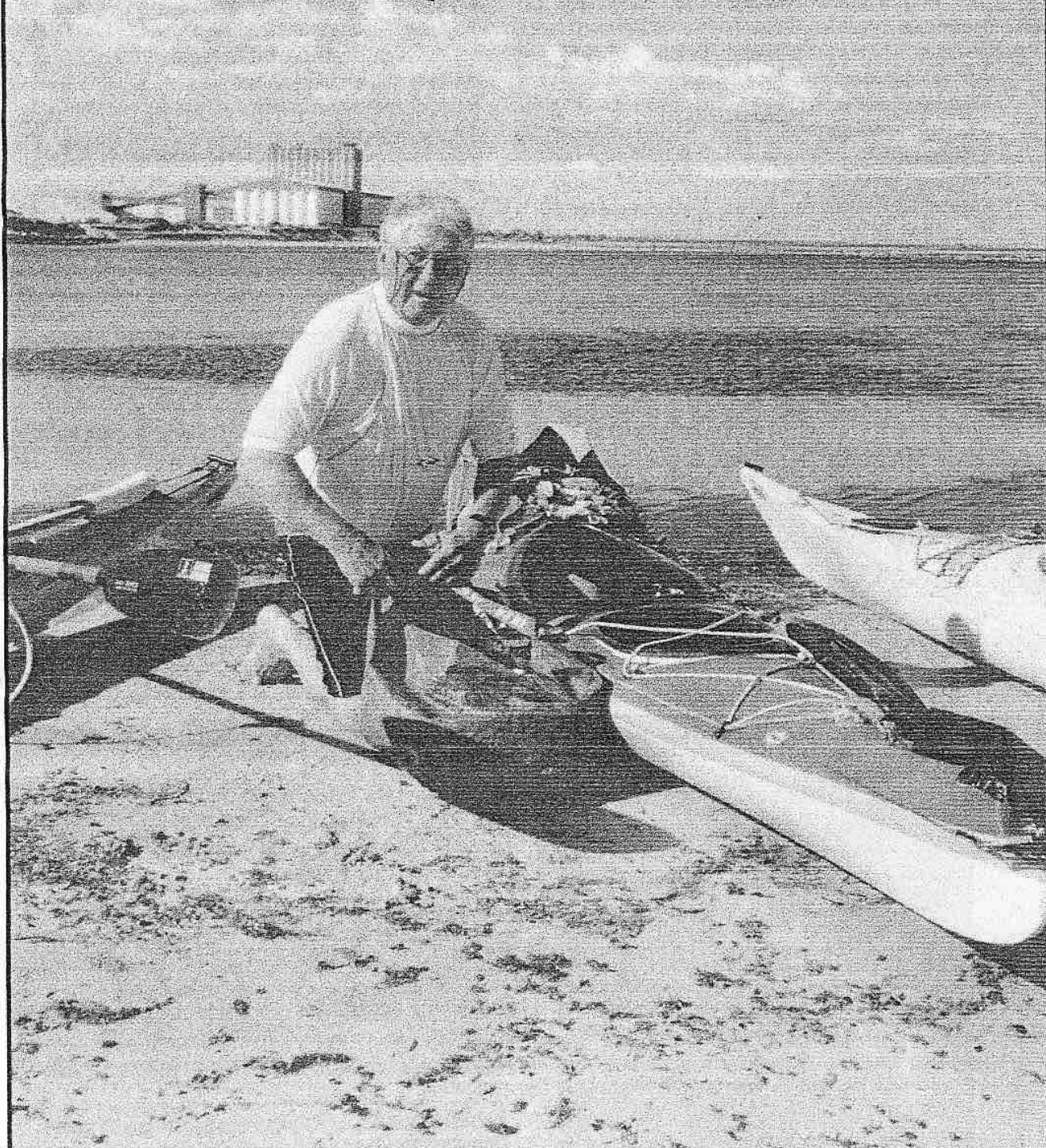


WA Seakayaker

Issue 34: Jan ~ Feb 2002



Newsletter of Sea Kayak Club WA Inc. 28 Aurelian St. Palmyra, 6157
Phone Pres. Ian MacGregor 9383 4319 Sec. Eric Pyatt 9339 2952

