

Jan 1991

VICTORIAN SEA KAYAK CLUB INC.



JANUARY NEWSLETTER 1991

Dear Fellow Paddlers,

This being the first communique for '91 I guess it is appropriate for me to open by wishing all a very happy and prosperous year, preferably one that's jam-packed with great paddling adventures and newsletters bulging with exciting stories about them.

Believe me, the potential is definately there! For openers we have a Basic Skills and Rolling Day (Social) mid Feb. in the Bay. A good opportunity for new and old members to meet and try out various equipment, (details to follow). There are arrangements under way for a Bass Strait crossing late Feb. early March, and the likelihood of a group touring the Whitsunday Islands in June/July, as well as the Calender of Events which you received with your November newsletter. I will be elaborating on each planned trip in newsletters or bulletins allowing as much time as possible for you to respond if you are interested in participating.

Also of great interest to all sea kayakers is the news that Larry's latest design, the "Nautilus", is set to hit the showroom any day now. Watch your newsletter for a "road test" in the near future!

Congratulation should be extended to one of the clubs long-standing members for his victory in the Murray Marra. Well done Anthony O'Loughlin (you must be made of iron!)

To all those people who send material for inclusion in the newsletter, please keep doing it! It may not appear for a couple of editions as I'm in the enviable possition of having more than I can possibly 'squeeze' into the rather limited space available. There are plans afoot to produce a 'once-off' document containing accounts of expeditions and events significant to sea kayaking in Oz. So if you think you can contribute, lets have it. Charts, photos, the lot! You might as well do it voluntarilly as I'll eventually hunt you down.

Mark Treggellas' letter outlining the enormous kayaking potential along Victorias Western coastline should really get the blood flowing in many of us who have not yet ventured to this seemingly neglected area. I for one will certainly be taking him up on his call for a paddling companion in the not-too-distant-future.

I'd like to welcome new members (and those re-joining after an absence) to the club. See membership up-date this issue. Membership renewals have been coming in only very slowly due no doubt to the festive season. To keep working in your interests the club NEEDS your money, so what about it!

Earle has been working hard on our behalf in the U.K and as a result the club is the recipient of the international Advanced Sea Kayak Club newsletter. From time to time I will reproduce articles of interest and otherwise pass on news, and anyone who so desires may borrow back issues to keep

abreast of happenings overseas.

Also of interest from our Foreign Correspondent is news of the Royal Geographical Society's Expedition Advisory Centre (see Earles' report, this edition) and his proposal that we establish a VSKC Expedition Report Library. Perhaps the afore-mentioned "once-off" document could become Volume One of an on-going collection?

Thanks once again to Sally Barton for all her assistance. I seem to be on the phone to her every other day. Good on ya Sal!

Hope to see you all on the water during a "bloody" good year of paddling.

Regards for now,

Sec./Treasurer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:-

John Basemore writes,

Brian Ray rang and we actually tackled the open ocean. If you like to have the pants scared off you, then this is the place to go. To be able to feel at home out there is surely the aim of all sea kayakers. To have faith in your craft, yourself, and your companions is essential. This can only be acquired with practice.

Sea kayakers seem to be solitary, independent individuals. To tackle the sea however, requires a great deal of skill and experience. We as a club appear loath to take advantage of our membership list, and so restrict our advancement in attaining these most-necessary skills, and miss out on a lot of fun paddling as well.

I once rang most members in the metropolitan area and managed to find one long-time member with a lot of experience who was interested to paddle on a regular basis. Another was contacted at an AGM trip, so now there are THREE regular paddlers in Melbourne. So ring and make it four.

PADDLING IS FUN
BETTER TWO THAN ONE
BUT WHEN AT SEA
I'D RATHER BE THREE!

J.D.B.

FOR SALE:- 1x Rosco single sea kayak, white with red deck. Kevlar/f'glass paddle. Used little, very good condition. Sell paddle sep.
\$900.00 o.n.o Ph. Jeff Sim
(056) 742 335 AH.

1x Geoff Barker Estuary - \$650.00
1x F'glass sea kayak (name unknown) - \$550.00
Ph. Fiona Raitt
(03) 817 1019

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:-

Sue Natoli, 5 Hannaslea St, Box Hill 3128 (03) 898 4582
Brian Wattchow, 31 Clarence Ave. Bendigo 3550 (054) 432 078
Anthony Mauldon, 18 Fifth Ave. Aspendale 3195 (03) 580 7159
Chris Sewell, RMB 7240 Forge Ck Rd. Bairnsdale 3875 (051) 526 536
Peter Newman, 192 Weatherall Rd. Cheltenham 3192 (03) 583 4402

BAY DAY:- BASIC SKILLS & ROLLING PRAC. (Social Day)

Date:- February 17 th. (Sunday)

Venue:- Ricketts Point (sandy beach in front of Beaumauris Life Saving Club)
Melways 86, C9

Time:- 10 am.

Bring:- Family, picnic lunch, beach umbrella, sun block, kayak (sea of river -- come even if you haven't got a boat) spare spray-decks, paddles & bouyancy vests.

