

December 2010



Splash

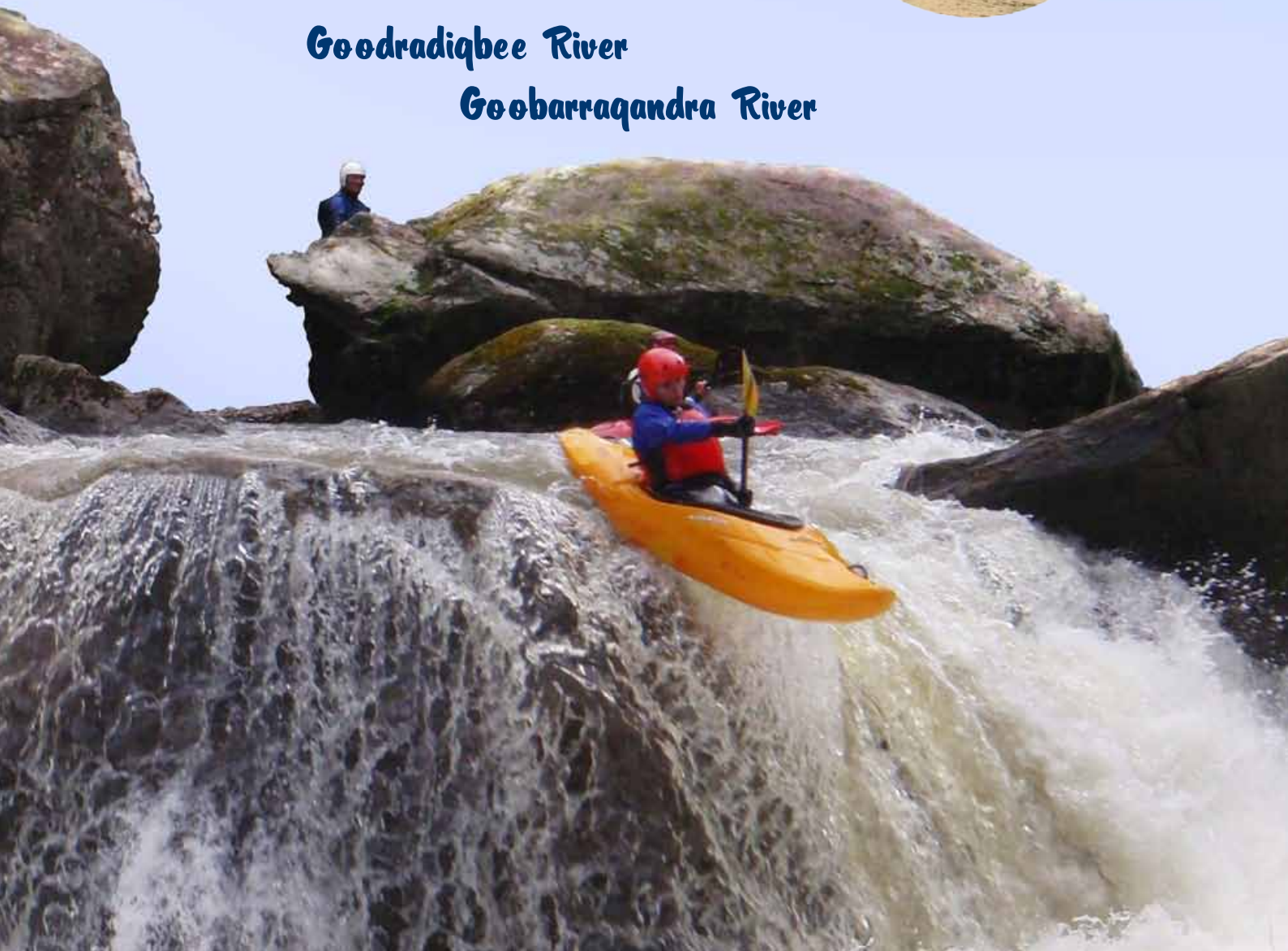
Magazine of the River Canoe Club of N.S.W. Incorporated

Inside this issue:

**RCC History Plans for the Future
Parramatta River**

Goodradiqbee River

Goobarragandra River



Committee members

President

David Barlow 0418 447 890
(coach(at)people.net.au)

Vice President

John Maddox 0409 988 241
(john_helen(at)tpg.com.au)

Treasurer

George Cowan 0434 930 702
(geomel(at)ozemail.com.au)

Secretary/Public Officer

Lynn Parker 0406 428 331
(lparker(at)netspace.net.au)

Editor

Andrew Norvill 0429 607 593
(anorv3(at)yahoo.com.au)

Web Master

Roland Handel 0416 000 507
(Roland.handel(at)workbuddy.net)

Social Secretary

Monique Alfris
(emailmon(at)gmail.com)

House Officer

Markus Bisping 0402 186 611
(mbisping(at)gmx.net)

Whitewater Trips Convenor

Tim Sindle 0438 443 541
(tsindle(at)gmail.com)

Flat/Moving Water Trips Convenor

Gaye Foster 0432 266 964
(gayefoster(at)optusnet.com.au)

Canoe Polo/Equipment Officer

Kristian Taylor 0402 286 847
(knight(at)knight-wolf.net)

Safety/Training Convenor

Andrew Love 0424 389 233
(andrew191171(at)hotmail.com)

Cover photos:

Bottom photo: Yoda (Jiri) levitates on the last drop of the Goodradigbee River. See page 10 for the article.

RCC equipment costs & other details

New member contact

Lynn Parker

Mob: 0406 428 331

Email: lparker(at)netspace.net.au

Club meetings

Club Meetings - Normally the first Friday of the month commencing at 8:00 pm promptly, at the Clubhouse: Richardson Crescent, Tempe - opposite Tempe Railway Station. Check the calendar as the date and venue can change.