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

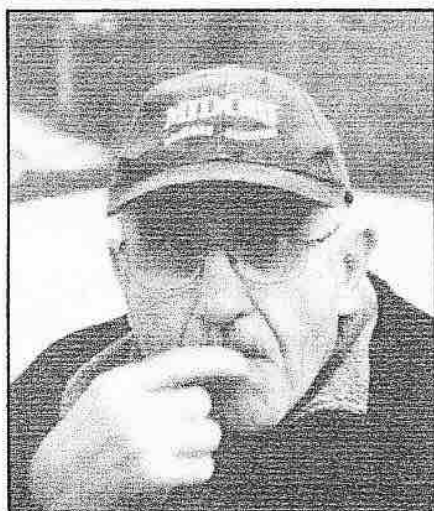
Welcome to the first newsletter for 2002. A special welcome to new members, the majority joining us through participation in the first class of our introductory training course. Hopefully you newcomers find this newsletter imparts information useful in your quest to become adept seakayakers. Maybe you'll be so impressed by the nature of this newsletter that you'll feel inclined to write an article (about your learning experience?) for the next edition. I know our editor would appreciate this because she gets bugger-all from many of the established members, and I'm sure at times finds this despairing. All you recalcitrant types hang your heads in shame (my head is hangin' so low as I write I almost poked my eye out with this pen). Marian has not paid me to mention this; I'm just crawling, trying to make amends for another late report! But I'd better move on before I make myself unpopular (more?)

Caught up with the Geraldton paddlers on the Ju-

rien weekend. It was good to put faces to a couple of the names known to me. Weather was not in our favour - strong winds presented a valuable learning opportunity for yours truly, and possibly some others - however the companionship and talk seemed to be enjoyed by all. Definitely something to do more often, even though the A team was a great disappointment to the B team.

I'll finish here before I miss my deadline on the deadline (No amount of crawling will overcome crossing that line). Stating the obvious - 2001 has been a very good year for our club. Lots of trips, membership increasing and becoming better informed, and facilities put in place for continuing it. All the products of hard work, a desire for fellowship, and a passion for ocean paddling. Let's keep it going strong!

Ian MacGregor



Wolfgang Schlieben

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This Month's Fiercely Contested **DUCK FOR COVER AWARD** *Goes to Wolfgang Schlieben*



Wolfgang has set something of a precedent by winning this award twice in the last four issues. Not bad considering he was overseas for 3 months of that period!

According to my informant, Wolfgang decided to act as roving reporter and take a photograph of an interesting car sticker for the club magazine. His photograph looked something like this.



My source assures me the sign said "Only Wankers Need Anchors". Unfortunately it is a fundamental requirement of photography that one must insert a film in the camera to achieve a result.

**Absolute deadline for receipt of material for
next issue of WA Seakayaker :**
Midnight WST Wed 20th February 2002

COVER PICTURE: Eric Pyatt preparing for a club paddle.
Photograph © Marian Mayes

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYBODY



Congratulations to the following;

New Members

who have completed the introductory training course

Christine Hanson

Peter Richardson

John Ross

Warren Murphy

John Tregonning

Alexandra (Lexy) Tregonning

Welcome also to

Anne Marie Wann from Geraldton

And

Laurie Fuller of Jurien

Glad to have you all on board!



Club Web Page

The club web page is now up and running, though parts are still under construction. Paul Fuller has put a lot of work into the design and construction and says he would welcome any feedback. The page is hosted by Canoe WA and can be viewed at

www.canoewa.asn.au/skcwa/index.htm

It will include our current programme, articles, trip reports and a safety and training Section.



Labour Day Long Weekend

Please give some thought to the labour day weekend 2-4th March 2002. Eric has suggested another weekend at Jurien as the wind may not be so strong then. He would welcome any feedback before preparing the next programme.