I'm hopeful of a good roll-up to this fun-day with a wide variety of craft to see and try-out. There will be Qualified Instructors on hand (Mike Higginson from VBCE will be attending) so it will be a good opportunity to learn or brush up on skills under expert guidance. Bring a friend (if you have any!) See you there.

Contact:- John Hyndman (03) 499 1084 AH
479 3349 BH

November 9th 1990

The Secretary VSKC
"Marree"
4 Oakwood Lane
Tecoma 3160
Victoria
Australia

Kestorway
Chagford
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ13 8ET

Dear Sally

I have recently arranged for the club to be made a reciprocal member of the Advanced Sea Kayak Club, an international organisation of paddlers based in Britain. It has a current membership of about 500. John Ramwell will forward his club newsletter surface mail on a two monthly basis. Extracts from it can be published in the VSKC magazine to keep our members abreast of international developments.

Enclosed is relevant information on the Expedition Advisory Centre. As it clearly explains, it offers to the general public a wide range of services to help those planning expeditions, no matter how obscure the destination. Equally, those with unusual destination experience, for instance Lazza's east coast of Oz and New Britain in-depth knowledge, would be very much appreciated by the EAC. A precis of the trips and specific points on local customs, travel, climate, dangers, local contacts and overall permission etc would be of immense value to others to "follow in the footsteps". Equally, any of our members who wish to join an expedition being organised by UK people could make contact through the EAC. A great resource to keep in mind.

Wild paddling to all the members.



EXPEDITION REPORT LIBRARY.

The Victorian Sea Kayak Club is probably the most innovative, active and best informed such club in the southern hemisphere. It has always encouraged the free flow of information (in a country hamstrung by distance), has always sought broad supportive contacts with other clubs, has never known competitive infighting and has a reputation amongst overseas paddlers for its hospitality.

The VSKC, in short, is the leading light of Australian Sea Kayaking, but this enviable position also carries responsibilities. One of these is to ensure that the story of the development of our great love is properly recorded and preserved. And not just the activities of VSKC members, but of all Oz sea paddlers.

There are many things going on today which time, distance and fickle memory will dissolve tomorrow. I propose the club establish an Expedition Report Library to record the advancement of techniques, the development of materials and equipment, the knowledge gained of remote areas and the individuals who helped achieve these things.

Initially, the club should locate someone stable to act as Keeper. A request for reports, preferably accompanied by a selection of, say, 20 slides, should be made in the canoeing press and to clubs and certain individuals.

The primary purpose should be to preserve our earliest exploits from becoming overlooked or lost altogether. First and foremost, it will constitute a primary reference facility for those planning trips in the future. Later this modest library can form the basis of Australian sea kayak history and provide valuable material for researchers and even biographers.

In time, aspects of this information can be exchanged with overseas information centres such as the International Long River ^{Cave} Club and the Advanced Sea Kayak Club. Both are international in practise and outlook and such links will no doubt enhance the international standing of Oz sea paddlers (which some richly deserve) and encourage joint projects with overseas paddlers. Invitations to join foreign expeditions are common, but only possible when they know you exist! And as Australia yearly grows in world standing, so expedition leaders' eyes turn Oz-ward. Advance notice of VSKC expertise and hospitality makes the club the logical Host and Help everyone looks for. It's an opportunity to advance knowledge, make valuable contacts and open up possibilities. VSKC members, the paddle's in your hands.

E de B. Bloomfield FRGS

Mark TREGELLAS
3/115 Browning Street,
Portland, 3305.
Tel. (Wk) 055 231999, (Hm) 055 217549.

10/09/90
The Secretary
VSKA Inc.

G'day Sally,

Time I got off my arse and let you and everyone else know what I've been up to lately. About a month ago I said adeos to the city, packed my Yak, and headed bush. As you can see my new address is Portland, and it's turning into one mega sea-yakking area. Apart from Paul CAFFYN, I can't think of anyone who has done any extensive kayaking along the far West coastline of Victoria. So sit back, and grab a beer, while I outline some of the trips available down this end of the state.

Firstly, Portland itself. Victorias oldest permanent settlement. Founded in 1834 by Edward HENTY, Portland grew from scattered whaling stations along Portland bay, to it's present size of around 12,000. But enough of the boring history lesson, let's get onto the good stuff.

The Portland harbour gives excellent protection all year round. You can drive right to the waters edge, and no matter what the sea state is, you can always get out. During Winter the prevailing winds are from the South West, and in Summer they swing round to the North East. Due to the shape of the land around Portland, either types of seas always have a nice protected area that you can kayak to and land safely on. The worst sea possible is a Southerly, (the same as an Easterly) at Mallacoota, but fortunately these only occur a couple of times a year.

