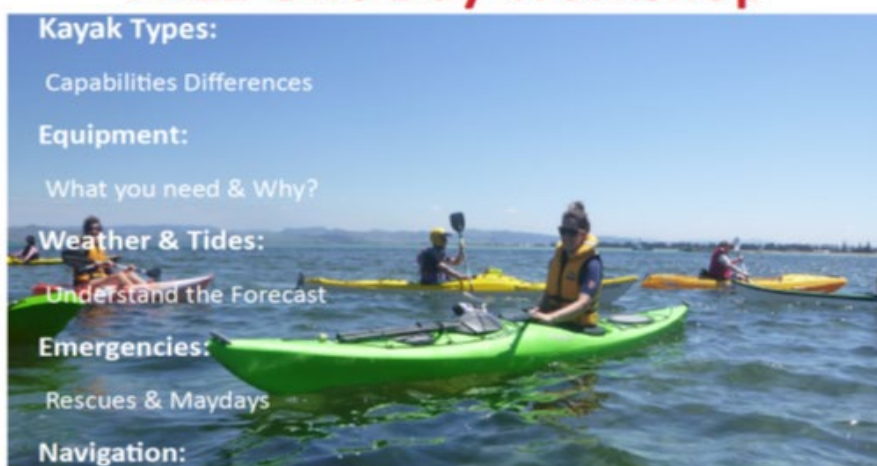
- 1. Membership:** We continue to work on improving the experience for new and existing members, connecting with established and emerging kayaking groups, networks, and clubs, to offer them the benefits of Club Affiliated Membership and Associated Membership to their paddlers as well as to KASK. With the different types of KASK membership available, the committee is keen to enhance those with 'Individual Membership by arranging a sweetener of \$25 towards Kayak Fest registration in the future and be effective for Kayak Fest 2022.
- 2. External Relationships:** We have continued to build our relationship with our external partners in water safety. As much as Covid-19 restrictions have allowed, we have been actively involved in various water safety initiatives including attendance at the virtual Water Safety NZ Safety AGM and participation in the Maritime NZ National Safer Boating campaigns. As a member the Safer Boating Forum, we have participated in all of the monthly virtual meetings and also those of the forum's Communications Sub-Group. It is expected that in 2021, we will return to two one day meetings rotating between Wellington and Auckland.
- 3.** As a founder member of the MNZ Safer Boating Forum and member of Water Safety NZ, that we continue to represent our association on behalf of paddlers, networks, clubs and groups on the national stage.

- In 2020, KASK successfully applied for funding to undertake our 'Meet the People' roadshow. During this coming year, we will apply for funding for continuation of the roadshow to be run by clubs, associations, networks and group using the existing format.



KASK: Meet the People Kayak Safety

FREE One Day Workshop



Kayak Types:

Capabilities Differences

Equipment:

What you need & Why?

Weather & Tides:

Understand the Forecast

Emergencies:

Rescues & Maydays

Navigation:

Charts & Regulations

Trip Planning:

Solo or Group Paddling?

Skills workshop:

Paddle Trip & Training

FREE Workshops:

Auckland	10 Oct 2020
Tauranga	1 Nov 2020
Waitangi	7 Nov 2020
Napier	14 Nov 2020
Christchurch	30 Jan 2021
Wellington	30 Jan 2021
Whakatane	13 Mar 2021
Nelson	20 Mar 2021



Nelson contact:
David Welch
davidjwelch58@gmail.com
or call
027 363 9554

Book to reserve your place now!



- As discussed, and directed by our membership at the 2020 AGM, we successfully approached Torpedo 7 to promote paddlecraft safety within all stores. Staff now recommend to all kayak and SUP purchasers that they should undertake training with local clubs and or specialised dealers and are also given a copy of the Safer Boating Forum 'Paddlecraft Guide'. In 2021, it is our intention to approach the likes of the Warehouse Group and others.
- DOC – Back Country Hut Passes: DOC has approached KASK to be involved in any future discussions regarding changes should they occur.
- New Zealand Sea Kayaker Magazine:** The decision to change the magazine from printed to digital created much discussion. That decision was not taken lightly by the committee and I wish to thank all members for their

