

NZOIA Quarterly

Number 24

Newsletter of the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors' Association

March 2003

Holly Thompson

Young Emerging Instructor of the Year

Tell us a little about your background.....

Well, I'm actually an Aussie (oops... do I still get to keep the award?) - born in Sydney, bred in the UK, Sydney and Canberra. I first got involved in outdoors "stuff" through the Duke of Ed scheme at my high school in Canberra.

After school, I didn't know where I was heading except that I didn't want to go to uni like everyone else. So, went on a GAP year to England (1997), where I worked at a place called Fairthorne Manor. It was a National YMCA Centre, with volunteer seasonal instructors from Aussie, NZ and South Africa.

Apart from being a year of fun and mischief, it opened my eyes to the potential of outdoor education. I wanted to get qualified and make a career of it. So, on the recommendation of some of the Kiwis at Fairthorne, I wrote to Jo Straker in Timaru NZ, asking for a place on the 1st year of Aoraki Polytech's Outdoor Ed programme. I was in Spain when I heard I'd been accepted - cause for celebration! After a night out sampling San Sebastian Sangria, I tried to figure out how to tell my parents I was going to flag uni and move to a country I'd never been to before to study "outdoors stuff".

Where did you get your outdoors training?

Parental apprehension aside, I flew home to OZ, only to pack up and leave a few weeks later and move to Timaru. Aoraki turned out to be the biggest learning curve of my life. The Outdoor Ed students in Timaru form a unique community - student flats, weeks away in the amazing South Island wilderness, weekend parties, surfing trips to Kakanui and Sundays climbing at Hanging Rock.



It's a tight family and there's always someone to go out and play with. And, the tutors ROCK - some of New Zealand's best...

I did two years at Aoraki (1998, 1999) before I got itchy feet again and moved to Victoria Australia to take up a job as a school camp activity instructor in the Grampians National Park (2000). That job was a great insight into the real world of outdoor instruction - very different to the inspirational Aoraki lifestyle I'd become accustomed to.

After 6 months I decided that I didn't like the real world much, so went climbing in Thailand instead, and prepared to return and do my 3rd year in Timaru. I also decided that next time I would choose very carefully where I wanted to work....

Spent my 3rd year (2001) working hard, learning heaps and looking around for an organisation with values aligned to my own. I spent 2 weeks as an observer & volunteer at OPC. I sent off a job application the day I got back, and started work here in November 2001.

My first year at OPC was intense - so much to learn, constant challenges and the incessant Central Plateau rain! On the up side? Well.... discovering & exploring places in the Central North Island - Whanganui Bay, the Tongariro National Park, the Fine Fettle Cafe in Taupo!... working and playing with a new bunch of inspired adventurers.... having a bedroom with spectacular views of Tongariro, Ngauruhoe and Ruapehu...



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www.safeoutside.org

From the Presidents Wine Glass



Exciting times are ahead on both a personal and NZOIA front. On a personal note, Jim and I are about to leave for South America to join up with the intrepid explorers - Mark Jones, Marcus Waters and Graham Charles. Our role is to crew the yacht that is picking up their kayaks from their landing in the Beagle Channel. Rumour has it that we will meet up with the boys somewhere along the way and instructions have been received to 'bring good coffee'. Then we're off to explore the Torres del Paine National Park. Nothing like a bit of overseas travel!

The Risk Conference at SEHOPC last December seemed to be a very positive event (see report elsewhere). We only attended for a short time, but it was great to see some of the old hands who came out of the woodwork and made the trip - John Davidson, Lyndsay Simpkin, Jo Straker - and then all the others who contributed to a great three days. Needless to say our Wine Workshop went down well. The presence of Chris Knol and Geoff Gabites added some new dimensions to the hilarity, however the range of wines from 'other countries' certainly challenged the taste buds. NZOIA's Executive Committee met in November and again in February, and here's some reports of what has been going on.

Website

Internet Marketing Consultants in Auckland have been contracted to do an overhaul of the website, so look out for a new design in the very near future. As part of this project a 'Members Only' site is being developed, together with a manager module, and database compatibility. In the future members will be able to update their address details online, book assessments, pay assessment fees and membership online as well. The development of a Forum is also part of the plan. Completion of this project is not far away.

Accident Investigation

Last year we redeveloped our accident investigation policy.

Further to this, representatives of NZOIA (Ray Button, Ian Logie, Steve Chapman & myself) met with representatives of NZ Recreational Canoeing Assn (Glen Murdoch and Janet Nicol) to develop a strategy to present to the Maritime Safety Authority.

We decided that a co-ordinated approach is by far the best idea, and we also endeavoured to get representatives from NZ Rafting Assn along as well, but no one was available on the day.

Our next step is to meet with MSA, probably in April, to establish some accident investigation policies and guidelines for future investigations. Further down the track we expect to contact the Coroners as well regarding land based investigations.

NZOIA has also undertaken to give further training to people likely to be involved with investigations (usually assessors).

Training

The Technical Sub Committee and Executive have developed a set of criteria for people wishing to offer 'NZOIA approved' training. This gives Level 2 award holders the capability to offer training (as a business opportunity), as well as NZOIA initiating training courses if a need is identified.