Contributions to Newsletter

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. If you would like to write a story on anything to do with sea kayaking, training, gadgets or club activities please let me know well in advance of the deadline to avoid duplication. If it is going to be more than about 400 words I would appreciate being advised of the *topic and the approximate word count* at least 2 weeks prior to the deadline so I don't spend time writing endless waffle to fill space, then have to delete it. The more people who contribute, the more interesting the newsletter will be. Marian



FEES ARE NOW OVERDUE

If you have not renewed your annual subscription, this is the last copy of the magazine you will receive.



Library Books

The club has purchased some library books to be made available to members. They will be kept at Eric's place.



Saturday Night Paddle

Les has suggested a Saturday night paddle to coincide with the full moon in late February. Starting about 5pm, watch the sunset and return after dark. Please note special requirements for safety equipment should be discussed with Les. (Ph. 9456 2129)



Message From the Editor

Many of you have fallen victim to my camera and some of the photographs taken on club outings have appeared in the newsletter.

With the limited circulation and small number of members I have not had any body complain to me about them being published. However, now the club is launching a web site that includes a picture gallery, I would like to ensure nobody has any objections to their photographs appearing on the web. I have spoken individually to most of you about this but please let me know if you object.

Marian Mayes

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PEEL INLET/MURRAY RIVER

We arranged to meet at my place, but at 8.00 Ian phoned to say he would be late as he had to vote. Graeme and I were able to contact Ross at Mandurah, where we intended leaving the vehicles and confirm the arrangements.

We were on the road about 9.00 am deciding to take the freeway as none of us had completed it before. It was conceded that from my place, Stock Road would be shorter and quicker.

After car shuttling and loading, we were on the water at 11.45am (eat your heart out Don). We decided to have lunch on Boundary Island, but on arrival it was a bit soon so we pushed on, only to run into bother. The water was too shallow to beach. Graeme didn't want to walk to the beach and decided to look after the boats on the sand bank, while Ian and I found a shady tree on the beach.

Soon we were on the water and headed for Boodalan Island and Nature Reserve. I ran over a stingray at least 120cm across. We spent fifteen minutes following him around. When we got close he would stick his tail out the water. It was shallow, but a comfortable paddling depth.



After rounding the island we moved on to the Yunderup Canals. At the entrance, Ian beached, being so tired (poor thing) he had to have a nap, while Graeme and I explored.

"Ian was so tired he had to have a nap, poor thing"

In the estuary, after dragging Ian off the beach, we concerned ourselves with the time; pulled out the map and decided to take the short cut across the shallow bank and take the "Little Yunderup Branch" which took us to the "Cooleenup Branch", the main waterway to the Murray River.

There was plenty of life along the banks and we chatted to people as we paddled along leisurely. We were trying to catch the wake of passing boats. When we found a houseboat we could keep up with, we got into its turbulence from the propellers. Better than that, when we rested our bow on the rear bulkhead it pulled us along without holding on. We chatted with the owners who offered us a choice of a cup of tea or a beer. We didn't bother. This sojourn carried us for about four kilometers helping us make up quite a bit of time and saved some of our energy. We were against the wind and the current. We peeled off at the Ravenswood Caravan Park at 5.10 pm. We were surprised and pleased that all they wanted from us was a shower fee of \$2.50 per head. We camped on a narrow strip of lawn between the boundary road and the river. A perfect spot! Ian was complaining

about prickles in his bare feet, the softy.

Now came the great debate about the routine for the camp. Graeme and Ian wanted to shower first. I wanted to pitch my tent, prepare camp and have a beer, then shower. No sweat! So we did! Next! Ian wanted to cook in daylight. Graeme and I wanted a beer at the pub. Graeme hadn't brought any beer with him. No sweat! So we did! It all welded together. The three of us finished up eating together.

The food was great. The beer and wine were great. The weather was perfect. We slept well, to be woken by the music of the birds and another beautiful day. The old enemy, the wind was behaving. After brekky we were away at 8.30 am.

No definite plan, except I wanted to seek out the Naturalist Club's premises at Mill Point on Cooleenup Island. We found ourselves on a tiny beach at Cooper's Mill, so decided to have morning tea and inspect the mill. The mosquitoes drove us mad. The plus was a chat with the caretaker. He directed us to our objective and realising I was a member of the Naturalist Club showed us a pair of tawny frogmouths with their two day old baby. Beautiful!