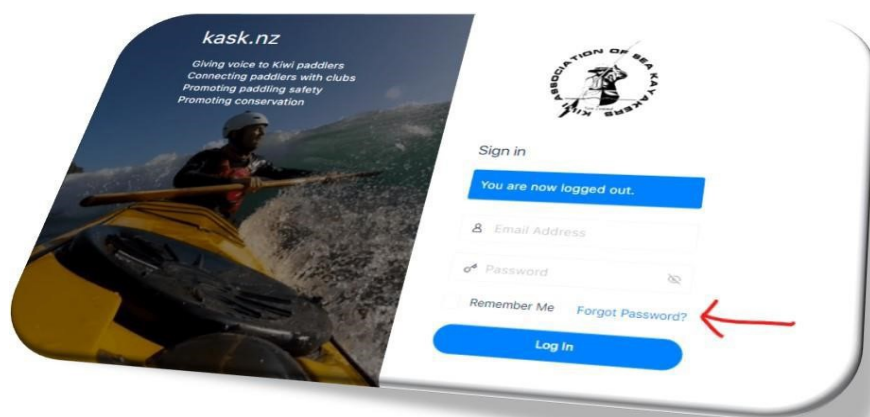
understanding and support. Like many of you, I enjoyed and treasured the printed version and as such, we will persevere to look for ways should the demand remain to enable it to be printed again. With Jacquie James now at the helm of the magazine, we are looking forward to seeing it flourish and grow. Following Paul Caffyn as editor, was no mean task and Jacquie knowing that there were no other volunteers stepped up to the plate for which I cannot thank her enough. Her dedication and feeling for the magazine enabled the magazine to survive and flourish and I ask you all to support her by contributing material. The future of any magazine depends solely on the volume and quality of content that paddlers submit to the editor. It is intended that a more regional flavour be gradually introduced.

8. **Web site and IT Systems:** As part of the continual IT support that KASK receives, I would like to thank our core sponsor, Tim Muhundan of BizX.nz, for establishing our website and for Jacquie James for its maintenance. The intention remains for the website to be operated and managed by a web content team who will be trained to maintain the site. The vision is for easy communication between the committee and members.

9. **KASK Sea Kayaking Web App:** The KASK interactive app was launched mid-way through 2019.

It is free to paddlers from round NZ and contains the latest version of the KASK Handbook with its technical and safety information.

Currently, it is floundering as it does not have a knowledgeable or suitably skilled driver, something that I am personally aiming to rectify within the coming months.



It remains the aim to maintain a comprehensive 'NZ event and trip calendar', where affiliated clubs, associations, networks, and groups, will be able to display and promote what is going on around the country.

In 2021, it is our intention to seek Maritime NZ Fuel Excise Duty (FED) funding for further development of the App for Individual KASK Members to have a greater level of access than those from clubs, associations, networks and groups.

10. **Events:** Building on the great KASK Kayak Fest that was held last year on Urupukapuka Island, Kayak Fest 2022 will very much be an 'on-water event, run over three days and be held on the East Coast of Coromandel out of Hahei from 10 to 13 February.

The organising team from BASK consisting of Allen Snowsill, Penny McComb, Dennis Hynes, Peter Bennett, Aiden Frew, Alison Lawrence, Aaron Dixon, and Andrew and Helen McMullen are excited about what the venue has to offer.

With online registration recently about to go live, it is encouraged that members register sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

As mentioned previously, it is intended that the 'Meet the People' roadshows continue in 2021, it will be coordinated and financially assisted by KASK, but with a local flavour being run by clubs, associations, networks and groups.

In 2021, in addition to the roadshows, KASK encourages and will support any regional training events in any way that it can.

11. **National Standards:** A working group of respected and experienced paddlers was established and were set the objectives;

"To undertake a wide-ranging review on the feasibility of implementing national sea kayaking standards, or alternative, in NZ for paddlers to aspire to. To provide recommendations to the KASK Committee by 30 November 2020"

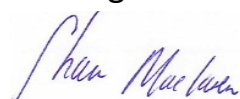
A survey was created, distributed and reviewed. The overall consensus being that current paddlers do not want a formal qualification-based standards system, but are open to further informal training and being informed of best practice guidelines.

The working group agreed that the best use of resources was to continue to promote, grow and develop regional informal training events, such as Sea Kayaker Inspired to Stretch the Limits (SKISL).

Members of the group are currently exploring working relationships with Skills Active, NZOIA and OENZ to see how we can work together and benefit each other.

Whilst I agree with the current paddling community on building skills through informal events such as SKISL. I believe that there is a need to create singular standards / guidelines similar to BCU, ACA, Paddle Canada & Paddle Australia for the future paddlers to have something to look at and work towards.

The bones of which are all there and just need to be assembled and promoted, using a self-administrating system such as the KASK Safety App platform and make it a 'guideline' for paddlers to be able to 'self-assess' their skills against.



Shaun A.P Maclaren

30th January 2021