

# WA Seakayaker



Dave Oakley crash testing the Injidup shore break on the C2C. – Photo by Rod Coogan

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SEA KAYAK CLUB WA INC. – Issue No. 70 April 2008**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



This year seems to be going so quickly and the good time of the year for paddling is here (well for me it is). The sun is down and the winds are not so strong.

This year we have had many enquiries about sea kayaking and a number of new members. I seem to have phone calls and e-mails from a large variety of people, some beginners and others wanting us to train them for the Avon Descent!!! Where did that come from?

Our new members since the last newsletter went out are:

**Nathan Cantwell, Ian Rawlings** who are old members returning, **Glenn Osborne** and **Pel Turner** both from the northern suburbs of Wanneroo and Warwick and just to even things up we have **Barb Manson** and **Bob Bright** from Mandurah and Shoalwater respectively.

The programme committee has worked hard to put in a programme catering for everyone. Some paddlers prefer the Saturday and others the Sunday so for those who can only come on Saturday there are **Les Allen's** classes on one Saturday and a paddle on a few Saturdays each programme.

Les's classes have finished now until next summer and **Phil Evans** is about to begin the training for Sea Skills award and Sea Leader training. Phil is the coordinator and is ably assisted by **Roger Lloyd, Kevin Piper** and **Rod Coogan**. All this training is done on a voluntary basis and is a fantastic opportunity for all club members to refresh their skills and keep up to date. The Instructors and Sea Leaders have had their first aid qualifications updated and have been subsidized for this by the club.

Since the last newsletter was published we have had two social events. The first was at **Martin and Val Burgoyne's** home at Jarrahdale where we checked out some great slides and listened to entertaining stories, particularly of Martin's time in Bhutan. We were all told to bring 10 slides each but somehow the host didn't have to stick with that (think I counted at least 40). It was great that **Kelvin** was able to come up from Collie. The other was the gathering in Kings Park where the steaks were free from marauding ducks this year. It was good to have former member, **Bill the Pom Reynolds** in full interview mode with **Sandy Robson**. He still does freelance with one of the British papers, so innocent words could end up anywhere.

There have been two club trips over weekends or longer. Both of these trips were lead by **Rod Coogan**. The first was the trip to Jurien Bay with **Paul Cooper, Steve Foreman, John Radovich** and **Alan Hale**. It was on this trip they saw the other side of the mild mannered Paul when he confronted the caravan Park revellers. This article is on the website under trip articles. The other trip was the inaugural Cape to Cape which you can read about in this newsletter. Some of the conditions were quite harrowing with some nice dumping surf. Members on this trip were **Kelvin Lewis, Dave Oakley** and **Jim Bramley** (with **Diane** doing a great job in support).

**Judy Blight**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICE BEARERS – 2007/08

President	Judy Blight	9438 2778	<a href="mailto:carita@inet.net.au">carita@inet.net.au</a>
Vice President	Phil Evans	9383 7190	<a href="mailto:pevans_2@bigpond.net.au">pevans_2@bigpond.net.au</a>
Treasurer	Rod Coogan	9535 4515	<a href="mailto:rodneycogan@optusnet.com.au">rodneycogan@optusnet.com.au</a>
Secretary	Sue Harrington	9335 5182	<a href="mailto:sueandruss@bigpond.com">sueandruss@bigpond.com</a>
Programme	Kevin Piper	9447 8623	<a href="mailto:dolphin66@nscm.net.au">dolphin66@nscm.net.au</a>
Programme	Martin Burgoyne	9525 9280	<a href="mailto:madburg@westnet.com.au">madburg@westnet.com.au</a>
Programme	Steve Foreman	9368 6804	<a href="mailto:sfandlm@inet.net.au">sfandlm@inet.net.au</a>
Training	Phil Evans	9383 7190	<a href="mailto:pevans_2@bigpond.net.au">pevans_2@bigpond.net.au</a>
Web Site	Russell Hobbs	9335 5182	<a href="mailto:sueandruss@bigpond.com">sueandruss@bigpond.com</a>
Newsletter	Judy Blight	9433 3719	<a href="mailto:carita@inet.net.au">carita@inet.net.au</a>
Social	Sue Harrington	9335 5182	<a href="mailto:sueandruss@bigpond.com">sueandruss@bigpond.com</a>
Committee	Dave Oakley	9331 8446	<a href="mailto:daveoakley54@gmail.com">daveoakley54@gmail.com</a>