The criteria will be a priority project for development when I get back from South America. There are some Rock training courses planned for later in the year, as well as a series of Kayak Rolling Clinics around the country.

Technical Sub-Committee

This group met in January and amongst other things made plans for the annual Assessor Training weekend in May. Major agenda items include a review of the Alpine 1 award, and a critical look at our Rock assessments - are they still meeting the needs of industry?

One issue that has been debated is the situation where a person sitting

an assessment (e.g. Kayak 1, was awarded a lower level award i.e. Flatwater). The TSC are strongly against this happening in the future. They advise candidates to prepare carefully for their selected award and ensure the criteria/pre-requisites are met. It is highly likely that if you sit an award i.e. Alpine 2 and do not pass, then you won't get any lower award.

Strategic Plan

NZOIA is reviewing its Strategic Plan - we would love to hear from you. See item below regarding how you can have input.

A Plea

Kate Bowes, our Assessment Co-ordinator (now back on board) has a plea to those of you sitting assessments.

PLEASE GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN ON TIME.

We have had situations recently where people have rung up a week or so before the course, wanting to get on the assessment. While we do what we can, it does mean that our systems may become compromised and problems occur. Lets face it, being on time (read - getting your paperwork in on time) is part of being an outdoor professional, so plan to get your act together early rather than later and Kate will keep smiling rather than snarling.

Outdoors NZ

Both Matt Cant and I are on this Board. What is interesting this year is that Board members also include Phil Kay (EONZ Chair) and Ian Nicholson (NZ Mountain Safety Council). It is great to see all the major outdoor organisations around the same table.

Finally

Thanks to all of you who continue to support NZOIA. We are pleased to report that the organisation is right on track and in a healthy position - both financially and organisationally.

Stay safe out there,

Jill Dalton

Holly Thompson - continued from front page.

What are the Highs & Lows of working in this industry?

One of the lows is the constant struggle to keep it sustainable - constantly being out there with a group, rain, hail or shine (yep, had a group climbing in hail not too long ago...). Constantly saying goodbye to groups and starting again the next week... it can be draining and I often collapse in a heap at the end of a week.

Highs - well, PEOPLE! I think it takes all your heart and soul to be a good outdoor educator, which makes the people who make up our industry pretty special.

I feel sooo privileged to have learned from some of the industry gurus. And even more privileged to have some of those tutors and mentors eventually become friends and colleagues. This industry in NZ is small enough and young enough for that to be possible - our gurus are real-live people who you might read about and idolise, but whom you can also meet and talk to and learn from. There's just so much knowledge and experience out there, available for new instructors to make the most of. That's pretty cool.

I think it's amazing that we have an outdoor industry in NZ that values adventure - REAL adventure. I haven't experienced that anywhere else - it's truly inspirational.

What inspired you to become an instructor?

Well, for me its all about helping young people realize their potential - for the simple reason that it worked for me! Starting with Duke of Ed, then thru subsequent outdoor experiences, I discovered the concepts of challenge & achievement. Working at Fairthore, seeing this stuff work for other kids, reaffirmed the value of it.

What continues to inspire me is that it works. Also, meeting and watching people working in the industry, and wanting to be like them!

What does the future hold?

Hmmm, that's a tricky one. I'm pretty keen to stay in NZ. Have just put a Big-Wall climbing trip on the backburner until next year....(anyone out there with big-walling gear or expertise going cheap?). Apart from that, just keen to keep living the dream, and try to balance work and play and stay inspired. OPC keeps throwing me new challenges, so I think I still have lots to learn from working here. There's tons of places I want to work and trips I want to do - just need to work out how to fit it all in!

As for the Award.....

I've worked with and met so many other new instructors that work incredibly hard and do an amazing job! Being singled out is bizarre - as you know I was literally stunned! Actually it's kinda embarrassing - I know many many way-more inspirational, way-more talented instructors that are worthy of recognition. To be honest with you, half the time I'm not even sure if I'm good at it. So, hmmm - still not sure what to say except THANK YOU, and I'll have some nominations for you for next year!

News Briefs ~

Assessment Co-ordinator - Kate Bowes

is now back on board, coping very well with baby Jack & assessment co-ordination.

NZOIA Website -

Rumour has it that the next stage of development of the NZOIA Website is well underway - along with an improving the current content and presentation, more member services are being added - watch this space:

www.nzoia.org.nz

New Assessor - Nigel Sutherland

has been added to the assessor pool as a Kayak 1 Assessor. Nigel is ex AATC, and holds Kayak 1 and 2, Alpine 1 and Rock 1, has been NZOIA member for 10 years and is currently based in Christchurch.

Potential Member - Nathan Fa'avae

and partner Jodi have become parents - daughter named Jessie.

Wedding Bells -

Congratulations to **Dave Ritchie** and **Claire Cosson** who were recently married.

**NZOIA "beanies"
DO NOT make for
a good pot mitt
at the campfire !**

*~ and it was NOT the
gentleman in the photo
on page 6, who made
the discovery!*

HAVE YOUR SAY !