Our first stop is Lawrence Rocks, which lie about 8km's SW of Portland. Paddle out the harbour and chuck a right. Follow the coast along, past the Portland Smelter and a couple of nice beaches to a small cape called Black Nose. From there you head out to sea past point Danger. I had wondered why it had got this name and the first time that I paddled out the Rock I came around Black Nose, and what had been a nice little one metre swell, suddenly turned into a two and a half metre swell, with a four knot current, and white water stretching from the mainland to the Rocks. The SW swell wraps around Cape Grant and accelerates towards Black Nose, where it hits a series of shallow reefs and bommies which give rise to some breaking waves that you really would prefer to detour around. There is a channel through it all, but I think I'll wait till I have someone to go with before I attempt it. So bypassing Point Danger, it's an easy paddle out to the Rocks where on a flat day you can land. Your not really ment to land, as it's a breeding site for sea birds. However, the authorities forgot to place any signs on it, and there just happen to be stacks of ab's and crays, and fish galor, just waiting for the fry pan.

Cape Grant, is full on cliffs and caves that you can poke your nose into on a good day, and play round in the rebound on a bad day. Yellow Rock is a nice sandy beach, but usually has some pretty big waves breaking on it. The local surfies are there on most days, but there always seems to be a good lull between the sets, that let you get in. Care has to be taken though, as there is a good rip down the Eastern end of the beach, and sometimes the Horries can break 100 metres further out than the regular break line.

Cape Nelson is well protected and has some great sea caves along it's Eastern side. One of them cuts right in, then hooks right and forms a pool inside a cave. The Western side is all cliffs, and has some great rollercoaster rebounds. From now on your in Bridgewater Bay, and its all sweeping sandy beaches all the way to the next Cape.

Cape Bridgewater has a beautifull protected beach on it's Eastern side and the Cape itself is a fantastic area. There's limestone caves, Petrified Forests, Sea cliffs full of crystals, and unbelievable sea caves, full of Seals. There's one huge cave that you can nose into, (if you can stand the smell), and have arguements with big bull seals about when it's time to leave. A little further along from that cave there is a crack in the rocks. You follow it inside, it's pretty narrow, and you come out into a huge cave with a lovely sandy beach you can land and even camp on. From inside you can walk out through the Cape to the other side and come out. The rest of the Cape is all cliffs, with some huge blow holes and some smaller caves

After seeing Cape Bridgewater I fell in love with the place and bought an acre of land on the Eastern side overlooking the bay. There's no house on it yet, but one will be built eventually, and I've included a couple of extra rooms in the plans for visitors. From Bridgewater to the South Australian border it's the remote sandy beaches of Discovery Bay. There are no roads into this part of the coast which ends at Nelson at the mouth of the Glenelg River, which isn't a bad river to paddle up either.

Now for the big stuff.

Eight kilometres off shore and twenty five kilometres from Portland lies Lady Julia Percy Island. It's one huge breeding ground for birds, seals and Noahs Arks. Like Lawrence Rocks your ment to get to permission to land there, and this time the authorities did put signs up, however, when one of your party has a sprained wrist I'm sure noone would mind. Sixty foot cliffs rise up from the sea along most of it's circumference, however there are protected but somewhat rocky landings both on the North and South sidea of the Island. The South side landing is fun as thats where all the seals are and you just about have to fight them to land there. The Island itself is well worth an explore. Theres a small shack on it with a radio transmitter in it in case someone is shipwrecked there. Rabbits were introduce on it to provide food for shipwreck victims and promptly overan the place. They have only recently been culled off. If you dont want to paddle there from Portland itself you can head out from the Township of Yambuck at the mouth of the Yambuk Lake where it's eight kilometres straight out on a SW heading. Coming back from the Island to Yambuk in a SW'er is great fun. At times during Winter the wind can get up to 40 kno Combine this with a 2 to 4 metre following sea, and it's time to launch your Parafoi and hold onto your hat.

Further along at Warrnambool you can paddle out amongst sperm and Southern Right Whales. There is new legislation out about paddling amongst Whales, so I have enclosed a copy of it for the information of other club members.