## **NOTICEBOARD**

### **Transit Through the Port of Fremantle by Kayak**

The club appreciates the efforts of **Roger Lloyd** for finally giving us an answer from Fremantle Ports on transit of kayaks through the Fremantle Port. There is nothing in the department of Planning and Infrastructure WA Marine Act or port Authorities Regulations which prohibit small craft transiting port waters. There is a **maximum speed of 8 knots** in the harbour. Under the Port Authorities Regulations **there is a 30 metre exclusion zone around all berths and ships at berth.**

We have a copy of this e-mail and are printing out copies for sea leaders to attach to their boat in case approached by people preventing them going through the harbour.

### **Search for EPIRB**

Thanks to **Rod Coogan** for his work in looking for an epirb (the changeover from our present one is Feb 2009) that will be small enough to carry for an individual paddler and still fit into the marine regulations. He has e-mailed and sent many letters but as yet has not received satisfaction with responses he has received. A 406 EPIRB cannot be safely worn attached to a paddlers PFD as it impedes the paddler during normal paddling strokes. Presently, most of the paddling we do is in the epirb exempt area but on occasions we are outside that area.

## Inaugural Club Cape to Cape Trip by Rod Coogan

The C2C is the iconic paddle for sea kayakers. The seed for this adventure was sown in 2006 when Wayne Stocker and I completed the paddle with the thought it might provide an incentive to other motivated members to further hone their paddle and group management skills.



The members for the inaugural paddle were Jim Bramley (experienced Sea Skills), Kelvin Lewis (Advanced Sea Skills), Dave Oakley (experienced Sea Skills), Rod Coogan (Instructor) and Di Bramley (experienced on-shore support).

The paddle commences rounding Cape Leeuwin, then passes Cape Hamelin, Cape Freycinet, Cape Mentelle, Cape Clairault, Cape Naturaliste together with numerous other features and surf breaks, most with 'terminal' sounding names.



*Cape Leeuwin: Diane farewelling Dave* Photo by Rose Hale

Weather conditions are a significant part when planning any ocean paddle, particularly the C2C as there are few safe landing spots in big conditions. Referring to BOM Wind Roses, February and March are prime times in relation to winds. The weather pattern being hoped for was a minimum of four highs of about 1030 hPa migrating toward southern WA from south of South Africa. The highs at this strength are

strong enough to keep the low pressure systems down south toward Antarctica. At 1.00pm, 8 March that's exactly what we had!



All members arrived at Turner's Caravan Park, Augusta at varying times Sunday afternoon. After erecting tents and a cuppa, the remainder of the day was taken up with trip discussions and a late evening visit to the launch site. Everything looked good for a Monday launch.

*Rod approaches Cosy Corner*  
Photo by Kelvin Lewis

**Day 1- Monday, 10 March 2008.**

Destination: Hamelin Bay, actual: as planned. Distance: 24km

Weather: E/SE winds 15-20 knots tending S/SE 20-25 knots during the afternoon.

Seas to 2.0m, swell to 2.5m.

The paddle rounding Cape Leeuwin can be a spooky experience. Big swells from the SE/ SW and the point where they both meet, crashing surf that sounds like a steam train with plenty of rock, reef and bombies to keep you on your toes. Alan Hale joined us at the launch and paddled to the 'water wheel' before returning. Seas were of a lumpy moderate swell that allowed us to sail most of the way to a lunch stop at Cosy Corner. Enroute Dave saw a school of dolphins surfing about and I really enjoyed using my new sail which I'd previously tested at the Jurien weekend. On arrival at Hamelin Bay we were greeted by the resident three sting rays who were cruising the shallows. Di was already there with the Bramley camper set up – lucky boy that Jim!