NZOIA STRATEGIC PLAN

The Executive are currently reviewing the NZOIA Strategic Plan that was prepared in 2000. It is rewarding to see that a good percentage of what was planned has been achieved. The current NZOIA Strategic Plan can be found on the NZOIA Website.

As part of the review, the Executive is seeking comment and input from the members on the following topics:

- Promotion of NZOIA (members/employers/others)
- Professional Standards & Practice
- NZOIA assessments - quality management procedures
- Training - availability and type
- Strategic relationships within the outdoor community
- Environmental & cultural awareness
- Membership (Benefits, Services, Growth, Retention, Communication)
- Finance - resources
- Digitised management processes (Website resources for members and potential members)
- SFRITO relationship and NZOIA Awards system
- Importance of Adventure in the Outdoors.

Look ahead for the next 5 years, what are the key elements you think should be the focus for NZOIA. Your comments etc. by 16th April, would be much appreciated by the Executive.

QUESTION ?

Is there a need or benefit in developing a

ROPES COURSE INSTRUCTORS AWARD ?

*Comments etc., to:
ao@nzoia.org.nz*

WANTED ~ ALIVE !

Your email address (if we don't already have it) - **and we don't**, if you did not received at least half a dozen emails from NZOIA in January & February. Flick your email address to:

ao@nzoia.org.nz

and you will be added to the NZOIA electronic information network.

Contributions to the Quarterly ~

The *NZOIA Quarterly* welcomes articles, letters, news, details of coming events and bits and pieces from all readers. Submissions may be edited.

Please forward all items to: Administration Officer, PO Box 11-325 Manners Street, Wellington; or by email to: ao@nzoia.org.nz

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL CONTINUES !

Kayak Instructor Manuals

special price

\$10 per copy

Payment must accompany orders, to:

NZOIA
PO Box 11-090
Manners Street
WELLINGTON 6034

Letter to the Editor...

Hi There,

Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed the NZOIA 2002 December Quarterly, especially John Entwisle's thought provoking epistle.

I'd like to add my support to his points of view.

1. Lets equip more introductory routes for novices so those at the sharp end for the first time/s don't suffer ground falls as part of there decelerating learning curve.

If this means adding a bolt here or there to under used routes (and do consult the first ascentionist) lets get on with it. Its amazing how much more popular and as a result cleaner, some routes become once they are re-equipped, Rusty pins on the Tombstone is a great example exit 4 rusty pitons enter 6 stainless bolts and voila folks are now queuing to fall off it. Does this represent the erosion of social and moral standards and the end of civilisation as we know it? I don't think so... and no I don't mean this to suggest carte blanche for retro bolting everything in sight. *Note, some of those round here who are retrobolting the easier routes include former NZ mountaineers of the year who have impeccable trad climbing records.*

2. John's notion of ecole de esca-lade is great but, someone needs to fund it. More commercial operators including polytech's and private companies must commit to making a real financial contribution to the upkeep of climbing areas.

In the Wanaka area the local climbers, thru guidebook sales and with support from NZAC and the Otago Polytech, are rebolting the popular routes with stainless gear... budget \$4000 spent so far not including labour. The priority for this activity has been the popular easy routes, now if a bunch of geriatric bumpy boys (its worth noting that these guys seldom if ever climb the routes that are being re-equipped) can do this in their spare time why can't more instructors and others do the same?

It's also worth noting that some of the local polytech tutors are going out and equipping more easy routes which should help take the pressure off the busy crags, nice one. Likewise the ChCh Polytech at Albert Terrace.

3. While on the topic of equipment why don't more instructors and institutions supply cheap (yes you can get 'em) rock shoes for novices?

Typically we supply ropes, pro., helmets, instruction and then let the poor buggers suffer there way up routes in trainers. Yeah, yeah, I know it costs but so does sun tan lotion..... nature ain't making any more decent cliffs and we need to look after the existing routes better. Give em real shoes, they'll climb better and slip around and polish holds a whole lot less.. or are some instructors just afraid to see students climb as well as they can't? *Luckily kayak instructors don't rely on students building their own kayaks for their introductory lessons.....*

4. Regarding Rock 1, perhaps a little tweaking of the standards might be in order... being able to top rope a climb of grade 14 is perhaps what we might look at students doing but

if you are going to be a credible instructor how bout being able to lead grade 18?

An analogy of the present situation might be trying to pass yourself off as a ski instructor when you can only snow plough the learners slope. Instructors need to be able to show a range of movements and techniques so as to inspire students.

5. Rock climbing is a fast growing sport. If we can give people the skills to get off the top ropes and out onto the sharp end it may help spread folks away from the over crowded areas, this may mean more people lining up to try harder routes but is that a bad thing?

Once again really enjoyed the Quarterly and I hope John's article helps provoke some discussion and action.

See ya

Ed Nepia

Tutor ,
Ski Patrol Programme
Mountain Education Centre NZ
PO Box 375 , Wanaka

What is NZOIA's Financial Manager doing? - Jim Hepburn on holiday in Fiordland !

All speculations to be forwarded to: ao@nzoia.org.nz



Joint Sea Kayak Awards



For a number of years attempts have been made to develop a joint award scheme between the key stakeholders in the Sea Kayak World. NZOIA has pursued this initiative in order to provide members with opportunities to gain awards in this discipline within our award scheme but without creating an unnecessary duplication of qualifications.