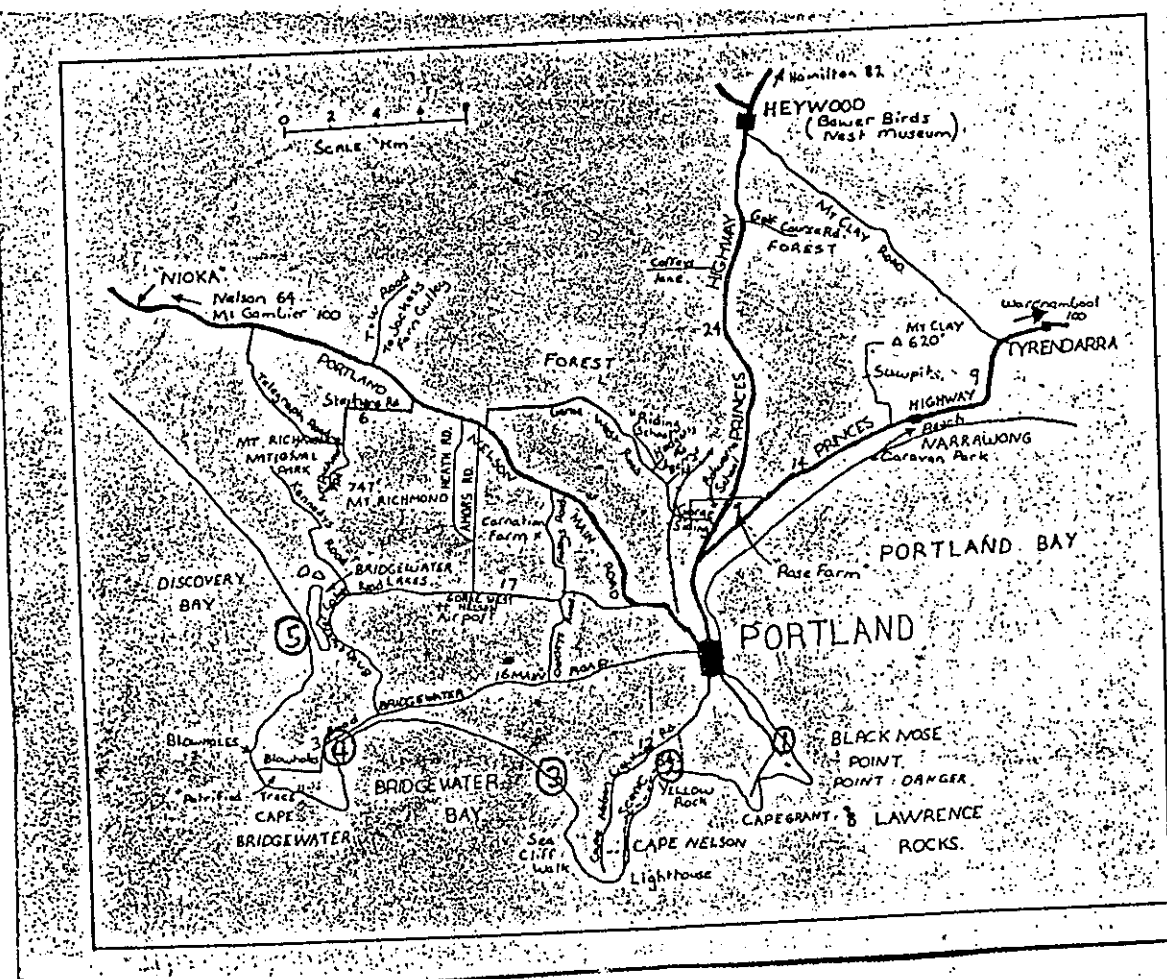
As for the ultimate, we have the section of coast line running from Peterborough to the Gellibrand river. This has to be one of Australias most spectacular coastlines. The trip to do is from the boat ramp in the Bay of Islands, then head Ea past Massacre Bay and the Bay of Martyrs, to Wild Dog Bay then the township of Peterborough. Then onto the Spit, Crown of Thorns, the Grotto, and newly collapsed London Bridge. It would take to long to tell you all about the wonders of this part of the coast. To kayak and explore the caves of the Loch Ard Gorge, or to pitch your tent and wake up on the beach at the 12 Apostles is an unforgettable experience.

So there you have it, thrills, spills, and adventure. In fact theres only one thing missing down this end of the state, and thats people tp paddle with. I think I'm the only one with a Yak West of Geelong. So the only way I can think of to remedy this is to invit everyone down here, say for the next AGM. If you can make it to Mallacoota then you can make it to Portland. I can even tea up free accomodation, and even have access to radio comms and 26 foot Shark Cat if the weather turns Growly monster. Of course if you can't wait till then, give us a call and I'll be happy to show you around.

As for new developments, I'm sure most of you have heard about Tonia ERELLI's Parafoils. If you havent got one, get one, there great! A new developement to go with the Parafoil set up is an automatic drag system that lets the Parafoil out in a slow controlled manner, which means you dont have to let it out by hand. And instead of using both hands to reel it back in you only have to use one. It's still under developement, and when we get the system down pat I'll include the details in future clud newsletter. Also I've been working on an automatic bilge pump set up for the PITTARAK. It consists of a 12 amp hour, 12 volt battery, set in a water tight ompartment which fits to an aluminium bracket fibreglassed to the Kayak's bottom. ere not only using it to power a bilge pump, but other radio and recording gear, which ll come in handy on a long trip. Were also working on solar recharging system for it. t present I've only got the bilge pump set up, and it works just fine, adding a fair it to the PITTARAK's self righting ability. When it's got all the bugs worked out I'll put the finished system in another newsletter.

So to everyone out there in the club, keep paddling, and I hope to see you ll soon,

Trigger.