"He showed us a pair of tawny frogmouths with their two day old baby."

We had to go back two or three kilometers and found the substantial building on stilts, but no beach. A jetty was no good to us. I managed to scramble ashore and "sus the joint out." Objective achieved, we decided to head home. With the wind behind us, we headed for the south end of Boundary Island, sticking to the deeper water. Graeme spotted another smaller stingray. We lunched on the Island. Any body passing the Island in the future, would you pick up my blue folding stool? I can't understand why I left it there.

"It was pleasing to see the waders are arriving."



It was pleasing to see the waders are arriving. Red capped plovers and red necked stints in the one flock of about fifty. There was a small number of what I thought were marsh sandpipers. There were also big populations of pelicans, great and little egrets, terns gulls and a few pied oyster catchers.



Lunch over, we headed for "The Chimneys", shuttled the vehicles, loaded up and headed for home, arriving about 4.30 pm.

An easy, no pressures, relaxing leisurely, good company, great weather weekend.
Eric Pyatt

Trigg Island To Beach Street Groyne, Cottesloe and Return

There was an unforeseen event in the morning; everyone battled for parking space because of the Abalone Season. The tide was super-low, the reef exposed and the water calm, and this accounted for the masses of abalone seekers. I proudly put my new Mirage equipped with "Don's two-hole pump system" the first time to water.

On briefing, we learned that Phil and Roz thought 29 km was a bit too much for them, and I actually don't blame them. They decided to paddle north and please themselves distance wise. Austen announced that he had to be back at lunchtime, so left the party early. Warren opted to paddle one way only and be

picked up by his wife at Beach Street Cottesloe. Graeme thought he might also go only one way but found he was only warmed up at Beach Street and powered back with us.

We looked forward to a forecasted south-easterly but no such thing. It swirled around between south-east and north-east making the ocean look great, calm and colourful. Traditionally, one would not expect conditions like this at this time of year. We were able to paddle close to shore all the way, and I think everyone had a good time.

Wolfgang Schlieben

GARDEN ISLAND CIRCUMNAVIGATION

This trip is forever popular and there was a great roll-up. The forecast wasn't so hot; strong winds, SSW and so it turned out. John Ross who has enrolled in the "Introductory Course 1" hired a "Penguin" and we were pleased to have him on board. Of course we had to tip him out to familiarise himself with the circumstance. Les supervised, and then away we went clockwise around the island. The swell didn't look too bad until I experienced a set of four beauties catching me in the narrow channel as I followed the others, seeking the inside of the reef. Stumpy yelled out the warnings as each one came through. He was nearer the middle which was the place to be. I was too close to the bombie. I survived the first three, but the fourth one broke on top of me and over I went. Stumpy came to my rescue, followed closely by John. Back on board again I was grateful for the bilge pump.

Eventually we reached "our little bay", beached and snacked. Then through Herring Bay, round the top end which was well sheltered. Les volunteered to tow Phil to help his fitness and so Phil agreed. A real tough job against a howler of a wind.

After being well split up, avoiding the ammunition jetty, where they were loading the "Westralia", we gathered together before tackling Careening Bay. Les suggested I lead the way, setting the pace so we could stay together. It was the usual tough test on Careening Bay as it always is on a day like this. We decided to head inside the causeway where it was a little more sheltered.

The trip took six hours to complete and included a couple of stops. Our new chum stood up to it well and we were pleased to see Stumpy along.

Eric Pyatt

DEEP THROAT ON SEA LIONS AND GREAT WHITE SHARKS

The following leaked memo was received from an unnamed but very reliable source. Some relevant points of interest have been extracted.

"The Department of Conservation and Land Management has reviewed the risks associated with allowing in-water interactions with Australian sea lions in light of the history of attacks by this species on humans in Western Australia and also the attraction that sea lions provide for great white sharks.

In the past 18 months three people have been injured by sea lions in attacks in coastal waters (Shoalwater Marine Park and Carnac Island). There have also been a number of great white sharks recorded in very shallow in-shore waters close to Perth, including one confirmed attack on a sea lion by a great white shark in the Shoalwater Marine Park.