New Members are welcome to come along to our club meetings or beginner paddles; contact Lynn Parker.

Kayak* use

Evening club paddle: \$5

Club event for a single day: \$30

Weekend club event: \$50

Price includes the following items:

- Boat
- Spray deck
- PFD
- Paddle



Note: Club policy requires all members to provide their own helmet that fits comfortably and meets relevant standards. Helmets are required for whitewater and surf trips.

Money is payable to the trip leader prior to club event (See note on EFT below). To make a booking for equipment phone the trip contact.

*Available for use by RCC members during club events only.

Marquee use (when not used by the club; members only)

\$30 per day

\$50 per weekend

Also payable, a \$200 refundable deposit upon return.

To make a booking for the marquee, contact any committee member. Money is payable at the time of pickup (See note on EFT below).

All money will go towards repair and replacement costs of equipment.



Payment via Electronic Funds Transfer

Payment via Electronic Funds Transfer: If you wish to pay by EFT, advise the trip contact/committee member. Payments must include surname and reason eg: 'marqueesmith' or 'boatsmith' in the payment comment. RCC account details: Account Name: River Canoe Club of NSW Bank: St George BSB: 112 879 Account No: 017455888

Mailing address

SPLASH, Newsletter of the RCC of N.S.W.
c/o 13 Centennial Avenue
Lane Cove
N.S.W., 2066

Next Splash deadline: midnight Wednesday 19th January 2011

This Magazine is © copyright to River Canoe Club. No part may be reproduced without permission. Non-profit canoeing clubs may reproduce any article without permission, as long as the source and copyright is acknowledged. Splash is published monthly without any spelling or grammar mistakes (they are randomly introduced inconsistencies).

President's Message

By President David Barlow

Well it has come and gone. Seventy Five years just disappeared in a blink. But what hasn't disappeared as easily is the history, camaraderie, recollections and fun that occurred at our anniversary bash!

It sounds trite to say that it was a great event but the simple fact is – it was!

I found it inspiring to see such a huge cross section of our club attend, from the wife of a founding member - in her nineties no less – through the next 75 years of members to the current day RCC paddling team.

It didn't happen by accident – so well done to all the RCC members – past and present that pitched in to make it a very memorable day! Thank you.

From the chit chat to the reunions, the food, beverages, anniversary wine, magazine and mugs, speeches of inspiring interest and the magnificent RCC historical DVD.

It was a great night.

Congratulations RCC on your first 75 years – what will the next 75 bring?

See you on the water sometime soon.

David

Editorial

By Andrew (Norv)

With the Club's 75th Anniversary over it's time already to celebrate Christmas with friends and families. Well done to all the people who put the effort in to help out with the 75th and fantastic work with the multimedia collection from Steven Molino so we could all see some of the Club's history.

As mentioned in the Calendar (at the back of this magazine) Penrith Whitewater Stadium holds some Christmas activities coming up soon before Christmas. Maybe even Santa will appear!

The rain still keeps falling! Paddlers are getting out there making the most of it. The Calendar and Yahoo groups are a good way to keep informed of what trips are running. Details are at the back of this magazine.

I would like to make a correction of a mistake I made in last month's issue. The heading of the article about Helen Brownlee being inducted into the International Whitewater Hall of Fame mistakenly had "IWHF" instead of "IWHOF" so my apologies.

I will be taking a break from my editing job in Splash for the first few months of next year for a kayak trip so if you would like to, or you know someone who would like to do some magazine editing in the meantime then let Lynn know on; lparker(at)netspace.net.au or myself know on; anorv(at)yahoo.com.au.

I apologise for not getting the last issue out to you in hi-res. I am still working on it. Thanks for your patience.

We have another boat for sale in the "For Sale" section. If you have any items you want to sell and want to get it out to people in the Club then send me the words and any photos by email and I can place it in for you. Who knows, even people outside the Club might read it!

Happy Christmas to you all!

Andrew

New or returning members

Welcome to the Club: Arran Mills, Joseph Dunne, Brendan King, Matthew Dornan, Jacqueline Kelly, Teck Loi, Kate Maclean, Sergio De La O Castro, Alan Hadley, Barbara Walter, Brendan Moore, Richard Bradley, Evelyn Beh, Bruce Franklin, Owen Hurley, Michelle Hurley, Joshua Hurley, Thomas Hurley, Paul Hudson, Sharon Roche, Bronwyn Turner, Bill Silvester and Sujatha Nithyanandam.

RCC 75 years DVD

Historical films and photographs have been used to make a DVD that traces the history of the River Canoe Club and the evolution of paddling in Australia from 1935 to 2010 as told by club members.

The DVD contains 260 minutes of action, stories and members from 1935 to the present day. It includes:

- Newsreel of the club paddling the Nepean River in 1936
- Footage of the Snowy River before the Snowy Mountains Scheme, with commentary from one of the paddlers
- The story behind the Sydney Olympics and Penrith Whitewater Stadium
- Paddling of some our best floods and falls

You can pick up your own copy of the DVD for a donation of \$15 or have it expressed posted to you for \$20.

Contact: Steven Molino,
Mob: 0402 305799
Email: Molino@bigpond.com



Advertising for a fill in Splash Editor

As the Editor of Splash I will be taking a break for the first few months of next year (February, March, April & May) preparing for a kayak trip so if you would like to, or you know someone who would like to do some magazine editing in the meantime then let Lynn know on; lparker@netspace.net.au or myself know on; anorv@yahoo.com.au.

Rivers Anniversary Wines

The Committee has arranged to celebrate our Club's 75th Anniversary with some good quality wines. They are just the right drop to knock down by the river after a hard days paddling or at a BBQ when telling tales of the grade 5 you conquered.