PITTARAK by Larry Gray
designed to perform in our conditions

available only at **OUTSPORTS**



340 B Hawthorn Rd.
Caulfield, 3162
Ph. (03) 523 5727



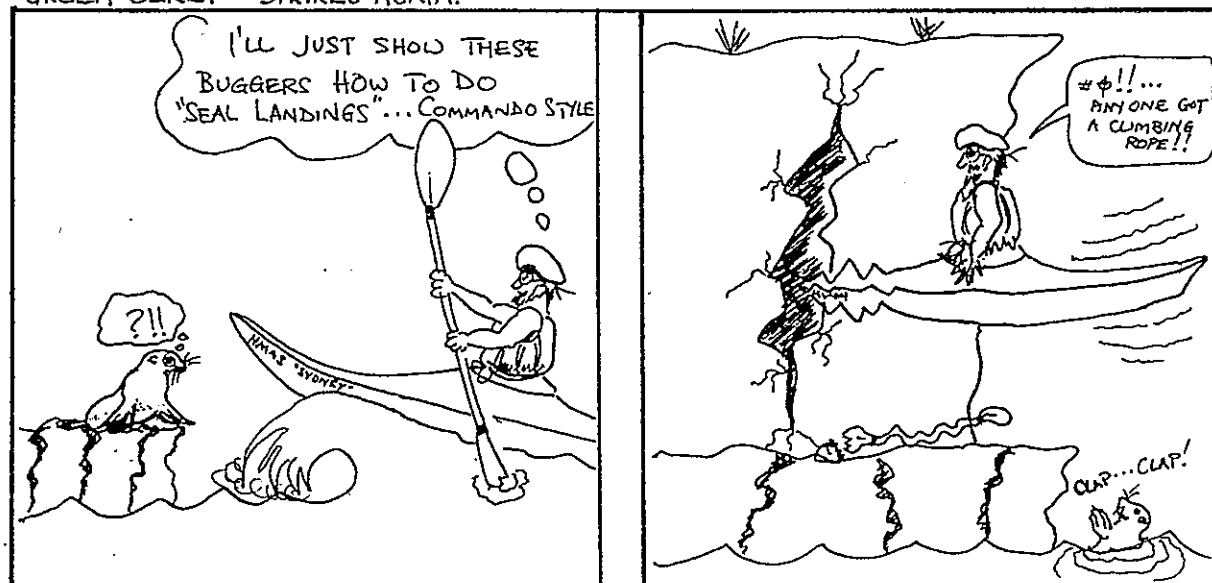
36 Young St.
Frankston, 3199
Ph. (03) 783 2079

Canoes Plus

Ahead of the Rest

140 Cofham Road, Kew. 3101 - (03) 817-593

"GREEN BERET" STRIKES AGAIN.

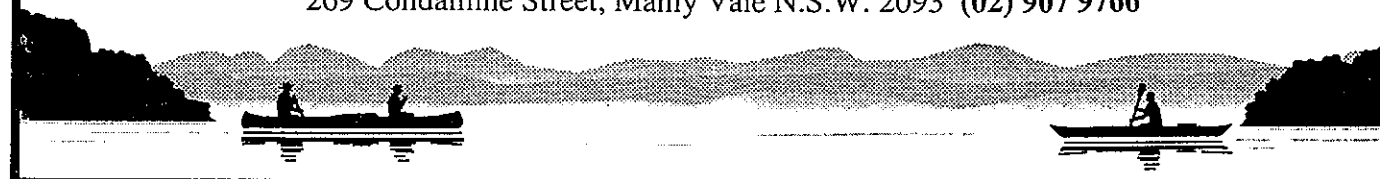


Q. Craft canoes and kayaks

for RIVER, LAKE and OCEAN

SALES, HIRE, ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS

269 Condamine Street, Manly Vale N.S.W. 2093 (02) 907 9766



LETTER FROM EARLE BLOOMFIELD: Foreign Correspondent.

Dear Sal,

Newsletter.

It was wonderful to read of the plans of Larry and his team. It's clear that many of the directions and perceptions forged by Australia's first major overseas seakayak expedition, AKEG '86, are being carried forward in great style. In my written report to AKEG's patron, HRH The Prince of Wales, I expressed that "In personal terms each man gained a great deal, be it a bagful of after dinner stories, a clearer vision of his destiny or the skill and experience to contribute to Australia's growing pool of expedition organisation and leadership."

Prince Charles's existing commitment to the development of Australian expeditions, through his Patronage of the Exploring Society (Melbourne) is not inconsiderable. As Chief Leader of the Society's 1980 scientific expedition I saw first hand how much talent there is in Australia. Two of my best young members went on to join the 50th Anniversary British Schools Exploring Society expedition to Greenland. One of their objectives was to relocate the site of Gino Watkin's tragic death in 1932 and replace the old (long since gone) wooden cross with a new metal one. Watkin's work of course lived on as the inspiration for Australia's first Arctic expedition.

Now we see, as I'd hoped, that the momentum is sustained with Lazza's ambitious programme. And I daresay that Lazza himself is very much aware that he stands as an inspiration for those young Austalians who are to follow.

My old kayaking master and guru, Jim Hargreaves, is best remembered for his pioneering British descent of the Colorado River and seakayak rounding of Cape Horn. But for me, Jim is the teacher who said that "You will not be remembered simply for your performance, but rather for your ability to train a suitable successor". He meant that the student should always surpass the master.

The historical aspect of all that leaders like Laz, in a young country like Oz, achieve or attempt somehow makes the events themselves, at the time, so much more fun. And so absolutely worthwhile. Without the inspiration of those with the courage of their ideals who've gone before, would we bother to look for the greatness within us also? The human spirit is made of brass and shines best with hardest use.

I certainly wish all those involved, however peripheral, with the New Britain project every good wish. The outcome has already been decided, and it only remains for that to be discovered.