To this end a Memorandum of Understanding has now been signed between SKOANZ, KASK and us.

This MOU is an agreement to work together to develop a series of three Awards:

1. Sea Kayak Proficiency Award

This award is entry level and non-professional. It will be designed to meet the needs of recreational sea kayakers, educational institutes and KASK. The award is focused at NZQA, Level 3.

2. Sea Kayak Level 1

This award replaces the SKOANZ Level 1 guides award and is a professional qualification. It will equate to other Level 1 NZOIA awards and be designed to meet the needs of both guides and instructors.

3. Sea Kayak Level 2

This award will equate to other Level 2 NZOIA awards in that its content will reflect the needs of trainers, tertiary level instructors and operational managers. It will also set a benchmark for leaders of multi-day expeditions in remote coastal areas.

The competency award is new territory for NZOIA as it is not an instructional award. We are keen to see how things go and will monitor members' interest from each of the organisations. If it proves to be a useful model by which recreational paddlers can build up towards a professional qualification then we have the option of extending the concept to other disciplines.

At this stage each organisation has provided a representative to form a working party tasked with development of the new syllabi. These people will feed back into their respective organisations so that all developments receive critical review. Gareth Hare represents NZOIA and also Andy Thompson who has a foot in both the NZOIA and SKOANZ camps.

After years of effort by a variety of people we are definitely moving forward. The MOU is a commitment to make this work and to persevere in solving the inevitable problems and conflicting interests that will occur. It is a genuine statement of our desire to work together.

We'll keep you informed as things develop and hope to be able to offer the first assessments later this year.

Matt Cant

NZOIA Cave 1

A Cave 1 Assessment is tentatively planned for Sat May 10 & Sun May 11.

The above dates are flexible and the following 3 weekends could also be a possibility if this suits more people.

If you are interested, please contact:

Kate Bowes

NZOIA Assessment Co-ordinator,
as soon as possible.

Email: assessment@nzodia.org.nz.

NZOIA and SFRITO

The Sport, Fitness and Recreation Industry Training Organisation and NZOIA have met several times and have agreed to proceed in developing a process that will enable NZOIA assessments to be credited against unit standards and therefore be eligible for funding from Sfrito. (As detailed in the Bulletin sent to members last year)

To this end we have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Sfrito by which:

- We agree to ensure that our assessments have full relevance to the appropriate unit standards.
- We agree to ensure that our Quality Management Systems are of an appropriately high standard.
- Sfrito agrees to assist us with both finances and expertise to achieve the above tasks.

Sfrito have reviewed our existing QMS documentation and while what we have is of a generally excellent standard there are several gaps to fill. A project plan is in the process of being drawn up to achieve these improvements. While this is going on a matching exercise will take place between our assessments and the appropriate unit standards and where necessary adjustments will be made to maximise the number of unit standards that can be achieved.

Once everything is sorted out both organisations will publicise the possible subsidies for unit standards to all appropriate stakeholders and members. Sfrito will promote NZOIA awards where they connect with unit standards and will subsidise all eligible trainees who complete unit standards as part of gaining the NZOIA awards.

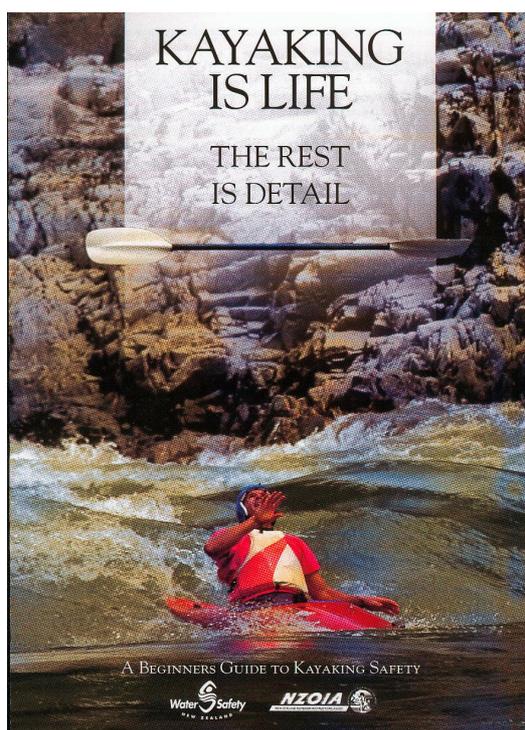
In addition we will be looking for ways to make the subsidies available to as many members as we can and will provide details of how you can become an eligible 'workplace trainee'. We are also concerned to make this system work for self-employed instructors and are negotiating with Sfrito to establish a mechanism for this.

At the end of the day we hope to gain subsidies for members undertaking assessments, more people putting themselves forward for assessment and more people joining NZOIA. Sfrito aims to assist people in our industry to gain the awards they want while achieving unit standards towards their National qualifications.

It's a win – win.

Watch this space...

Matt Cant and Steve Milgate



Kayaking is Life

This brochure is produced by in conjunction with Water Safety NZ, by NZOIA.

It's a great "Introduction to Kayaking Safety" and is **FREE**.