These wines are available for members and their friends until the end of the year at a cost well below bottle shop prices. The (small) profit made will go towards fixing boats, the purchase of additional equipment and Clubhouse repairs.



Actual wine labels above

Available:

NSW Chardonnay, Central Ranges, 2009
NZ Marlborough, Sauvignon Blanc, 2010
SA McLaren Vale Shiraz, 2006

The whites are \$144 a case and the Shiraz \$120 – mixed and half cases can be ordered.

To place your order please contact Gaye Foster.

Email: gayefoster@optusnet.com.au, **Mob:** 0432.266.964 (after 7.00 pm) or 94514969.

Order online: <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?ID=2950>

Next Club meeting (4th February 2011)

The next Club meeting is Friday 4th February at the Club house. Maybe with some Victorian Whitewater Safari footage or some other more recent trips.

Firstly we need to thank Julie O'Connor for the work she has done in preparing a submission to the Australian National Maritime Museum for funding to copy Holgers Super 8 videos of paddling in the 50's and 60's. It was detailed and thoughtful but in the end missed out. Persistent Julie convinced the Deputy Director to meet for a final pitch. After watching the new CLUB 75th DVD he suggested that if we could convince the owner to "donate" the footage and guide the project with a Club historical committee we would be a dead cert for next time.

So the RCC Historical committee is born: And yes, we already have two volunteers – Julie and Steve Molino who has gathered a huge amount of footage in the preparation of the 75th DVD. And then there were others at the party who declared they had other super 8 footage, and maybe more photographs, and memorabilia that should be catalogued, stored properly until THEY of the Club in the future start preparations for 100th Anniversary. We are very thankful to the Brownlee family and Barbara Walters too for her generous donation to assist with this important project.

Who else can step forward to help with this very important task? Its up to us, current and past members to see that we can do the best for what we have.

Please email Lynn at lparker@netspace.net.au who will coordinate the commencement of the project. And then, we need to talk Holger and Anke into 'donating' their footage (at least for a little while).

75th Anniversary Materials:

For Sale:

- DVD - \$15 hand delivered or postage \$5
- Booklet - \$10 hand delivered or postage \$7
- Beer Tankards - \$12 (limited stock)

A few happy party-goers have sent messages:

"Thank you for all your efforts with the 75th anniversary. We really enjoyed it. Still need to look at the DVD, but we had a wonderful night. Thanks to all for their hard work! Sincerely Chris & Geoff"

Just received a letter from Liz Burke in which she requested me to pass on the following:

"Thanks to everyone at RCC for organising a fantastic night – not only the committee but all members present and past who helped to make the night an outstanding success. Please pass on my thanks to all concerned."

"Hi Lynn, just a quick note to thank those involved for a fabulous day last Saturday. The organisers sure put in a great effort. On the up and coming challenge of clubhouse, I am sure a lot of ex-members like myself would be quite happy to rejoin if necessary, to help the cause. Just a thought. Cheers, Paul Nash"

Best wishes from many who could not make it.

Database of Past Members:

I have compiled a new list from those who attended the Anniversary Party – so if you have details of others who were not there, then please ask them to email with their name and address, phone number etc, so I can add them too to the updated list.

Cheers,
Lynn Parker

Sydney Harbour ~ Parramatta River

By Gaye Foster

Where: Hunter Hill to Rodd Island & return
When: Sunday, 26th September
Time Taken: About 4 hours
Grade: Flat water & dodging boats
Water Level: 1.25m
Paddlers: Jacques & Eve H, Teck, Susan & Gaye

There were five paddlers who met at the appointed location in Hunters Hill on a sunny Sunday morning. Unfortunately Tracy, Kris and Deb could not make it as they were on the flat water instructor course. Although a smaller group than planned it was still a great day out for the group.

Heading out from Hunters Hill we headed towards Cockatoo Island, crossing the Parramatta River while checking and waiting for the bigger and faster ferries and avoiding pleasure craft to just off Cockatoo. A bit debate occurred at this time – do we stop on the island or do we head to Rodd Island for morning tea and perhaps have a look on the way back?

The vote was for Rodd Island so we kept on paddling with a course between Cockatoo and Spectacle Islands, past Snapper Island, into Iron Cove and under the bridgeworks. Eve, Teck and Susan, our new paddlers, were doing a great job handling the conditions.

Rodd Island was now close and we headed towards it. On arriving there were signs saying the island can be hired but otherwise not to land. Being Rivers kayakers this did not stop us – a NPWS ranger was spotted and we got the okay from him to land for a break. It was a bit tricky getting out of the kayaks at the wharf (more suited to small ferries) but when out we settled in the sun on the lawn, Eve and Jacques doing a wonderful job in serving coffee for morning tea.

When we headed off on the return journey Gaye worked with the others, giving them some instruction on paddle strokes and technique as we paddled round the island and headed for Cockatoo Island. Once out of Iron Cove we found that the wind had picked up quite a bit and there was a definite chop to the water. Then there were the ferries and boats to avoid as well. We decided not to stop at Cockatoo, instead heading straight back to Hunters Hill so as not to delay further and risk the wind coming up more strongly.

We all arrived back at the put-in safely; our new paddlers having handled the conditions very well. When all was organised and loaded Gaye then rushed across the paddock to run the rescue boat at Hunters Hill Sailing Club.

The Rivers Big Raffle of the Year

By Gaye Foster

You or a friends chance to win a boat for just \$5 !!!

To be drawn at the Club Christmas Party, 12th December 2010

Follow this link for more details - <http://www.venturekayaks.com/#/kayaks/all/Flex%2011>

Gaye needs your help in selling these tickets!!!

Buy tickets for yourself or take a book and sell them to your friends and work colleagues - all proceeds will go towards fixing boats, purchasing additional equipment and Clubhouse repairs.