On this basis the Department no longer considers it appropriate or acceptable to continue to licence in-water interactions with Australian sea lions. Sea lion interaction licences are now strictly for activities conducted from the vessel only; swimming, snorkelling, diving, SCUBA or any such activity in the water that target any marine mammals are NOT approved and is not to take place under any circumstances."

While this leaked memo refers to licensing of commercial tour operators it is worth us taking its relevance on board. They don't specifically say sea kayakers cannot employ rolling tactics to interact with the sea lions. After all, we're still in the craft. But then there's the shark factor to consider.

Deep Throat

KWINANA WRECK TO POINT PERON AND BEYOND



Club members on beach at Point Peron

We assembled at the boat ramp at Wells Park, Kwinana Beach. The plan was to head directly across the bay to the first section of the Garden Island causeway, then under it and round Point Peron to the beach where we usually stop.

A strong easterly was blowing, giving us a small following sea to the delight of those who have mastered surfing. A bit of a battle for those who still can't control their boats, including myself. One capsized on the way across but there were others on hand to get him back in his boat without drama.

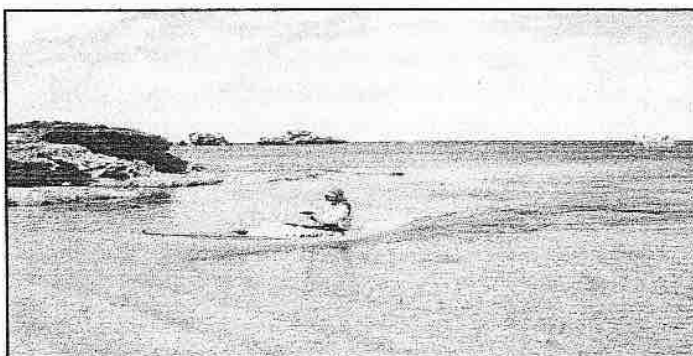
Point Peron was quite calm and we were able to paddle inside the reef, although it was very shallow in places. We stopped at the little bay for a snack and then a bit of rolling and self rescue practice.

The group decided to divide, with Roz, Phil,

Graeme and Warren heading back. The rest of us headed in to the wind across to Seal Island. There were lots of sea lions, some of which were in a playful mood, ducking under our boats, colliding with them and leaping out of the water. Others were play fighting on the beach or simply veging out as sea lions tend to do.

We headed back towards Point Peron and once we rounded the point were hit by the full blast of the strengthening easterly wind. It was a very hard paddle back. We regrouped at the causeway and voted to stop at Palm Beach for fish and chips.

We hugged the shore on the final leg, hoping for some shelter from the wind but there was little to be found. We arrived back just before 2 o'clock after a really good work out. Marian Mayes



Roz Evans at Point Peron

JURIEN JAUNT

The Jurien weekend attracted seventeen paddlers including four from Geraldton. We travelled in various vehicles and converged on the Jurien Caravan Park on Friday. Eric and Wolfgang arrived before lunch and the rest continued to turn up throughout the day, depending on their work commitments and navigational skills. The importance of the former seemed to bear no relationship to the latter.

"Strong wind warnings are obligatory on all club trips"

There was a strong wind warning, (obligatory on all club trips) so we

revised our original plan to stay at the caravan park the first night, then head north and camp. The general opinion was that if we headed north with the strong south easterlies we wouldn't get back, so we decided to stay both nights at the caravan park. The rest of the day was spent in talking, drinking, eating, socialising, drinking, telling lies, taking the piss, drinking, exaggerating and drinking. The final head count consisted of Eric, Wolfgang, Warren, Austen, Dennis, Anna, Gary, Jim, Phil, Roz, Mick, Don, Scottie, Helier, Paula, Ian and Marian.

We were up at 4.30am and the wind

had dropped, but by the time the first group hit the water it had already picked up again. We headed south to the point, and decided to cross to Boullanger Island and paddle in the lee. We found it was much more sheltered on the west, with a beautiful shallow bay and sandy beach. These islands are all nature reserves.