Supplies are available from the NZOIA office:

Administration Officer
NZOIA, PO Box 11-090
Manners Street
Wellington 6034

Ph. 04 385.6048, or
Email ao@nzoia.org.nz

SPARC RISK 2002 Conference

On the morning of December 14th last year a wet and misty Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Center saw the Honorable Mark Burton, Minister for Tourism, welcome just over 100 participants to the three days of the SPARC Risk 2002 Conference.

For what seemed like the first time in a long time it brought together administrators, bureaucrats, politicians, academics and educators for three days of both intellectual and entertaining presentations, discussion, debate and workshops, as well as some great socialising.

Mr Burton's welcome and discussion on the future of adventure tourism to New Zealand, was followed by the Manager of Recreation from SPARC, Mark France. SPARC were principle sponsor for the conference and keen to show that they are working hard to improve their relationship with the outdoors sector.

The international contingent were brilliant. Dr Ross Cloutier gave us all clear warnings about the future for lawyers in outdoor recreation, which based on overseas experience seems very bright, at the least ensuring ongoing work for a couple of decades yet.

Marcus Baillie's Irish charm and wit equally wooed us. Again, the British experience is so close to our own that it seems that it is only a matter of time before New Zealand has its own Adventure Licensing Authority. Marcus has done a fantastic job of ensuring he balances the bureaucracy of licensing with the pragmatism of the practitioner. Lets hope we can be equally as far sighted should we have to go the same way in New Zealand.

Of course, no conference of international speakers would be complete without the drawl of an American accent. Rick Curtis showed us where the outdoors and technology collide and made it all seem relatively painless.

This may have been the first outdoor event for some years where it was a truly representative cross-section of the New Zealand outdoors. They were all there; mountain-guides, teachers, bureaucrats, administrators, kids, babies and by the amount of grey hair, some who are starting to reach the geriatric bracket. It was great to see how much depth of knowledge we cumulatively have in safety, in the outdoors, in New Zealand. This was really apparent from the excellent presentations from our own kiwi presenters. Much of what we are doing is on a par, or better than outdoors communities in other parts of the world.

A highlight of the Conference was the inaugural presentation of the Outdoor Excellence Awards. Set to be an annual event of the organizations involved, the

presentation of these awards was a highlight of a very entertaining evening. Managed with much hilarity, usually at the expense of others, by that master of rhetoric, Geoff Gabites, these awards were presented to outstanding achievers in the outdoors over the past year.

The winners were:

Winner of the New Zealand Outdoor Instructors Association "**Young Emerging Instructor**" Award was **Holly Thompson**.

Winner of the Education Outdoors New Zealand "**Best Outdoor Education Programme**" Award was **Tihoi Venture School**.

Winner of the Outdoors New Zealand "**Best Outdoor Facility**" Award was **Outward Bound Anakiwa**.

The Winner of the **SPARC "Supreme Award for Contribution to Outdoor Recreation"** was **Adventure Philosophy**, accepted by Mark Jones.

Everyone at the evening was in agreement that these 'winners' were well deserved of their recognition.

Beyond the excellent international speakers, the new research, the new Outdoor Education Journal, the celebration of getting so much experience and knowledge in the same place, perhaps the greatest outcome of this conference was the clear commitment from all involved; organizations and individuals, to work more cohesively together for outdoor recreation issues.

It is really ground breaking when organisations such as SPARC, Maritime Safety Authority, Water Safety New Zealand, The NZ Mountain Safety Council, NZ Outdoor Instructors Association, Education Outdoors NZ and Outdoors NZ agree on actively seeking ways to work closer together.

Outdoors New Zealand has put the conference proceedings on the Safe As Outside website (www.safeoutside.org). This is a collection of presentations and papers well worth having.



www.safeoutside.org

Willie Butler

It all rolls in to one
and nothing comes for free
There's nothing you can hold for very long
and when you hear that song
come crying in the wind
it seems like all this life was just a dream

Stella Blue, The Grateful Dead.

On January 29th 2003, New Zealand climbing lost one of its real characters. Willie died from severe head injuries sustained from an accident after climbing one of his many routes in the area, "Stella Blue" at Pohara a few days earlier.

How do you describe him?

A real individual, a character, an eccentric and loveable rogue and ribaldly funny. He was always ready to challenge convention and thrived on debate. He had his own way of doing things and somehow it worked. No one else could circumvent bureaucracy like Willie could.

The bottom line however was that he really cared about people and spent a lot of his life giving to young people in particular. In the past 15 years Paynes Ford has moved from a local to an International climbing destination. The rise in popularity caused a lot of accommodation issues in the area in the early 90's.

Hangdog Camp arose out of Willie's affinity for the weird, wacky and free attitudes of the climbing community. Willie's way of dealing with this was to let us camp in his front paddock. When this got up the nose of the District Council he put money into toilets and things and before we knew it we had a climbers camp. Many many visitors from overseas have passed through Hangdog and the unexpected surprise would have been how this man could relate to almost all those people. He was as much the Paynes Ford experience as the climbing was.