*Cape Leeuwin: paddlers are just visible top left* – photo by Rose Hale

**Day 2- Tuesday, 11 March 2008**

Destination: Conto's/ Bob's Beach, actual: Kilcarnup. Distance: 33km.

Weather: E/SE winds 13-18 knots tending 18-23 knots during afternoon. Seas 1.5m, swell 2.5m.

Launched this morning in good conditions toward North Point where we paddled amongst the rocks and boulders. Passing North Point, Jim decided to do some trolling. Cast his line but the only thing he caught was his sail!

Lunch stop was around the surging surf of Cape Freycinet into the lee of Conto's Springs. Rounding the Cape Kelvin was paddling close in shore but a safe distance from surging surf on rocks. However, as he passed around 'a corner' so to speak, he was in the wrong place at the wrong time and was swept up onto rocks. Kelvin rolled three times but was immediately wiped out each time because he was in a hole formed by surging current and submerged rocks. He was out- Jim was in very quickly to attach a tow line and pull Kelvin's boat to less turbulent waters. I picked up Kelvin on my bow and returned him to his boat. Damage was minor with small gouges to bow, stern and helmet, slight abrasion to his shoulder and a torn cag. Just as well he was wearing his helmet. We had lunch in the lee of Conto's with great views all around.

Leaving Conto's, Dave was paddling closer to shore toward Marmaduke Point where he was nearly caught in shallow waters with dangerously large breakers coming in. As you will read later in this article there is a worrying connection between Dave, shallow water and big breaking waves. At this point we paddled about 1km out to sea just to be sure of no more surprises. We by-passed cappuccino at Gnarabut because it was just too big to get in safely. Jim, the coffee magnet, was disappointed, however within a few kilometres he was about to make a starring splash!



*Jim and Kelvin entering North Point* – Photo: Rod Cooqan

Approaching Cape Mentelle we were paddling in large cresting swells when an unexpected set rolled in. "Wave" was yelled and we all headed seaward managing to miss the break. Jim was not so lucky. He was trapped, braced the first breaker, thumped and capsized by the second. Jim's first roll attempt failed because the turbulent aerated waters provided no support. By this

time the third wave was just about on him when he successfully rolled and

managed to sprint paddle just beyond its clutches. Dave, Kelvin and I were relieved, Jim probably was too.

The path into Kilcarnup had us paddling 3 metre faces in through the surf break and around the reef. Because of high tide and strong winds there was just enough space between rocks to camp.

### **Day 3- Wednesday, 12 March 2008**

Destination: Cowaramup Bay, actual: Canal Rocks. Distance: 33km.

Weather: S/ SW 15-20 knots, Sea 1.2m, Swell 4.0m

The launch from Kilcarnup was highlighted by a pod of surfing dolphins. What a great sight to start to a big swell day. A short distance out, Dave said he felt he had

been bitten by something. There was a very red lumpy rash on the inside of his elbow. Most likely an insect or spider had crawled into his paddling top the previous night. The stinging slowly subsided with no further problems.

The 10km paddle to Cowaramup Bay (Gracetown) was in building conditions and surfers were out in force.

We had to paddle a wide arc around South Point to dodge some very intimidating surf. At Gracetown and headed directly for the General Store for a well earned early lunch. That consisted of juice, coffee, pies and pasties. We were hungry, to our surprise, Dave ignored the lettuce leaves and carrot sticks to woof down a vegetable pastie. This was a big day in more ways than one!

It was 18km to Cape Clairault (Injidup) and we paddled this section with one eye ahead and the other firmly out to sea. The swells were big and the surf breaks pumping. It was impossible to miss Moses Rock. The splash of the breaking waves reached to the cliff horizon. It was huge and thankfully we were a safe distance from it. However, just around the corner was the shore break at Injidup. As with entering Cowaramup Bay we had to paddle a wide arc again around Cape Clairault to avoid the huge surf breaks.

