



# BLAZING PADDLES

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Newsletter of the

**BURLEY GRIFFIN CANOE CLUB INC.**

PO Box 341

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www.bgcc.org.au

## Annual General Meeting (April)

(date to be announced)

As our constitution only allows members to hold a position for 2 years— **we'll need a new President, Secretary and Editor.** All positions are open and nominations are welcome.

Many do not require too much input, and meetings will now be held every 2 months. See inside for details

## Race 1 of the Marathon Series—BGCC

Saturday 8th March start time 11 a.m.

## 32nd BGCC Bash

Sunday 9th March start time 9am

See inside for details

**Desperately require helpers for on the day,**

See list of jobs inside



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Your Committee (Cont.)

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*Coaches Rep:*

*BG Bash :*

**John Harmer 0417 480 950**

*Triathlon Organiser:*

**John Lockie 6241 6338**

**Patricia Ashton 6254 9399**

*24 Hour:*

**Helen Tongway**

## Kayak Carriers For Sale

I have some Thule Kayak carriers for sale for use with square bar car roof rack. Only used once, I then bought a new car and the kayak carrier does not fit on my new roof rack so I have to sell them. Bought for \$159.00 and I will sell for \$100. I can be contacted on 0418 494 872 if anyone is interested.

Astrid

## Red Cross Murray Marathon

To mark this year's 40th RCMM, David Rizolli

(142 Haywoods Rd,  
LAL LAL Vic 3352)

davidjrizolli@bigpond.com;

(03) 5341 7870)

is putting together brief anecdotes to complement a history of the event.

Factual, dramatic, sad or funny; all contributions will be acknowledged.

I am sure some BGCC members would have something to offer.

Cheers John

## Upcoming Events

**March 8—9** Race 1 & Burley Griffin Bash - see details

**March 21—24** Australian Marathon Championships

**March 22** Tollgate Challenge

**March 30** LifeStart Sydney Harbour - see details

**April 6** Race 2 Narrabeen

**May 3** Race 3 Berry

**May 24** Viking Venture—Sutherland

**May 31** Race 4 Cooks River, St George CC

**June 8** Katherine River Canoe Marathon

**July 6** Race 5 Forster

**July 26** Race 6 Windsor

**August 10** Hacking Classic

**August 17** Race 7 Wyong

**Sept 14** Race 8 Lane Cove

**Sept 27** Myall River

**Oct 11** Race 9 Woronora

**Oct 18-19** 24 hour challenge BGCC

**Nov 1** Hawkesbury Classic—Familiarisation paddles: 19/07, 9/08, 30/8, 4/10, 25/10 see NSWCI for details

## Wednesday Twilight Time Trails

BBQ after the race. First boats away 5.45pm

*We still need people to volunteer for the time keeping Daylight savings ends 6 April, so last twilight time trial will be Wed 2nd April—think about winter TT's? , what options suit? Sunday 9.30 a.m. or maybe Sat mornings??*

## Triathlons

The season is just about at an end, many thanks to all those members who took part—there were several who attended more than 4 and once again John attended all, plus a few extra! We should have some statistics next month.

**There will also be a Thank You breakfast at the shed for all those who took part. Last year's was a gourmet event with freshly made pancakes amongst other goodies. (possibly 16th March)**

## The last two for the season are:

Sunday 2nd March Acton, 0730, 1 km swim 14 boats

*There will also be a lake swim at 9.45 a.m. at Yarralumla Bay , Telopea Swim Club are calling for volunteers to assist—this is not a club event, but you will receive thanks and an egg and bacon sandwich!*

Thursday 6th March CYC, 1800, 8 boats

**Wetspot** also has the following on offer:

**Epic paddles now in stock, \$60 off for club members on the mid wing mid flex 2 piece**

Two multisport boats second hand in store from \$1500



Epic seakayaks are a true Mirage beater for the Winter series. In stock now  
We can also get Epic K1s if you want to keep up with the Joneses

Paddlers serving paddlers at 13/68 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick.