Determining that there was a need in the area for climbs of a more moderate nature Willie almost single-handedly developed many new areas including the Seagrass Wall, Dr Livingstone Wall, Twilight Zone and the Little Lost Wall amongst a myriad of other climbs. Many visitors would have been swept up in some of his "schemes" - The Pinetree Liberation Front always had a New Years rendezvous with the Memorial to Abel Tasman.

He used nom de plumes for the climbs he put up including: p Bear, The Toad, King Henry the Fifth and Giorgio de Maziola. The latter had an Italian gentleman recently enquiring where he could meet this "other Italian Gentleman who had put up these new climbs"....somehow the humour was lost on him (if not us) in the translation when he found he didn't really exist.

Not long before I left Golden Bay this summer after a long overdue spell, Willie and I installed a Bell made from an old Fire extinguisher atop one of his climbs "Franklins Tower" (another Grateful dead inspired route name). Worried that it might still have some explosive gases Willie assuaged my fears by testing it in the backyard by shooting it with his .303.

Many a fun night was had at the Mussel In Quiz nights, watching Rugby in the local pub and dangling over cliffs in the dark armed with pyrotechnics to burn marauding swarming bees from their misplaced nests on climbs.

Willie also worked as a social worker in Golden Bay and often helped out young folk who were struggling with their family or life. He was responsible for introducing many, probably hundreds, of young and not so young people to rockclimbing and he coached the local school climbing team.

Needless to say the funeral was huge, reflecting his involvement in many areas of the Golden Bay Community as well as climbing. His coffin was a boat and many dignitaries attended including the Wizard of Christchurch, Alf's Imperial Army and the Aunt Fannys Sewing Circle. There was a 21 gun salute, a cannon blast and we laid him to rest in the East Takaka cemetery.

We love you and miss you mate.

Simon Middlemass & Lizzard.

Smoke without Fire

presented at SPARC RISK 2002

Marcus Bailie - Head of Inspection
Adventure Activities Licensing Authority - UK

Why do adventure activities have a bad reputation?

Some assumptions

- The number of accidents in the outdoors is seen by society as unacceptably high
- The issue attracts a disproportionate response from the media.
- Adventure activities are seen as part of the problem, not part of the solution.

Don't take your eye off the ball!

- What you do is important.
- The trend in education is towards examinations.
- The trend in Society is towards cotton wool.
- The number of accidents in adventure activities is low.

"The vast majority of us will die peacefully in our beds at a ripe old age of natural causes".

Comparative populations

- UK: 60 million
- New Zealand: 4 million (divide by 15)

UK Fatal Accidents

- Total deaths on school visits since 1985: 52 (av. 3 per year)
 - 17 were Road Traffic Accidents, • 5 were adults,
 - 1 was a murder, • 22 drowned, • 17 involved adventure activities (av. 1 a year)
- Total deaths in adventure activities: (all activities, all ages, all situations) **130 -180** per year.

.....compared with

Total deaths per year for all ages

- 130,000 All cancers
- 120,000 All heart attacks
- 100,000 All smoking related illnesses
- 30,000 Obesity and unfitnes
- 20,000 All alcohol related illnesses
- 10,000 All accidents
- 6,000 Suicide
- 4,000 Asthma
- 3,500 Road Traffic Accidents
- 350 Accidents at work
- 4,000 Accidents in the home
- 130-180** Adventure activity accidents

.... and for our 13 million young people

- In total 1,400 accidental deaths per year
 - 700 Road Traffic Accidents
 - 140 Suffocation
 - 125 Poisoning
 - 100 Suicide
 - 90 Drowning
 - 80 Fire
 - 65 Falls
 - 50 Murder
- 2 - 3 School visits
- 10,000 Permanently excluded from school.

Why have adventure activities got a bad reputation?

- Perceived risk
- Obscure and unusual accidents
- Moral Panics

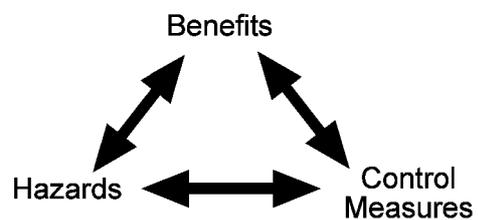
The Theory of Moral Panics

- Focus on any issue which grabs the heart strings.
- Simplify the arguments into demons and victims.
- Media Campaign:
 - "Something must be done."**
- The Authorities respond:
 - Societal Concern.
 - The Precautionary Principle.
- New Regulation or Legislation.
 - Adds more focus on the problem!
- Tolerable Risk.

Tolerable Risk: First identify the benefits



The Conventional Model of Risk



The Triangle of Risk

Adventure Fights Back

- Be seen to be clean
- Acknowledgement of Risk - informed consent
- Offensive defence:
 - Fitness and Health
 - Socialisation and self-esteem
 - Learn to look after yourself
 - Adventure Therapy
 - Challenge the challengers

So remember....

- What you do is important
- Keep on doing it.

Smoke without Fire

There is no fire

It was not smoke

Just a wisp of mist on the horizon

And in the land of the long white cloud.....