There were terns, pelicans, pied oystercatchers, wading birds that probably only Eric could identify and of course the ubiquitous silver gulls. We were delighted to discover a magnificent white-bellied sea eagle. It alternated between perching on a rock

(Continued page 7)



Clockwise from left: Eric, Dennis, Anna, Marian, Wolfgang, Warren, Don, Mick

(Continued from p 6)

and hovering above us. At one point it clutched a small furry animal in its talons and seemed unwilling to share its prize with the multi-coloured intruders in their strange craft.

We explored a little but the wind was picking up so we decided to stop on the island and wait for it to drop. We were joined by Roz and Phil who'd paddled across by themselves. After loafing round in the sun for a while we were overcome by guilt and hit the water again. We met up with the second group who'd slept in and now tried to claim they'd done more work than we had. Of course, they lied. They clearly had no concept of the energy requirements involved in sunbathing.

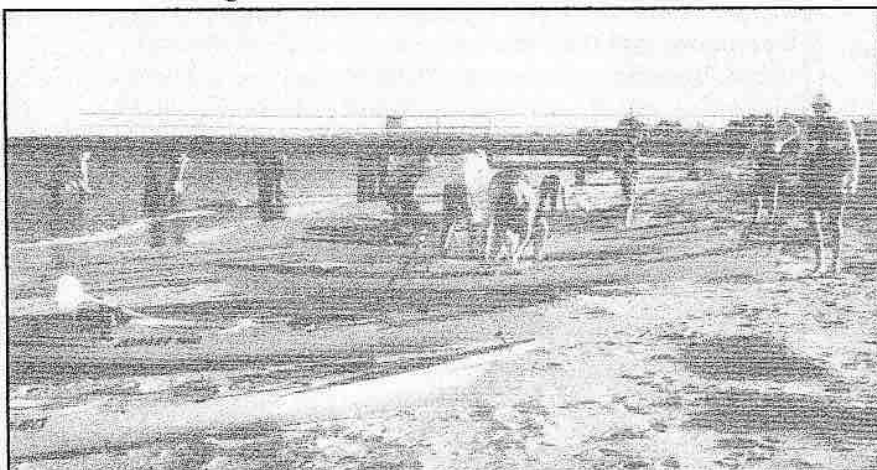
"They clearly had no concept of the energy requirements involved in sunbathing."

Far from dropping, the wind was actually strengthening and not swinging as we'd hoped. We were clearly not going to get any help from it, so decided to make the trip back while we still could. When we rounded the Island, we were hit by its full force, estimated to be about 25 knots. It was a hard but short slog back, but no problems other than Wolfgang complaining he's going to sell his new boat because it won't turn in strong wind.

Back at camp we were faced with the rest of the day to fill in. Eric, Wolfgang, Scottie and I went bushwalking near Hill River and the others filled in their day in various ways.

That night we congregated in a large shed. A lot of lies and laughter

helped fill in a few hours. Ian topped the gadget gourmets' group by displaying a complete camp kitchen including cooker packed into a specially made bag about 20cm diameter. Wolfgang claims to have a new gadget that would blow us all away but refused to show it, saying "The conditions aren't right."



Sea Kayak Club assembling on the beach at Jurien

Our pathetically optimistic plan of attack for the next day was to rise at 4.30 am, not bother with breakfast, hit the water and paddle to another island and back before the wind rose. Gary Nixon and Dennis Kerley from Geraldton decided they would paddle to Green head and be picked up there. The wind would be behind them and they should have a good run.

At 4.30 am a dismal group met to discuss the situation. The insomniacs, myself included reported the

wind had only dropped for a short period and was now as strong as ever. Don eloquently summed up the situation by saying paddling in that wind would be about as much fun as having a ferret in his pants.

"Paddling in that wind would be as much fun as having a ferret in your pants."

The only ones to brave the conditions were Gary and Dennis who set off as planned with the wind behind them. I suspect they would have bypassed Greenhead and been in Geraldton for lunch. The rest of us had breakfast and started packing to go home. (See Gary's comments page 12)

In spite of the disappointing paddling conditions, the weekend was a social success. It was good to see so

many members gathered together enjoying each other's company and sharing their expertise together with a few jokes and a lot of lies.