Contact Gaye Foster on 0432.266.964 or gayefoster@optusnet.com.au



Venture Kayaks Flex II - The Flex has been designed to be flexible whether the water is calm or moving, this boat is in it's element.

Proudly supported by:

www.kayakingworld.com.au

Unit 5, 44 Dickson Avenue

ARTARMON NSW 2064

Tel: 02 8084 9854

Mobile: 0412 616 161



Mayor, Club President, Club Organising Committee and the many canoeing friends gathered here today, I am delighted to have this opportunity to respond to the Mayor and to provide a brief snapshot of many wonderful years I've had associated with the Canoe Club.

I was first introduced into canoeing when my life long friend Geoff Barker (who was a sea scout) encouraged the building of our first canoes in 1960. The canoes were made from wooden frames and stringers that were enclosed with canvas. We lived on the Parramatta River where sailing, bushwalking and camping had been part of my family life. The canoes allowed us to explore the river, and gave us the appetite to seek canoeing adventures elsewhere.

In 1962 we joined the Canoe Club and I got my first taste of real canoeing when club members travelled to Cotter for a social weekend on the Murrumbidgee River. My chaperone for the weekend was Basil Slaughter (put your hand up Basil). I was extremely impressed with Basil's skills when he successfully negotiated with my father to allow me to go to Canberra with this unfamiliar group of people for the weekend.

I came to realise that Basil's negotiating skills had been developed over many years of paddling on rivers, confronted by rapids of all grades, where these skills were constantly tested and honed against mother nature. He could always work out a way through the swirling waters, no matter what difficulties were presented. The opportunity for me to learn this negotiating skill set the scene for many wonderful years with the Canoe Club.

At the end of that year I was exposed to a life thrilling experience. The Canoe Club had a tradition of a week's trip on a NSW river between Boxing Day and New Year's Day. This particular year the Club chose the Nymboida River. The trip leader was Tom Kersop (put your hand up Tom) and one of the paddlers was Ian James (put your hand up Ian). Nine canoeists were piled onto a table-top truck which had specially built canoe racks. The wooden Canadian canoes were placed upside down on these racks, with a tarpaulin thrown over the top and down the sides. Hay was placed on the tray and we settled down to an overnight trip up the New England Highway to Armidale and then on to the Nymboida.

It was raining over a wide area of the state and by the time we got to Armidale there was evidence of swollen rivers and creeks. We were dropped off on the Henry River (which was a swollen tributary of the Nymboida) and so commenced a most exciting and memorable whitewater canoe trip. My membership of the Club was 'locked-in' from that time onwards.



Club President David Barlow speaking outside the Club house.

Back at Tempe, the Canoe Club held its meetings and local functions in the two story boat shed on this site, having obtained a lease from the Marrickville Council. Downstairs was the traditional boat storage area with space for boat building and repairs. The wall facing the river was slatted to allow ventilation and supervision of river activity, and there was a wide wooden ramp used to launch boats into the water.

Upstairs consisted of a large meeting room that contained two important features – a large projector screen, and a table tennis table. Table tennis was a magnet for us youngsters and it quickly became a feature of meeting nights, prior to the commencement of the meeting. Once underway, the formality of Club meetings was quickly dispensed with to make way for the more important feature of the night, which was to share the adventures and fun of canoeing experiences from the previous month through slide shows and movies. But there was a third essential feature to club life. When I joined, the monthly newsletter 'Splash' was a one page notice of the next meeting and coming events. Within a few years, Splash had been upgraded to a magazine of about 10 half-size pages (containing stories of past canoe trips) made possible by the creative energy of Robyn James (put your hand up Robyn). I am thrilled to see that these 3 features have served the Club well and continue as a foundation stone of club life to this day.



Club Patron Basil Slaughter speaking to those gathered outside the Club house.

The first canoe I built at the Club House (in 1964) had a fibre-glass hull and a canvas deck. The mould for the hull was taken from Gail Savage's wooden kayak (put your hand up Gail). I was introduced to fibre glass by the Club's Canoe Building Supervisor George Richardson (put your hand up George). Fibre glass quickly took over from wood and canvas (made possible in part by Gunter Heuchmer whose fibreglassing knowledge was at the forefront of industry).

Over the next few years the Club House became a hive of boat building activity with many people building fibre-glass kayaks and Canadians. There was no limit to the shape and colours of this new material. One memorable canoe was a red and white kayak that looked like a horizontal 'Barbers pole', designed and built by Ian Robinson, a past President of the Club. Another memorable boat was the 'Flee' kayak which was purpose build for the inaugural Canoe Polo competition with Lilli Pilli Kayak Club. The Club brought home the trophy, and so canoe polo in Sydney was launched.

From the mid 1960s and into the 1970s the Club had two streams of activities, one being social canoeing and the other being competition canoeing. Competition was in Flat Water Sprint Racing, in White Water (embracing both Slalom and Down-River Racing), and in Marathon. The Cooks River played an important part in those years.

Training was held at the Club House after work on weekdays, producing some highly skilled paddlers, with two of those people being here today. Jimmy McGowan in Sprint Kayak (put your hand up Jimmy) and Jeff Donaldson in Sprint Canadian (put your hand up Jeff). Club members participated in canoeing competitions at State, Australian and International levels, including World Championships.



Steven Molino showing movies of the Club history.

Around 1969, two Club members Steve and Mary Robinson (put your hands up Steve and Mary) brought back a Canadian Canoe from their trip to Europe. This canoe had an integrated fibreglass hull and deck, with cockpits that only needed spray jackets, rather than canvas covers. This design inspired another generation of canoe building.

In 1970 two members of the Club formed the inaugural White Water Committee under the Australian Canoe Federation. When their term had expired, they passed the baton over to another Club member Helen Brownlee. Helen's canoeing expertise, as well as her foresight, energy and diplomatic skills at the Australian and International Canoe Federation Forums combined to produce the driver for the Penrith White Water Canoe



The band playing on the night upstairs.