.....no worries. ☺

This is an outline of a powerpoint presentation given at the SPARC RISK 2002 Conference at SHEOPC December 2002

Marcus Bailie is widely respected in the adventure activity sector. Until his above appointment he was Director of The National Adventure Centre for Ireland, Tiglin, and was previously the instructor responsible for British Mountaineering at Plas y Brenin, the National Mountain Centre, North Wales. He is an active expedition canoeist and has been involved in canoe sport development for many years. Marcus has wide experience of mountaineering, canoeing and skiing.

The Adventure Activities Licensing Authority is an independent, cross-departmental public authority, funded by the Department of Education and Skills, and operating under the written guidance of the Health and Safety Commission. In effect it is an independent watchdog on the delivery of outdoor adventure activities for young people.

The aim of the licensing scheme is to provide assurances to the public about the safety of those activity providers who have been granted a licence. In this way it is hoped that young people can continue to enjoy exciting and stimulating activities outdoors without being exposed to avoidable risks of death or disabling injury.

All of the presentations made at the conference available from the "Safe as Outside" website at: www.safeoutside.org

SKOANZ

2003

ASSESSMENT CALENDAR

<i>Assessment Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Assessment Application Due</i>
2,3,4th May	Christchurch	24th March
8,9,10th May	Auckland	24th March
19,20,21st Sept.	Auckland	11th August
24,25,25th Oct.	Christchurch	8th Sept.

For the Guides Syllabus, Assessment Information and Assessment Applications, please contact:

SKOANZ Assessment Co-ordinator
Andy Thompson,
PO Box 6092,
DUNEDIN, New Zealand

Ph. 03 479.3739

Email: andyt@tekotago.ac.nz

www.skoanz.org.nz

Avalanche Safety Management Level 2

Anyone interested in participating in an Otago Polytech/ NZMSC Avalanche Safety Management Level 2 course this year please contact Penny Goddard by email for full details, at:

toastiemutant@hotmail.com

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Don't forget they offer discounts for NZOIA members.

Publications from NZOIA



NZOIA Logbooks

The format is an A5, plastic ringbinder (with standard 2 ring).

Cost - single copy: Members \$20, Non-members \$23 (including p&p in NZ). A discount is available for orders in multiples of 5 copies - please ask.

NZOIA Kayak Instructors Manual by Martin Bell

A practical guide on instructing kayaking for instructors and course designers. 1 or 2 copies - \$10.00 each, inc postage.

Abseiling for Instructors by Bev Smith

A practical guide on techniques and risk management considerations for instructors when taking Abseiling. Special - 3 for \$10.00. inc p&p, or 1 for \$5, inc. p&p.

*Orders for above publications to:
Administration Officer NZOIA
PO Box 11-090 Wellington.....with payment.*

The Eskimo Roll by Bev Smith

A practical guide for instructors and students of kayaking. Available directly from: Bev Smith, 12 Runuku Grove, Turangi. Cost: \$20 each (inc.P&P).

REMEMBER - use your NZOIA membership card at

BIVOUAC

- you get a good discount on your purchases and NZOIA gets a small commission as well.

Useful and Interesting Websites !

- nzoia.org.nz ~ is where you will find the **NZOIA website.**
- outdoorsnz.org.nz ~ Outdoors New Zealand with many links
- safeoutside.org ~ associated with Outdoors New Zealand - Safety in the Outdoors
- adventurepro.com.au ~ an Aussie / NZ "outdoors" site
- climb.co.nz ~ one for the climbers
- nzkayakbuyersguide.co.nz ~ everything for the kayaker
- watersafety.org.nz ~ Water Safety New Zealand
- sparc.org.nz ~ Sport & Recreation New Zealand
- srito.org.nz ~ Sport, Fitness & Recreation Industry Training
- mountainsafety.org.nz ~ the NZ Mountain Safety Council
- nzalpine.org.nz ~ NZ Alpine Club Newsletters
- acc.co.nz ~ the ACC site - a good place to check services
- tourisminfo.govt.nz ~ the website for Tourism NZ
- wildernessmag.com ~ the Wilderness Magazine
- sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm ~ weather cams in NZ
- nzmga.co.nz ~ NZ Mountain Guides Assn
- seakayak.org.nz ~ Sea Kayak Operators Association of NZ
- nz-rafting.co.nz ~ NZ Rafting Assn.
- www.nzunderwater.org.nz ~ NZ Underwater Assn
- rivers.org.nz ~ NZ Recreational Canoeing Assn
- apnz.ac.nz ~ Association of Polytechnics in New Zealand and links to at the polytechnics in NZ
- refdesk.com/instant.html - the A-Z of everything website
- adventurepro.com.au/outdoorjobs/outdoorjobs.cgi ~ NZ / Aussie outdoor jobs.

~ if you have any that you think other members would find useful, please let the Editor know.

Web Cameras in the New Zealand mountains that may interest you.

These cameras scroll back 12 - 24 hours, and show pictures of the weather and snow conditions at these locations:

North Island

Ruapehu Ski Club, Whakapapa Ski Area, National Park Village, Turoa from Rangataua, and Turoa Ski Area.

South Island

Nelson Lakes St Arnaud, Hanmer Springs, Mt Olympus Ski Area, Mt Hutt Ski Area, Mt Cook Hooker Valley, Treble Cone Ski Area, Cardrona, Remarkables & Coronet Ski Areas, Lake Whakatipu, and Lake Wanaka.