Marian Mayes

See Eric's comments on this weekend on page 9



Clockwise from left: Gary Nixon Helier Beardsley, Warren Wilson, Anna Wann, Dennis Kerley, Paula Sheppy (back to camera)

The Importance Of Water

Water is vitally important to paddlers. No not the stuff we paddle on, the stuff we drink, the elixir of life. The bulk of our body is water and if we drop our water level only a minute amount it has a dramatic effect on us. Drop it too much and you die and in our hot climate it can happen very quickly. The problem we have on remote trips is getting enough water that is fit to drink and then keeping it fit to drink. Any water that is not taken from a reliable source can make you sick, disable you or even kill you. Of course this can wreck your whole trip. I have twice had bad water on trips and thankfully it only stopped me for a day and made me feel bad. I have now learned to protect my water better.

So, what are the problems with water? First problem is storing water. This is where I made my mistake. Safe water kept in heat for many days can become bacteriologically contaminated in a short time. If you are going to keep water for more than a few days make sure you chlorinate it regularly. Water should be kept with a chlorine level of 0.6 ppm. The problem is that chlorine levels drop and then the water can be easily contaminated. By raising the level to 20 to 30 ppm you get a lot more time and if you have to drink it immediately it still won't hurt you.

The other problem is decontaminating contaminated water. Contamination can be from 4 things: Bacteria, viruses, single celled animals like protozoa or toxins.

Bacteria can either be removed or killed. To kill them you need clean water, as disinfectants like chlorine are inactivated by soil. It is best to filter water before disinfecting. Filtering to 0.3 of a micron removes most of the bacteria and the soil rendering the water safe to disinfect with chemicals.

Viruses are too small to filter but filtering still removes a lot of viruses by removing the soil or organic material they are attached to. Then you can kill them with chemical disinfection. Viruses can be protected from chemical disinfection by soil so it is vital to filter water if you suspect viral contamination.

Single celled animals are easily removed by filtering or chemical disinfection. Untreated they can pose a serious problem.

Toxins are the biggest problem, as they can be totally dissolved in the water, making filtering and chemical disinfection useless. The activated carbon core on good filters can take out some toxins but not all. Careful selection of your water source is probably the best protection.

A good quality water filter and chemical disinfectants like chlorine should be carried if you are going into remote areas as they can be life savers if you have to rely on finding your own water. Protecting the water you carry with you is also vital. I have made up a little chlorine kit with Calcium Chloride and a small 0.1 gm measure. It's tiny, cheap and effective. I now also own a MSR Mini Works ceramic filter with activated carbon core. The scare I got on the Montebello trip will not be repeated in the future.



Sea Kayak Club WA Inc - <i>Elementary Sea Skills</i> - Recommended for grade 2 seas	
Swim	50mt in choppy seas in your kayaking gear.
Capsize drill	Confident in surf
Forward stroke	Correct technique in choppy seas
Forward sweep	Able to turn a kayak in light winds
Low brace	Brace up from off balance position
Emergency stop	Correct technique
Rafting up	Able to raft up and hold in choppy seas
Deep water rescue	Confident with both roles in choppy seas
Reverse sweep	Correct technique in choppy seas
Reverse stroke	Correct technique in choppy seas
Forward paddling	Efficient style for long paddling. Confident in choppy seas.
Reverse paddling	Efficient style. Confident in choppy seas.
High brace	Good understanding of technique
Surfing	Able to surf 1.5mt wave and land through 1mt beach break
Self rescue	Confident with at least one method of self rescue
Weather	Able to read and understand a weather map and identify the cloud formations of typical weather patterns
Navigation	Know basic compass navigation, can read a chart correctly and good understanding of tides and currents
First aid	Good knowledge of first aid especially CPR, hypothermia and dislocations.
Small boat regulations	A working knowledge of the small boating regulations.
Important Notes	Paddlers with these skills should still paddle with experienced sea kayakers. Beware changing weather conditions. These skills may not guarantee your safety.