Course which was a feature of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games and continues to be an inspiration to canoeists everywhere.

In 1973 I was at home when I received a phone call from a Club member who had arrived at the Club house to find it on fire. I drove from Bardwell Park to the top of unwins hill to find the Club in full flames. There was nothing to salvage. The photos of that event, along with the leadership of the Club President Jeff Thompson (put your hand up Jeff) and the enthusiasm of

the Club members rallied and within 2 years a new Club House had risen from the ashes. Marrickville Council was a god send, giving us all the encouragement we needed to get on with the rebuilding. The task was made possible by our builder Mick Gray whose design expertise, practical skills and resourcefulness made sure that a quality building was erected at a cost that was affordable by club members. 35 years later the Club House remains the solid foundation that underpins those wonderful canoeing memories that all Club members hold.

I would like to conclude with 3 observations. As best I understand, the Boat house was originally built as a leisure facility to service the growing population of Sydney in the late 1800s and early 1900s, where Tempe provided the weekend picnic grounds for many people. The Club can be proud that it has embraced that heritage by continuing to service the needs of the people of Sydney and its suburbs in the spirit of boating, for which this spot was chosen by our forefathers.

The second observation is that the Club and its Club House has inspired its members to make a contribution (through canoeing) to the fabric of society, whether social or competitive, over many years and in many parts of the nation and the international scene. Many long and treasured friendships (not to mention families) have emerged from club life over the years.

The third observation is that none of this would be possible without the gracious sponsorship of Marrickville Council and the foresight of its councillors many years ago. The continuous improvement of the Cook's River and its foreshores have evolved around the birthplace of the Club house so that today the Club makes a significant contribution to the landscape at this part of the river. We are all very grateful to the Council for the opportunity to contribute in this way.

I would like to end by thanking Marackville Council and congratulating all club members for making this 75th Anniversary possible.



Looking through the Club house at memorabilia.

Goodradigbee River

By Andrew Love

Where: McDonalds Flat to Flea Creek - Part 2
When: 22nd August
Grade: Grade 2 - 4
Water Level: 1.40 m
Paddlers: Kevin S, Thommaso P, Graham, Andrew L, Markus B, Rob P, Ali P, Yoda S, Ian H

After paddling the Goodradigbee the previous week with Tim, Tim and Susie (see previous edition of Splash) I decided that it had been so much fun that the 8hr return trip had to be done again. This time I got more takers, and it was a pretty big group that took to the water with a plan to run the river twice.

We split into 2 groups, one being led by the rarely seen Rob Parker (apparently he was physically forced to attain club membership the night before the trip), and the other by myself (not due to any particular paddling skill – I had been there the week before and supposedly knew the river).

In one of those great strokes of luck I rarely have, I had the great Kevin Songberg backing me up. The great luck I refer to is not because I trust Kevin, or because he is a highly skilled paddler, or anything like that, but because he was the only one on the river with a camera, and his close proximity to me meant lots of pictures of me (I have not included the picture of me pinned on a rock, or the one of me wet exiting in the middle of a rapid, or the one of me being thrown a throw rope just before going over a waterfall).

Anyway, we did good. The boys were all pumped up and we all gave 110%. The Goodradigbee is always a tough place to paddle, but we took it one rapid at a time, and on the day kayaking was the winner (I wrote this during footy finals week).

It is a great little river, dropping consistently along the length of this section. It requires good boat scouting skills and the ability to eddie hop through rapids, because there are a few dangers around in the form of branches, undercut rocks and a few steep drops.



Ian giving his new boat a run.



Andrew on the last drop from above.

Andrew running a drop watched by the Master.



Everything is paddleable at this level, and a lot of fun. The last drop, 100m before the takeout, is a great example. To scout or portage this rapid requires a trip through the biggest blackberry bush in Australia, so we all ran it blind (it is a well known rapid and had been done the week before so we knew it was clean). A 3m drop into a mass of rushing water is a little intimidating but it is probably one of the easiest rapids on the river!



Yoda levitates on the last drop (from below).

Where: McDonalds Flat to Flea Creek - Part 3
When: 29th August
Grade: Grade 2 - 4
Water Level: 1.35 m
Paddlers: Markus Bisping, Andrew Love

We ran the river twice this day, the second time in under an hour. Markus and I agreed that it was nicer and an easier paddle at the slightly higher level of the week before. At this lower level the holes were stickier and there were more rocks to hit and potentially be pinned on. 4 runs in 3 weeks! Whoohoo!

The Goobarragandra

By Georgie Rutherford

Where: The Goobarragandra River
When: 23 - 24th October
Time taken: 2 days
Grade: Up to grade 3
Water level: 1.7m
Paddlers: Greg Turner, Deborah Cuneen, George Cowan, Bryan Wilson, Georgie Rutherford, Andrew Norvill, Jiri, Gary, Tim Sindle, Nadia.

This was a good weekend to go paddling due to plenty of rain falling the previous week. The Goobarragandra, rises in the snowy mountains and ends at Tumut, merging with the Tumut River. One of its tributaries, the Peak River, falls from the Bogong Ranges to merge with the Goob above Mac's Crossing. On this weekend's trip we have one group planning to do the Goob and another planning to attempt the Peak.

Day 1: We arrive at the Goobarragandra river (near Tumut) to find that flooding the weekend before has changed a couple of the rapids but has also managed to wipe out an entire concrete bridge.

10.30 am and most of the group has arrived. Jiri, Tim and Gary get ready quickly and head for the Peak. The plan is for them to paddle the Peak and then continue down through the gorge section of the Goob to the campsite a few km's above the Trout Farm rapid. Usually paddled at a lower level, the highlight of this trip is supposed to be three decent sized waterfalls, usually all paddleable. The boys soon find out, however, that at today's river level, this is not the case.