The beach at Injidup Point is steep and was nothing as I remembered. The beach was completely covered with surging water to the base of the sand dunes and vegetation. There was a very intimidating shore break that dumped directly on beach sand. The decision was to land and discuss options and to rendezvous with Di Bramley. Adrenalin was pumping as we approached that dumping shore break. Individually we waited for the lull between sets then quickly and cautiously paddled in, stopping in near knee deep water to let dumpers pass under us and paddle in on their backs to be



*The Injidup Point shore break ... it was nasty!* – Photo Rod Coogan, crash test assistant, Dave Oakley

swept up the beach with the surge. Unfortunately this is where Dave, big swells and shallow water come into play. Dave had paddled into position, to let a swell pass under him. Problem was that swell just kept getting bigger and bigger and within a second he was trapped. It looked as though he had a tonne of water land directly on top of him.

Still in his boat, he braced, was crunched and appeared to have his kayak swept over him in only centimetres of water. It was a very disturbing sight. We instantly lunged for his boat as he was being rapidly sucked out into the path of the next dumper. Dave emerged from his boat in true James Bond style “shaken but not stirred”. By this time Di had joined us to advise the whole beach was being pounded by huge dumpers

and of 35 knot NW winds tomorrow. Decision time: it was late in the afternoon, no satisfactory tent sites, exposed beach, conditions visibly building and discomfort guaranteed.

A radio call to ACRAM confirmed winds and a strong wind warning issued. The decision- launch (through that shore break) and paddle 5km to the safety of Canal Rocks- quickly. The launch order would be Kelvin, Rod, Dave and Jim. Kelvin lined up on the steep beach with the rest of us ready to push him off. The lull came, he was



*Dave approaches Sugarloaf in 4m swells* — photo by Rod Coogan

off and out successfully. This pattern was followed for all launches however for Jim, he only had one remaining person to assist him- Di. They had to wait at least 10 minutes for a lull between the huge curling dumpers, and then it was one big push to get Jim clear.

Dave and I held station off the beach waiting for Jim to launch. A two metre wave caught us by surprise; we turned and paddled at it. The wave broke directly onto our bows and we

disappeared in the soup, and fortunately came out the other side still upright. It was a hasty paddle to Canal Rocks.

Di was waiting for us when we arrived. In big swell and wind, Canal Rocks is really a spectacular sight. We shuttled boats and wet gear to the Caves Road Caravan Park for a layover day.

#### **Day 4- Thursday, 13 March 2008**

Destination: Injidup Point, Cape Clairault, actual: Bad weather, layover day at Yallingup. Weather: NW winds 39 knots, sea 3.0m, swell 4.5m

Warm showers, tent site with no sand, picnic tables at hand, cappuccino and the best egg burger ever not far away, sleep in and the Bramley camper nearby. We did enjoy the day off. Checked, cleaned and dried gear ready for launch tomorrow. Went to a viewing point overlooking Smiths Beach and Yallingup- there's no way anyone would want to be out there today. The forecast for Friday was looking good.

#### **Day 5- Friday, 14 March 2008**

Destination: Bunker Bay, actual: as planned. Distance: 21km. No Stops  
Weather: E tending N at 11 knots, sea 1.5m, swell 4.0m

We returned to Canal Rocks to continue in good weather and large swells. The main highlights being the approach to Sugarloaf and rounding Cape Naturaliste. The

breaking waves at Sugarloaf were pumping so we kept a wide path of them and the three bears surf break nearby. I did not want any mishaps on our last day. Rounding Cape Naturaliste was in high and sometimes tricky swell conditions. Once past Naturaliste we paddled to avoid bombies and reef on the approach to Bunker Bay. The landing at Bunkers was text book and as usual Di was there to greet us.

## **Conclusion**

I was fortunate to lead a group of very experienced paddlers who have the ability to apply their skills instinctively. If you want to pick up good information then make sure you paddle with Dave, Di, Kelvin or Jim sometime.

The C2C is a great adventure for the experienced and prepared paddler. I believe this is a trip should be scheduled once a year specifically for those paddlers who are prepared to continue improving their skills and build upon their bank of experience.