You can find the link at:
www.sunrockice.co.nz/Webcams.htm

Congratulations ~

to the following members who recently obtained NZOIA Instructor Awards

Abseil 1

Antonyo Baker
John Burke
Tony Charteris
Angela Revell

Canoe

Mike Brien
David Cassaidy
Nathan Fa'avae
Mark Rayward
Colin Sonneveld

Alpine 1

Aelonika Alefosio
Dean Aplin
Luke Boddington
Zac Shaw

Kayak 1

Andy England

Rock 1

Emman Bradley-Hudson
Simon Coward
George Elliott
Klaus Gillies
Peter Hitchman
Jared McMurdo
Benjamin Moore
Simon Tuck

Alpine 2

Mike Atkinson

Bush 1

Nic Edmonds

NZOIA KAYAK 2

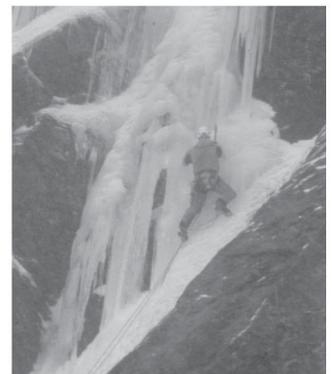
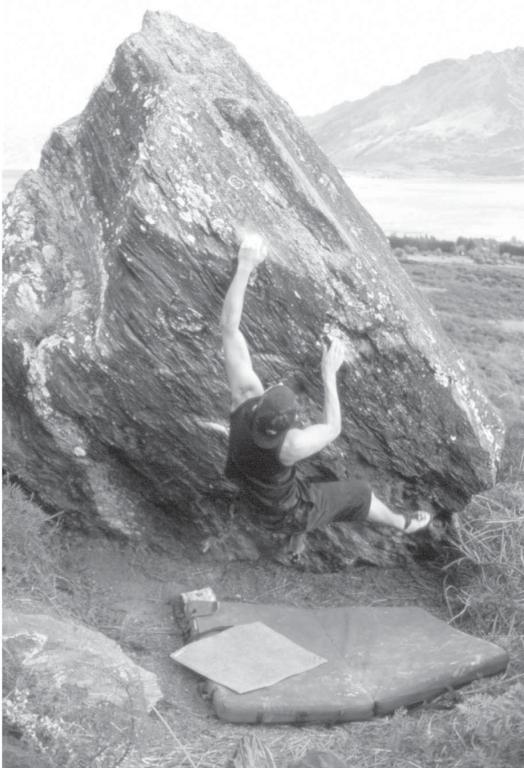
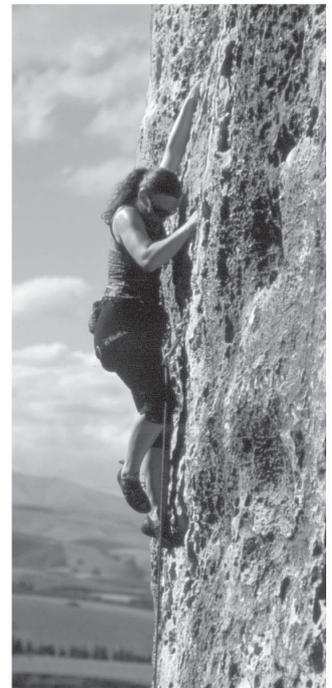
Since the scheduled Kayak 2 Assessment for March was unable to take place due to a lack participants, anyone interested in a **Kayak 2 Assessment** in the latter part of the year - **Oct/Dec 2003**, should contact the NZOIA Administration Officer at: ao@nzoi.org.nz

NZOIA Cave 2, Canoe and Indoor Wall

These three assessments are conducted "on request". If you are interested in participating in one of these assessments, please contact the NZOIA Administration Officer at: ao@nzoi.org.nz. When we have sufficient interested persons, we will organise an assessment.

NZOIA ASSESSMENT CALENDAR for 2003

Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date	Course & Location	COURSE DATE	Closing Date
Kayak FW Auckland	November 8-9	October 11	Rock 1 Christchurch	April 19-20	March 21
Kayak 1 Christchurch	October 17-19	September 19	Central NI	April 26-27	March 28
Central NI	November 14-16	October 17	Christchurch	Sept 20-21	August 22
Christchurch	November 21-23	October 24	Auckland	October 18-19	September 19
Kayak 2 Murchison	March 28-30	Cancelled	Christchurch	Nov. 8-9	October 11
Abseil 1 Auckland	November 22-23	October 24	Rock 2 Whanganui Bay	Nov. 14-16	October 18
Cave 1 Waitomo	September 13-14	August 15	Bush 1 Central North Is.	April 26-28	March 28
Cave 2	On request		South Island	Nov 29-Dec. 1	November 1
Canoe	On request		Bush 2 North Island	Nov 7-9	October 11
Indoor Wall	On request		Alpine 1 North Island	September 6-8	August 8
			South Island	Sept 20-22	August 22
			South Island	October 18-20	September 19
			Alpine 2 South Island	October 9-12	September 12



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your comments and
suggestions are
welcome !