While this is going on the rest of us head for a late start from Rock Flat down to the Trout Farm rapid. The two highlights



Greg in the Gorge section.



Georgie checking a washed away bridge that wasn't that old. Luckily this road didn't have to be crossed.



Georgie lining up in the Gorge section.

of this section are by far the "chute" and the Trout Farm rapid. The "chute" produces our first swimmer for the day and Norv's first ding in his new boat. Having negotiated the chute and all accounted for, we head down the rest of the river. The Trout Farm turns out to have been changed so much that any holes that used to be there no longer exist. At this level, it is a series of fun, decent sized waves and the whole party reckons it is pretty good fun!



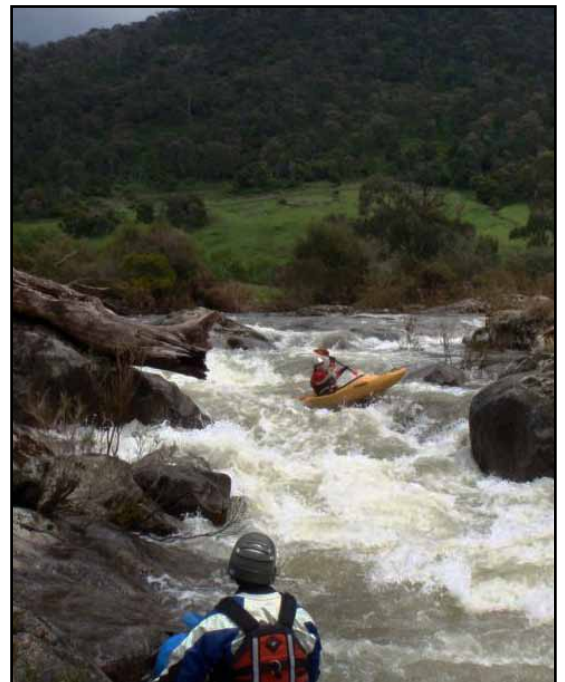
More fun in the Gorge section.

Day 2: Jiri and Gary head for the Cotter River. The rest of the group sticks around to paddle the section from Mac's Crossing through the gorge down to the Trout Farm rapid. The gorge is a fun section of grade 2 and 3 rapids weaving between boulders and rocks. Tim and Bryan lead the section and luckily all paddlers get to the bottom without a swim. After around an hour of paddling we arrive at Rock Flat to meet Nadia and Norv for the section we had done the day before. Nadia styles her first attempt at the "chute", narrowly avoiding a couple of rocks at the bottom and Debbie has a roll in the middle of this section. Again, we see another swim at this section. *(Norv thought he had made it but then stuffed up immediately after the chute taking the wrong line to end up into some mesh and rocks before going over for another swim! Ed.)* All accounted for, we head down to Trout Farm, which is just fun.

All in all, a pretty short day's paddle and a long way from Sydney but worth the trip. The sections we paddled seemed to be enjoyed by both relative new comers to the sport and seasoned kayakers.

We return to the camp site and around an hour later the 3 boys who had headed off earlier emerge from the river. We soon find out that the trip involved some pretty horrendous portages around the two waterfalls which were too big at today's river level.

After doing two runs of the Goob most of the group went for a walk to stretch the legs a bit. Beside the campsite they went up the hill and along a bit till they could see some of the waterfall on the other side of the hill. This was also a chance to see more of the scenic countryside including a not so friendly snake that decided to sit in the middle of the walking track and watch us walk around. Ed.



George going down the Chute while Bryan looks on.



A better view of the tree that got washed into the bridge.



Greg with his shuttle vehicle that came into good use at the campsite.

**KAYAKING WORLD IS EXPANDING:
SYDNEY STORE NOW OPEN!!**



- Kayaks
- Paddles
- Clothing
- Safety
- Accessories

Kayaking World
www.kayakingworld.com.au

Unit 5, 44 Dickson Avenue
ARTARMON NSW 2064
Tel: 02 8084 9854
Mobile: 0412 616 161

For Sale

Mega X-Ray surf kayak (HDPE)

In excellent condition, complete with tri-fins. Best suited to mid to smaller sized paddlers - below 80kg, and below 5'10" tall. Very fast and manoeuvrable on the wave.

Colour: Orange.

Price: Bargain at \$590

Reason for sale: - I purchased a full carbon fibre surf kayak, and my kayak racks are overflowing

Contact Ian Houghton:

Home: 02 94400467
Mob: 0448 471 629



Where: Barrington River - Rocky Crossing to the Steps
When: 13 - 14th November
Time taken: 2 days
Grade: 1 - 2
Water level: 0.72m variable due to storm water
Paddlers: Lynn – Trip leader, Sharon Kinnison and other beginners

H

mmm what can I say,

A great trip a real confidence builder. I can not wait to meet again on the river.

I know the Barrington is supposed to be for the newcomer. Maybe we were just lucky, but there seemed to be something for all. When you are inexperienced and also the new kid on the block you got to be a little apprehensive about joining in, but wow it was so worth the risk. Gear sorted and onto the water, boy did I feel nervous in the practice rapids and eddies. Practice sure builds confidence. A little lunch and it was down river. With the rain the water was good and well a few took a swim, but it was 'old hands' to the rescue. No big deal just empty out and on our way. Day 1 was a big success nothing too big, but exciting and confidence building.

Day 2, a leisurely start, maybe not the usual, but I really appreciated the time spent on safety, how to look after yourself and others. Then there was a bit of practice and the 3 steps or 3 little waterfalls. In hind sight no big deal, but still lose your concentration and you are swimming. After lunch it was the upper part of the river. I think practice makes perfect, everyone seemed to go exceptionally well. Yes there were a few swims, sometimes from a lack of skill, but also some from just pushing the limit of ones ability. Not to worry the 'more abled' kept a watchful eye and even the newcomers made themselves useful.