I was delighted to see the Maritime Museum display featured as a photo in your last newsletter. The old tub where daily I ground my coccyx to a pulp appears to gleam deceptively in that hall.

One step down from Grandfather - John Rymill's 1931 sealskin model - is the Nordkapp. It was designed in 1974 by Frank Goodman of Valley Canoe Products, UK, in partnership with expedition members preparing for the British Nordkapp Expedition. The 480 mile journey from Bodo to Nordkapp (North Cape) took in some of Norway's most spectacular coastal scenery and difficult sea conditions. Leader Colin Mortlock and his six member team reached the most northerly point of Continental Europe mid-afternoon on July 29th 1975. It was the first modern major sea kayak expedition and quickly led to the introduction of an era of amazing voyages. That full story is yet to be told. But part of the tale includes the first modern sea kayak expedition in Australia, the circumnavigation of Tasmania in 1979. As Mortlock's Nordkapp was designed up from the more traditional chined, west Greenland style kayak called the Anus Acuta, the Tasmania Nordkapp sported further modifications of new deck and fittings crafted by Charlie Corser at Len Buller's Canoe Factory.

Whilst media coverage of that expedition tended initially to be local to Victoria and Tasmania, the successful completion excited a nationwide response. Radio and television interviews further elevated the world of seakayaking and expeditions to major prominence, and the ensuing expedition report and national lecture tours compounded this. The sea kayak had arrived. And "adventure" began to suffer a sea change, from irresponsible recklessness to the pursuit of worthwhile knowledge and challenges.

The Tasmania Nordkapp, in action, sported a 6" green bulge-eyed Loch Ness monster. A trophy acquired, after an expedition across Scotland's connecting lochs, simply because it so resembled my old friend Colin Mortlock. ^{Around Tasmania,} The monster-mascot managed to stay put on the front deck through waves which dislodged everything else. True Colin style. Colin himself and I have known one another for years, have been drunk on several occasions, and I still haven't told him of his namesake's suffering on my 70 day, 1600 km journey. The one they said couldn't be done.

But the kayak is there. Proof that it could be done. Thousands of young Australians each year visit the museum. The kayak waits patiently with it's vital message, "It can be done - anything you choose to believe in".

Foreign Correspondent

A SEASIDE HOLIDAY ... FRANK BAKKER

"Well...we're off then....?"

We were finally gathered with our gear stuffed in and the car shuffle done. A typical start to a week in the wilderness. For most of us this would not be an ordinary trip though. This was a journey along a remote part of Australia's South-east Coast.

Our starting point was Mallacoota Inlet in far east Victoria and we had spent the weekend priming ourselves. This allowed those who hadn't had much recent open sea practice to brush up on surf entries and landings. This familiarisation was good value to give everyone the feel of the ocean in different conditions as well.

Despite the practice we still had an eventful start. Chris's Nordkapp decided to head back up the entrance without him (maybe it knew something we didn't). Unfortunately for Alice (Yes there are women paddlers getting out there) we were all a bit close together in the surf and the Nordkapp sideswiped her causing a rather painful looking exit. It was lucky indeed that there was no serious damage. It certainly looked like there would be.

By the time we regrouped beyond the surf zone the shadows were getting longer and we had a two hour paddle to do. Gabo Island was our destination and we had a slight Nor' Easter in our faces. Our motley group soon settled into a regular rhythm and made good progress. As we breasted Tullaberga Island, our half way point the feel of the loaded kayaks was well and truly appreciated. This is what they were made for after all!

Meeting Larry (Gray) at Gabo was a pleasant surprise. He'd left 'Coota at least half an hour later than us but took the inside line past Tullaberga and must have gone for it too.

Despite the light showers of rain we partied on with the penguins and Larry's "Didge" till quite late. A good time was certainly being had.

A "fresh" 20 knot breeze from the south west was our next morning's prospect. As we were heading west and then north this was preferred. After a leisurely breakfast and various chit-chat with the light keeper and other visitors to the Island. Larry was spending another day here fishing to stock up for Christmas so we went on without him.

Once out of the lee of the island our group was committed as we were being blown along quite quickly. The wind was strengthening (25+knots) and white caps abounded, often underneath us. Some found this a rather uncomfortable hour and a half. Once past the Iron Prince and Cape Howe we were more sheltered and the waves became more manageable.

While re-grouping at Howe Bay we were witness to a "booking" by the (Vic) Dept of Conservation patrol of some NSW abalone poachers. They had been in at the Iron Prince which is 2km west of the border so they copped quite a serve.

From here on the coast became more cliffy and less boring. The large sandhills of Cape Howe were now being left behind. The coastline of South NSW is typically low cliffs interspersed with various sized beaches. Cliffs here are up to 100m high sloping rock slabs capped with gently undulating heathland and higher hills behind. Rock shelves are common as are sea caves.

Our camp at Nagee River was representative of this coast. A small river feeds into a brackish lake blocked off from the sea by a sand bar and seeping through rather than running over the sand. Touring by small boats such as sea kayaks is an excellent way of seeing a coast such as this and we were enthralled by it.