ERIC'S COMMENTS ON THE JURIE WEEKEND

What have we learnt from the weekend? Briefing the group in total is necessary with "dribs and drabs" on the first evening, it is impractical at that time. Early morning is the only answer. At the latest 7.00 am (preferably at 6.00 am) at the campsite. With such a big crowd, it is necessary to break up into groups, maximum six, minimum three. On this occasion, three groups. Appoint a leader for each. Each group could do its own thing but try to put together a common objective. The leader of the total excursion should show strength in controlling the group and applying the above. Co-operation is expected of all.

This was not the right time of the year for Jurien Bay. It needs to be March/April to put the odds on the right side of the ledger.

Eric Pyatt

Sea Kayak Club WA Inc - <i>Capable Sea Skills</i> - Recommended for grade 3 seas	
Swim	50mt in rough seas in your kayaking gear
Capsize drill	Confident in surf
Forward stroke	Correct technique in choppy seas to 2mt
Forward sweep	Able to turn a kayak in strong winds while leaning the kayak
Low brace	Brace up from off balance position
Emergency stop	Correct technique in rough conditions
Rafting up	Able to raft up correctly and hold in rough seas
Deep water rescue	Confident with both roles in rough seas
Reverse sweep	Correct technique in rough seas
Reverse stroke	Correct technique in rough seas
Forward paddling	Efficient style for long trips. Confident in rough seas and the "soup" of 1.5mt beach break.
Reverse paddling	Efficient style. Confident in rough seas and the "soup" of 1.5mt beach break.
High brace	Good technique able to brace from level with the water
Surfing	Able to surf 2mt wave, and land through 1.5 mt break
Rolling	Confident both sides in rough conditions.
Launching	Able to launch from a beach into 1.5mt surf.
Self rescue	Confident with 3 different methods of self rescue in rough conditions
Weather	Able to read and understand a weather map and identify the cloud formations of typical weather patterns
Navigation	Know compass navigation, set and drift, can read a chart correctly and good understanding of tides and currents
First aid	Good knowledge of first aid especially CPR, hypothermia and dislocations.
Small boat regulations	A working knowledge of the small boating regulations.
Important Notes	Beware changing weather conditions. These skills may not guarantee your safety. These are the skills all adventure paddlers should aspire to. Seas above grade 3 should only be paddled by very experienced paddlers.



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ANCILLARY DICKHEADS

Sadly there can only be one Duck for Cover award per issue, but this time the competition was intense.

The only reason Don Kinzett didn't win pride of place was because I'd already typed it up before I learned of his faux pas. Wolfgang proudly took delivery of his new yellow Mirage and went to Don to have his bilge pump installed, as we all tend to do. Don set about the task in his usual efficient manner, but when he drilled the hole for the outlet, he wondered why the piece didn't come out. Too late he realized he had drilled into the bulkhead. Wolfgang was almost in tears as he showed us the patch in his new boat that had never been launched. Needless to say, Don's reputation as a shipwright is in tatters and his excuse of "Two holes for the price of one" just didn't work for Wolfgang.

And then there was Eric Pyatt's effort. He drove off with his boat on the roof rack without tying it down. He refused to discuss the incident but blamed it on Wolfgang for talking to him as he drove off.

Their efforts paled into insignificance when Gary Nixon confessed that in his haste to drive from Geraldton to Jurien for the weekend, he took a wrong turn at Dongara and drove for twelve kilometres (Yes that was twelve) back towards Geraldton again before realising his blunder.

Marian Mayes



Don Kinzett



Eric Pyatt



Gary Nixon

Jurien to Greenhead

Dennis & I had an enjoyable, fast trip to Greenhead. Hit the water 5.30, surfed waves to reach the point in an hour, paddled another hour till we stopped for a brekkie break on a beautiful beach in a great bay for snorkelling, fishing. There were a fair few access points to fishermen's shacks & the beach, & the whole stretch of coast was very attractive. In autumn we should try a re-visit, as it would be easy & pleasant to paddle & camp

to Greenhead or Leeman.

After 3 hours 15 minutes paddling & 30 minutes rest we reached Greenhead.

Its got a few really attractive bays, with good protected swimming beach & lots of reefs, weed & bird-life. Before it we checked out about 8 seals cavorting around the waters of a breeding colony island.

Gary Nixon

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Surface Mail



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