Home, but not forgotten. Thanks to all from Rivers for making each of us so welcome. I really appreciated your taking the time to help us newcomers learn the skills of whitewater kyacking. I also appreciated the warm friendship and the fun you made possible for us new guys. I am so looking forward to my next outing.

Kind regards, Sharon mother of Colin driver of the red little beast carrying 3 kyacks that over heated on the freeway, but still made it home. Hmmm maybe Colin should stick to a kayak.

Kind regards and lots of thanks, Sharon

NOTE: Because of the unpredictability of river levels most whitewater trips are organised using the Yahoo group; if you are not on this group contact Lynn Parker via email (lparker@netspace.net.au) and she will include you.

Date	Trip	Contact
Wed, 1 Dec 2010	<p>Marrickville Council's Sport a Month: Kayaking – 4.30 to 6.30 pm</p> <p>This will be the Club's third year participating in the Council's Sport a Month program. We give beginners/novices an introduction to flatwater paddling on the Cooks River & some participants have joined Rivers as a result. It is also our way as a Club located in the Marrickville area to work with the community. Interest has been strong in past years, so this is a good opportunity to rekindle local use of the clubhouse. If you can spare some time, especially if you have qualified as an instructor, you can help by running a session.</p>	<p>Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01@jaol.com</p>
Wed, 1 Dec 2010	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham@ozemail.com.au</p>
Friday, 3 Dec 2010	<p>Club Monthly Meeting – 7.30 at the Clubhouse</p> <p>Our Social Secretary could have an interesting guest speaker along for the night or there may be films and pictures of the Victorian Safari with accompanying tales of rivers run. Come along to find out!</p>	
Sat, 4 Dec 2010	<p>Marrickville Council's Sport a Month: Kayaking – 9.00 to 11.00 am</p> <p>If you can spare some time, especially if you have qualified as an instructor, you can help by running a session.</p>	<p>Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01@jaol.com</p>
Sunday, 5 Dec 2010	<p>PWS Training Day</p> <p>Targeted at grade 2+ and 3 paddlers, this is free training from qualified whitewater instructors.</p>	<p>Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171@hotmail.com</p>
Sunday, 5 Dec 2010	<p>Lake Illawarra Expedition</p> <p>Over 87 bird species make their home on this waterway, located just south of Wollongong. Join Sharyn Cahill, President of Illawarra Canoe Club, as we paddle the foreshore looking for cormorants, egrets, ibis and sandpipers. We'll see stingrays – and if you trial a line you might take home a flathead, bream or blackfish! Unique industrial and natural history. Full day. Grade medium. Full details on the Paddle NSW web site: http://www.paddlensw.org.au/recreational.html</p>	<p>Tony Carr (Paddle NSW), 0417.502.056, tonycarr@ozemail.com.au</p>
Sunday, 5 Dec 2010	<p>Homebush Bay and Parramatta River – 9.30 am for 10 am on the water</p> <p>We'll put in at the beach next to the Meadowbank ferry wharf and paddle over to Homebush Bay and explore the wrecks and mangroves. Depending on the tide, we could do an industrial mystery tour up one of the creeks in the area. From there we will head downstream into the harbour exploring the bays to around Breakfast Point stopping for lunch along the way. Meet at Meadowbank ferry wharf, Bowden Street, Meadowbank (Gregory's Map Reference 311 E5).</p>	<p>Kristian Taylor, 0402.288.842 Kristian.Taylor@cba.com.au</p> <p>Andrew Norvill, 0429.607.593 anorv@yahoo.com.au</p>

Sat, 11 Dec 2010	<p>Marrickville Council's Sport a Month: Kayaking – 11.00 am to 1.00 pm</p> <p>If you can spare some time, especially if you have qualified as an instructor, you can help by running a session.</p>	Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]aol.com
Sunday, 12 Dec 2010	<p>RCC Christmas Party – Penrith Whitewater Stadium</p> <p>Flatwater and whitewater games and tests of skill, ride a raft around the concrete river if you've never been on the course and Santa will be there for both the children and the ladies. A day for all paddlers and their families so be there!</p>	
Wed, 15 Dec 2010	<p>Marrickville Council's Sport a Month: Kayaking - 4.30 to 6.30 pm</p> <p>If you can spare some time, especially if you have qualified as an instructor, you can help by running a session.</p>	Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]aol.com
Wed, 15 Dec 2010	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham[at]ozemail.com.au
Starts Sat, 8 Jan 2011	<p>Manning River Region</p> <p>This will be flat and moving water touring with some grade 1 rapids and it is a trip for flatwater, touring and novice whitewater paddlers. The trip is close to Sydney so you can come for one or two days, the whole weekend or into the following week! There are number alternatives along the Manning and in the region where we can paddle and on this trip we'll aim to enjoy the countryside from our kayaks while developing flat and moving water skills. The exact sections to be paddled will be decided depending on the river levels and skills of the group. Details will be posted on the Yahoo Group closer to the date. If interested please contact Gaye or Tracy.</p>	Gaye Foster, 0432.266.964 (after 7.00 pm), gayefoster[at]optusnet.com.au Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]aol.com
Tues, 18 Jan 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30 – come along for a fitness paddle or just a social and informal paddle. A BBQ will be held from time to time after the paddle. Club boats can be hired on the night for \$5.</p>	Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]aol.com
Sat, 22 Jan 2011	<p>Colo River Adventure Paddle</p> <p>Come with Gary Roberts from River Canoe Club and experience “the last pristine river in NSW” according to NPWS. A lush riverscape with mainly native heath vegetation and abundant wildlife, backed by steep sandstone cliffs. Low speed limit means few boats! We'll start where the Colo meets the Hawkesbury and stop at a spectacular sandy beach for lunch. A great way to experience the Blue Mountains National Park. Full day with rests. Just over an hour from the CBD. Grade Medium. Full details on the Paddle NSW web site: http://www.paddlensw.org.au/recreational.html</p>	Tony Carr (Paddle NSW), 0417.502.056, tonycarr[at]ozemail.com.au
Wed, 26 to Sun, 30 Jan 2011	<p>Australia Day Long Weekend - Gwydir River</p> <p>This is a grade 5/6 river so think carefully before putting your hand up for this one, and read the description below. This trip is subject to water releases from the dam and also the courage of the trip leader. Refer to: http://www.adventurepro.com.au/paddleaustralia/pa.cgi?action=details&id=gwyd4</p>	Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171[at]hotmail.com