Our next days paddle was a return to headwinds and choppy seas near the cliffs. The nearer to the cliffs we paddled, the more rebound swell we incurred. Occasional rogue waves added to our discomfort. The look on Bruce's (Shep's) face after one of them nearly cleaned him up had to be seen to be believed.

Merrica River was the highlight of the trip as we had a rest day there. Fossicking for oysters and shellfish and exploring up river to a rather neat gorge was a real treat. It certainly beat flailing into a stiff breeze.

An early start on the next day gave us more pleasant paddling conditions. No wind and only a moderate swell were quite comfortable. We crossed half way into Disaster Bay in no time at all. Here the "gun" paddlers elected to round the infamous Green Cape while the "cruising" element headed into Wonboyn River.

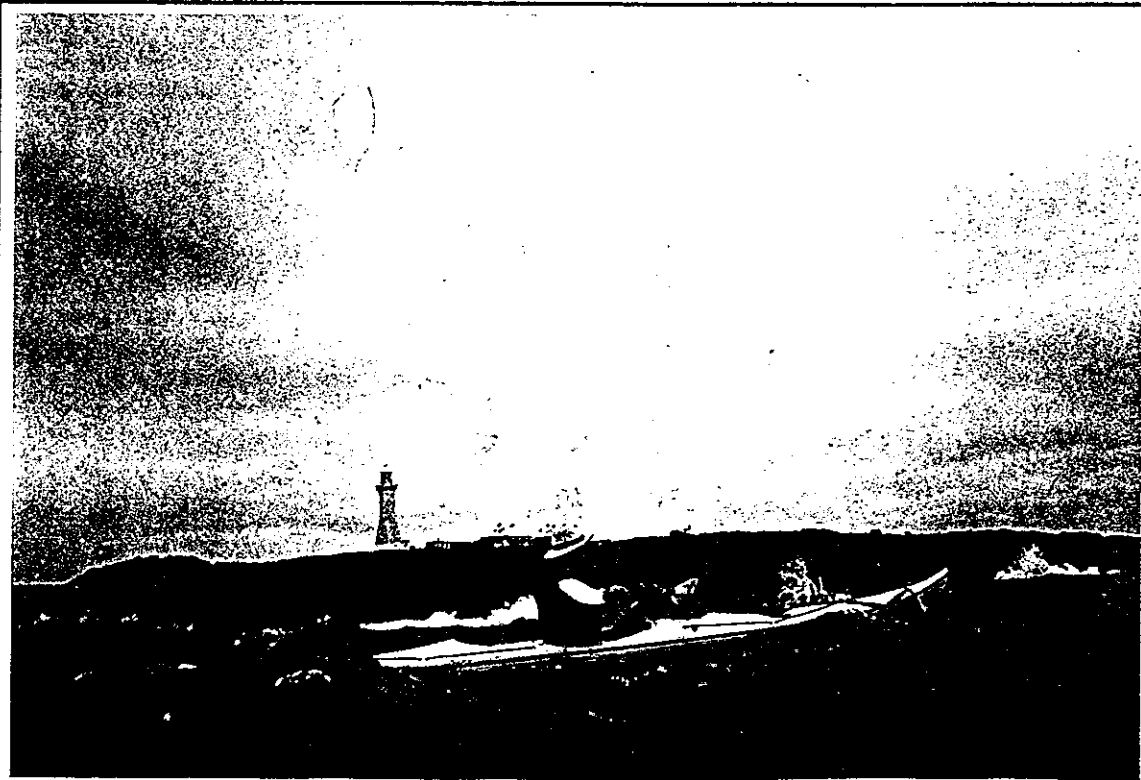
Heading around Green Cape was shaping up to be uneventful. The swells were not too severe as the wind was still calm enough. Not 50m from the light there was fins...lots of them. Chris had some apprehension here until we assured him they were in fact seals basking with their flippers up.

Soon we arrived in Bittangabee Bay at our journey's end. Yep, it was Friday already and some of us had places to go and people to see. We were on our way.

Our (very) merry crew consisted of;

Frank Bakker	Pittarak	Vic SKC
Ron Chambers	Mermaid	NSW
Bruce Lee	Greenlander 2	NSW
Chris Mills	Nordkapp	NSW
Alice Hesse	Icefloe	Vic
Mark Reeves	Pittarak	Vic
Brian Ray	Pittarak	Vic
Helen Murray	Pittarak	Vic
Peter Dingle	Pittarak	Vic

BRIAN ROUNDING "GREEN CAPE"



FOOD FOR THOUGHT:- "QUEENSLAND SAFARI"

Frank Bakker and a few other 'desperados' are planning a two stage trip in Queensland waters for later this year.

STAGE 1. Whitsunday Group - 3 weeks. It is proposed to cover the area from Mackay to Bowen, 100Nm as the seagull flies. There are numerous islands to choose from and side-trips abound.

STAGE 2. Hinchinbrook Is. Nth.Q. Lucinda to Cardwell - 1 week anticipated. Side-trips to Daintree or Tully (rafting) are a possibility.

On the return trip a few days at Fraser Is. to check out the whales may be included for good measure.

Sounds great! When do we start?

It is proposed to get under way around the end of May with a total time away of six to seven weeks.