*Dave Oakley, Jim Bramley, Rod Coogan and Kelvin Lewis — photo by Diane Bramley*

## Report on Coastbusters 08 & IKW by Sandy Robson



In the afternoon on Thursday Feb 28th I went straight from my Penrhos Year 7 camp to the international airport and flew to Auckland to attend 'Coastbusters', my first Sea Kayaking Symposium. If you have never been to one of these events, then I can recommend it. The weekend was a frenzied mixture of presentations, trip reports, meeting new people, laughter and on-water 'pod' exercises. The theme for this year's symposium was expeditions. It was such a buzz to be there with over 200 sea kayakers gathered for the event. As well as the friendly kiwis, there were visitors from many different parts of the world including Australia, Japan, Bulgaria, Serbia, Holland and the United States.



*At Sullivan's Bay on the Sunday*

The symposium began with meeting my 'pod'. Each person at the symposium was allocated to a group called a 'pod', consisting of 8 paddlers, one being the pod leader and facilitator. The idea for the pod comes from a pod or family of dolphins. People attending the conference immediately had a family of fellow kayakers with which to share the experience. If you were at the conference alone, as I was, this gave you a group of friends to chat to. They also split up couples into different pods, so your network extended, for example Cat in my pod introduced me to her partner in another pod and soon everyone is making new friends in the sea kayaking community. The

symposium presentations and choice sessions were punctuated with ‘pod’ meetings and planning for the on-water activities.

On the Friday evening, the first day of the symposium, Jim Kakuk and Deb Volturno gave a presentation about the paddling they do as a part of the team known as the Tsunami Rangers. The Tsunami Rangers are from the west coast of the USA where they kayak ‘ocean white water’. They like to be in the surf, in rock gardens and in the back of ocean caves where you hear strange sucking noises and wait to see what happens next! It all seemed rather extreme at first, but there is actually a lot of team work and planning to make it safe-extreme. Whilst they work as a team there is a strong element of personal responsibility too. A lot of the places they get into, you can’t really do assisted rescues, so if they go in then they are expected



*Attempting a bit of tsunami rangersing*

to be able to self rescue/swim out of whatever they get themselves into. Jim has designed his own kayak specifically for this type of kayaking. It is like a sit on-top kayak and he told us the advantage is you can kick off the rocks if you get too close and it makes it easy to do fast rock landings too. If you haven’t heard of the Tsunami Rangers then it is worth doing a Google search to watch some of the crazy video footage of them in action. After their presentation a few of us were inspired to do a little tsunami rangersing of our own when we got out on the water – luckily they had loaned us plastic kayaks for the weekend!

One of the features of Coastbusters was a number of different craft on display. My favourites were a traditionally carved outrigger canoe, the hand made Greenland kayaks, and a dismembered kayak that was cut in half in a collision with a boat on the Auckland harbour. The paddler was not harmed, but the back hatch was cut off and the spray deck was cut and torn – a scary thought hey? I was surprised at the number of Kiwi paddlers who are paddling with large flags attached to their kayaks like the vehicles in the mines use here. This seems to be a reaction to the collision incident and some kayakers are even buying emergency horns to blast.



*Collision victim*

On the second day of the conference there were a number of choices of sessions to

attend and pod antics on the lake in the afternoon, Ooooo and I got to meet Paul Caffyn. I had been chatting to Paul on email and on the phone during my expedition in 2007, so it was great to finally meet him. For those of you who have no idea who I am talking about, Paul Caffyn is the only person to have circumnavigated the Australian continent by sea kayak. During the second day I attended a sailing workshop, went to Paul Caffyn's East Greenland trip report (definitely a highlight), did a kayakers yoga session (good for my jetlag), got some advice on how to take better photos and checked out a few kiwi tips for kayak expedition food and foraging. Then there was a bit of organised pandemonium on the lake with each pod undertaking a series of challenges. This was followed by a happy hour session and socialising. I had fun trying a few rolls in a traditional Greenland kayak and I also had the opportunity to test drive the outrigger canoe. What fun! In the evening we had the conference dinner and I gave my presentation about my expedition around



*Some of the members of my pod*

Australia. This is the first time that I have spoken at a conference so it was a bit scary, but they were a nice audience.