Tues, 1 Feb 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham[at]ozemail.com.au</p>
Friday, 4 Feb 2011	<p>Club Monthly Meeting – 7.30 at the Clubhouse</p> <p>We will no doubt have an interesting guest speaker along for the night or with rivers being up, videos of rapids that we've been unable to run now being conquered.</p>	
Sat, 12 & Sun, 13 Feb 2011	<p>Barrington River - Whitewater Skills and Safety Training</p> <p>A weekend of essential training for all whitewater paddlers.</p>	<p>Lynn Parker, 0406.428.331 lparker[at]netspace.net.au</p> <p>Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171[at]hotmail.com</p>
Tues, 15 Feb 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]jaol.com</p>
Sat, 19 & Sun, 20 Feb 2011	<p>Flatwater & Sea Kayaking Skills – Coffs Harbour</p> <p>Full details in January 2011 Splash</p>	<p>Contact to be confirmed</p>
Sat, 26 & Sun, 27 Feb 2011	<p>Weekend at Basil's.</p> <p>A weekends camping in Basil's backyard at Norah Head, 1½ hrs up the coast. If you get there early on the Friday night you could score one of his spare beds. What we do will be up to the weather and sea conditions and the numbers/skills of paddlers coming along for a weekend not to be missed. We could split into groups depending on what members want to do with the surf for whitewater paddlers and the nearby lakes for the flatwater brethren. A sea paddle could also be undertaken. If you cannot make it for the whole weekend why not come up on Saturday or Sunday for a day's paddling. (You'll need to call early in the morning to find out the days schedule.) This is a great weekend of mixed paddling and a chance to spend a weekend with the Club's living legend.</p>	<p>Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]jaol.com</p>
Tues, 1 March 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham[at]ozemail.com.au</p>
Friday, 4 Mar 2011	<p>Club Monthly Meeting – 7.30 at the Clubhouse</p> <p>This could be something totally different; details in future editions of Splash.</p>	
Sat, 5 & Sun, 6 March 2011	<p>Flatwater & Sea Kayaking Skills – Lake Macquarie</p> <p>Full details in January 2011 Splash</p>	<p>Contact to be confirmed</p>
Sat, 12 & Sun, 13 March 2011	<p>Jervis Bay & Environs</p> <p>Gaye recons she can even get Richard Schultz to make an appearance and show us around his paddling playground.</p> <p>Full details in January 2011 Splash</p>	<p>Gaye Foster, 0432.266.964 (after 7.00 pm), gayefoster[at]optusnet.com.au</p> <p>Tracy Hudson, 0411.024.088, Tracyhudson01[at]jaol.com</p>

Sat, 12 & Sun, 13 March 2011	<p>Barrington River – Whitewater instructor assessment</p> <p>A chance for advanced whitewater kayakers to become accredited.</p> <p>Full details in January 20100 Splash</p>	<p>Lynn Parker, 0406.428.331 lparker[at]netspace.net.au</p> <p>Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171[at]hotmail.com</p>
Tues, 15 March 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham[at]jozemail.com.au</p>
Sat, 19 & Sun, 20 March 2011	<p>Murrumbidgee River at Childowlah – Whitewater instructor assessment</p> <p>A chance for advanced whitewater kayakers to become accredited.</p> <p>Full details in January 20100 Splash</p>	<p>Lynn Parker, 0406.428.331 lparker[at]netspace.net.au</p> <p>Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171[at]hotmail.com</p>
Sat, 26 & Sun, 27 March 2011	<p>Kangaroo River – Whitewater skills and safety training</p> <p>A weekend of essential training for all whitewater paddlers.</p> <p>Full details in January 2011 Splash</p>	<p>Lynn Parker, 0406.428.331 lparker[at]netspace.net.au</p> <p>Andrew Love, 0424.389.233, andrew191171[at]hotmail.com</p>
Tues, 29 March 2011	<p>Mid-Week Paddle at the Clubhouse – On the water 6.30 & off by 7.30 pm</p> <p>Departing the Clubhouse at 6.30; boats can be hired on the night.</p>	<p>Nell Graham, 0402.267.246, nellaham[at]jozemail.com.au</p>
Friday, 1 April 2011	<p>Club Monthly Meeting – 7.30 at the Clubhouse</p> <p>So just what is going to happen on April Fool's Day?</p>	
Friday, 22 to Tues, 26 April 2011	<p>Whitewater Easter Safari - Nymboida River and surrounding creeks</p> <p>This is a moving trip on the Nymboida and this year we have an extra day as Anzac Day joins with Easter. The Nymboida is Grade 3-4 at low levels and solid 4 if the water is up.</p>	<p>Tim Sindle, 0438.443.541 tsindle@gmail.com</p>
May 2011	<p>Ocean Skills Coaching – Sydney</p> <p>Full details in future editions of Splash</p>	<p>Contact to be confirmed</p>

Full details of all trips can be obtained from the Club's website: <http://www.rivercanoecub.com/>