Frank advises that these are fairly sheltered waters so paddling skills need not be too advanced. However, a commitment to gear preparation and paddling strength is expected. So if you want to go along, start training NOW!

Travel up to the starting point is being discussed. Bus hire and trailer is being considered.

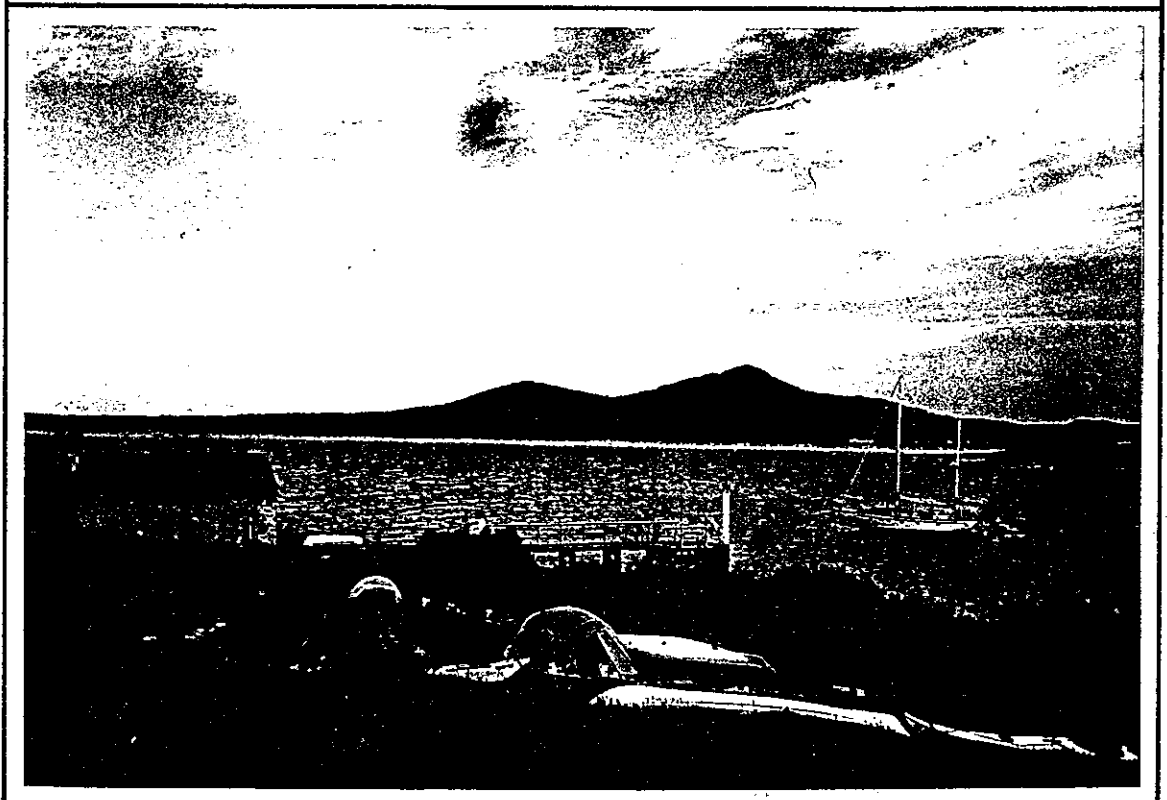
For info contact:- Frank Bakker

c/o Khancoban P.O.

NSW 2642 Ph (060) 76 9360 Ah

All paddlers are welcome but numbers are being limited to about 8 at any one time.

PICTURESQUE CAMPSITE ON GABO ISLAND.



Feb 1991

VICTORIAN SEA KAYAK CLUB INC.



FEBRUARY BULLETIN:- labour Day weekend activities. 1991

1/ Glenelg River (S-West Victoria)

Camping en-route from Moleside Landing to Nelson. Although not a sea trip in the true sense, this trip should prove to satisfy the 'bush-walker' urges that are extant in many of our members --- towering sandstone cliffs, wide reflective stretches of bush-tinged river. Good for the soul!

For particulars and vehicle sharing contact Graeme Wilson, (03) 479 3349 (w) (057) 831 511 (h)

2/ Port Welshpool area (east of the Prom.)

Layed-back island-hopping tour of the protected waters of Corner Inlet. Three to four days paddling and camping. Contact Doug Silke, (052) 451 642 (w) 442 510 (h)

3/ Port Fairy area --- day trips.

John Stomps is attending a Folk Festival at Port Fairy and will be doing day trips in the area. Anyone interested in joining him can contact him on his NEW number, (03) 773 2203



Canoe Specialists

SYDNEY'S SEA KAYAK CENTRE

Our range of

- Greenlander IV
- Larry Gray's Pittarak
- Tasman Twin - double
- Puffin

- Mirage
- The 'sit on' Dolphin
- Special Sea Kayak Paddles
- Expedition Buoyancy Vests

- Pumps
- Strobe Lights
- Hatches
- Rudder Systems
- Mariner Knives

5 Wongala Crescent, Beecroft, Sydney NSW 2119 Australia
Telephone: (02) 484-3934