The symposium concluded with an outing to Sullivan's Bay on the Sunday. Each of the 24 pods set out on a course and worked their way through 9 scenarios. The exercises included rescues, skill development, risk management, navigation, towing, survival and team work. This was great training and an awesome opportunity to share skills and

knowledge. The water activities were followed by a BBQ and some tips on how to deal with a stranded whale if you ever come across one.



The Coastbusters Symposium this year was followed by International Kayak Week (I.K.W.). Fifty sea kayakers were

camped at the Martin's Bay campground in tents and cabins and enjoyed a week of paddling. Unfortunately I was only there for one day as I had to go back to work, but I did manage to cram in a 22km paddle around the Tawharanui Peninsula and 2 hours

of surfing and I set the kiwis straight that Pavlova is Australian (they think that they invented it).

I didn't want to come home. At this point I wished I had a good excuse for not coming back to work the next day/week. One of the coolest stories I heard was of a sea kayaker who was kind of stuck out in a local bay with an Orca rolling around mouthing his rudder?! I really wanted to ring in to work, "sorry I can't come in today because an orca is sucking my rudder". I literally got out of the surf, changed into dry clothes and Paul Hayward drove me back to the airport for my flight home, so I feel I got the most out of the weekend.

There is a great deal of rivalry between the north and the south islanders in New Zealand. I can tell you that paddling on the north island is great and the people are awesome. I have also been invited down to the south island. If you do get the opportunity to go paddling in New Zealand, jump at it. And go to a sea kayaking symposium at least once in your life...we might be organising one in Australia some time soon.

## **The NSW Sea Kayak Club's ROCK NROLL event 2008** by Alan Hale



This is probably Australian Sea Kayaking's premier annual event, and for the second consecutive year it was held at Batemans Bay, on the south coast. The club took over a large section of the Batemans Bay Beach Resort, on Corrigan's Beach. Many of the members pitched tents on the unpowered sites and some had Chalets, instead of "ruffin it"

My wife, Rose and I flew into Canberra on the Wednesday, prior to the event start on Friday 4 April, and drove our hire car down to Batemans Bay. On the Thursday we went up to Jervis Bay, checking out all the beaches on the way and on Friday morning I paddled a borrowed Current Design kayak around Lake Durras, while



Rose painted and photographed the wildlife.

*Michael Steinfeld addressing the event attendees,  
Rafta kayaks display in foreground*

Friday arvo we got back to the beach resort and the SKC had set up a big Marquee and the committee had taken over a chalet as the event office. Most of the sponsors had set up their displays and many of the members had arrived and were making use of the beautiful weather to get out on the water.



*Just some of the boats for the Sat Morning paddle. My borrowed Impex Assateague in the foreground*

One of the main sponsors, Expedition Kayaks put on beer and pizza and people were filling their boots. There is nothing like free beer to attract a crowd. Come Saturday morning there were masses of people, all dressed for paddling, milling around the HQ area. We had to register for each paddle we wished to do, and most lists filled very quickly. The trips to Toll Gates filled especially fast.



*Nigel Dennis getting his borrowed Boreal Design boat ready to paddle, Saturday morning.*

The group I was with, led by Mark Sundin paddled south to Black Rock. Also in my group were two QLD SKC members. We returned to the start point after 1330, so missed the arvo paddles which were to start about 1230.



*Silvio Testa, President of the Qld SKC, near Black Rock. The boat is a Valley Aquanaut LV.*

Pete Clark, proprietor of Kayaking World at Gosford was at the event with a stack of his boats, including his P&H Cetus. I paddled the Cetus on the Saturday arvo.

That was easily the best boat I paddled all that week. It is of Diolin and glass construction and a bit heavier than other boats of a similar size, but it cuts through the water beautifully and is so easy to roll, I was able to come up on my left side too. The load capacity is only 135kg, so a bit small for me on a trip. Shame.

There was a buffet dinner on the Saturday night, a presentation by Nigel Dennis on some of his trips, including projected pictures. There were many questions from the audience, Nigel is a very interesting speaker. This was followed by Stephan Meyn talking about a trip he did in Tassie with Roaring 40s kayaking.



*Snapper Islands.*

Sunday morning I had a Valley Aquanaut HV to paddle. Our group was led by Rob Mercer, of Expedition Kayaks, and an instructor with the NSW SKC. We went to North Head, to the east of Batemans Bay. Rob was paddling a Valley Nordkap. Later that morning I swapped into his Nordkap, also a very nice craft. Around the reefs and rocks at North Head we went through a few “gauntlets”, their term for narrow, sometimes dangerous passages in the rocks.



*Near North Head.*

Sunday arvo, I paddled Silvio Testa’s Red Fish kayak, beautifully made of cedar. It is a heavy boat but is a dream to paddle and Silvio will sell it so he can make another. His email if interested is [silviotesta@optusnet.com.au](mailto:silviotesta@optusnet.com.au).



*Cedar, Red Fish, Silvio watches Andre Janecki explaining boat construction.*

There were trips on Monday also but I didn’t participate because I was trying to dry my stuff for the trip back to Canberra and Perth

later that day. Many of the trip leaders and instructors spent much of the morning with Nigel, discussing the BCU training/qualifying system versus the NSW system. Also they spent a bit of time on rescue methods

I thanked Stephan Meyn and some of the other members for letting me participate and borrow boats. I also asked if they would allow others from WA SKC to attend and participate in NSW SKC events, and they responded positively.

On the NSW SKC website there is a laid out program of the whole show if you are interested. They will also have a report in due time. The next RnR event will be early next year, location unknown as yet, but watch the website, if interested. I would go again if other things allow it.

*This North American woman is wearing a modern version of the Inuit outfit. She is showing how you can roll without paddles or hands, all body movement. Here she is using a Rafta Sea Leopard.*



*This guy(Andrew Eddy), is the rolling guru, check out that bow. I saw Andrew do a couple of hat rolls , he has a dry hat in one hand then he rolls 360 deg without wetting the hat, by passing it from one hand to the other over the up turned hull, impressive?? This little lake was next to the resort and was used to demo and teach. Nigel Dennis conducted a paddle clinic here also.*



## New Switch for the Kayak

by Tim Hale



I have had a few issues with the so called “waterproof switch” for the electric bilge pump that I had installed in my Mirage Sea Kayak. The rubber boot was broken, from doing cowboy entries into the kayak, allowing salt water to get into the switch. I have gone through two switches in six months and at \$14.00 each it was going to get expensive. Not only that, but the possibility of the switch failing while I was on a trip when I’d need it got me thinking of an alternative switch. I was also not happy with having electrics in a place where salt water could get to them. I’ve always thought of a day hatch as a place you need to be able to get to on the ocean whatever the conditions.



*Plunger, top view*

The answer is an Air Switch usually used in a spa pool to turn the blower on and off. This comes in two parts, the plunger (190-0478) and the latching switch (319-736). I sourced both parts from RS

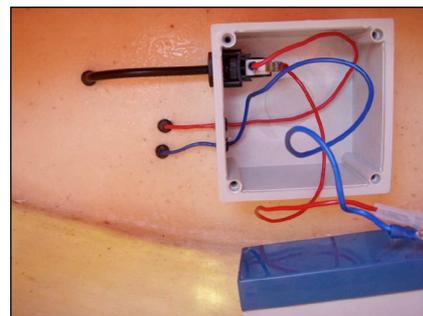


*Plunger bottom view  
(complete with Daddy Long  
Legs spider)*

Australia an online component store. By fitting this type of switch I was able to keep all the electrics in

a waterproof box in the rear compartment and run an air tube to the box.

The plunger was placed where the hole was for the electric switch. I used a hole saw to enlarge the hole. Because of the curve of the hull I used a small amount of epoxy glue to seal it off.



*The box, showing the latching  
air switch, with the 4mm air  
hose attached.*

The 4mm air tube runs through the rear bulk head to the waterproof box.

The only thing I’d do differently would be to use a different box that didn’t need a screwdriver to open it.



*Box with battery installed.*