## Minutes BGCC Meeting 7:30 p.m. 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2008

1. **Welcome:** 7:35 p.m. - Welcome to all present.
2. **Present:** Helen Tongway, Jacqueline Wicks, Mike Wootten, Andy McNeice, John Harmer, Danny Galbraith, Danny Robson, Patricia Ashton, Renee Todd, Barry Marshall, Sylvia Dobbie, Roger Hobbs, Glen Watts, Jason Kendall, Brian Boyd, Angus Tye, John Lockie and Steve Harmer.
3. **Apologies:** Carolyn Williams, Russell Lutton, Janet Adams and John Preston.
4. **President's report:** The BGCC Christmas part went well, thanks Jacqueline. The Summer Handicap Races have been well attended and BBQ's organised by Patricia much appreciated. Thank you to Barry Marshall for getting all of the club's boats and paddles labeled and numbered and catalogued – well done.
5. **Treasurers report:** Accounts paid: Lakeside Leisure Centre, \$664.20, Nov. pool hire; Helen Tongway, \$43.50, card for certificates; Sladecraft, \$88.00, rudder lines and fittings; Renee Todd, \$55.00, boat repairs; NSWCI, \$1,100.00, membership fees; Tuggeranong SES, \$200.00, water safety at 2007 BG Bash.  
Accounts payable: Lakeside Leisure Centre, \$332.10, December invoice; Barry Marshall, \$140.0, boat and paddle stickers; Danny Galbraith, \$566.50, Seiko printer/stopwatch; possibly owe Cathy Jenkins for Pair, \$US200.83, ISP (already paid to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008?)  
Total deposits of \$1,062.00 and pay outs of \$0.  
Danny moved that the accounts be accepted. Seconded by Barry. Carried
6. **Minutes** from previous meeting: Mike moved that they be accepted. Seconded by Danny. Carried
7. **Business arising** from minutes:
  - i) Update on LUG, NCA, water-skiers, etc. John H went to the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. The "Wakeboard proposal" was on the agenda, but still undecided. Next meeting will be in March. Ongoing
  - ii) Beginners' Course – The Summer '08 courses in Jan and Feb have a total of 14 enrolled in them, with all seeming to enjoy their course. Thanks to Patricia, Helen and Karen, plus helpers, Nicole, Barry, etc. Ongoing
  - iii) Rash shirts – 14 rashies still left to sell, plus club caps at \$15 each. Renee will enquire about getting perhaps a smaller number of club singlets from Racing Line. Also enquire about getting some more club polo (style) shirts. Ongoing
  - iv) Increasing the number of qualified Club Coaches. Patricia and Karen are just about qualified, while Brendan still has his assessment to complete. Others still to complete their coaching courses. Ongoing
  - v) K1 hanging from Club Shed roof. Mike has contacted Pipa O'Shea's family & the boat has been removed for her. Finished
  - vi) Jacqueline has sent a letter to GIO to find out the details of the insurance for the club boats on the club trailer being towed by non-club vehicle. Also to find out what our excess might be. Enquiries to be made about possible cover from AAMI and others, re cover in transit. Ongoing
  - vii) Mike has bought an electrical-cord cover, which might suit the car-park or the bike-path. Danny will check out "Blackwood" safety company, (Wollongong?) re a secure "hump" for the lines for cars to drive over. Ongoing
  - viii) Steve H to get some of the Club Shed fluorescent lights replaced and safety check and tag all the portable electrical equipment in the shed. Ongoing
  - ix) We will run a competition for a design for the perpetual trophy for the Rainer Swoboda Memorial Award, to be given at the club's birthday party. To be advertised by email and in *Blazing Paddles*.
  - x) This year's 24 Hour Relay Challenge will be on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> October. This will be Full Moon time and in good time for the Hawkesbury on 1<sup>st</sup> November. Ongoing
  - xi) Decided that movie cameras for coaching purposes are off the agenda. Finished
  - xii) John to contact the Director of Parks about some more sand on our beach. Jason K to find out about getting some pontoons or a jetty on our river bank. Ongoing
  - xiii) Jacqueline has handed in Steve H's paperwork to have his travel grant acquitted. Finished
  - xiv) Renee to enquire about getting the club's listed phone number in the local phone book for the next book, but need to organise a new system before the listing. Ongoing
  - xv) Danny G has bought a new Seiko printer-Stopwatch for \$566.50, with a protective case for it still to come. Thanks to Danny. Ongoing
  - xvi) Danny G has ordered a new Mirage 730 (double sea-kayak) decked in club colours, to the cost of (about) \$3,200. (Quote still to arrive.) Boat to be in the fleet in time for the 2008 Bash (we hope). Ongoing  
But, the shed needs some cleaning up before this boat can move in – meaning that possums have to move (and stay) outside and a current boat might need to be removed from the shed. Potential paddlers of this boat – see what you can do to help with the possum-proofing of the shed and the cleaning up of the mess. Ongoing
  - xvii) Andy has ordered a combination of Canoe Polo boats and necessary equipment - 2x "Option 1 – Package" of Dagger (plastic) Vampire boat, Shotover paddle with alloy shaft, Neoprene spray deck, Focus polo PFD, helmet and facemask at \$1,400 (total \$2,800). Ongoing
  - xviii) John H has offered a 4-drawer metal filing cabinet to be put into the Club Shed for the storage of club records. Ongoing
  - xix) Helen has sent emails to the Canberra Times about the Wednesday evening for the handicap races, and these are now being printed each Saturday. Finished
  - xx) The Sprint Grand Prix 1 was held on the buoyed course at Yarramundi Reach on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2008. The comp went well with satisfied customers, despite the Canberra Southern Cross Club ferry motoring straight up the course at the finish of the men's B final! (Might be back) Ongoing



14. **Blazing Paddles deadlines:** 17<sup>th</sup> February and then 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2008

15. **Anything else?** \* A committee of interested members to hold a meeting after the Handicap Races next Wednesday. People in the Shed-Use Sub-Committee – Barry M, Steve H, Mike W, Patricia A, Helen T.

\* We still need a Social Convener. Anyone out there who would like to take this on?

\* Shed keys – people present at the meeting, wishing to hire a shed key: Danny Robson, Brian Boyd and Glen Watts.

\* Wed evening paddlers in comp, must be registered with AC – & preferably BGCC members!

16. **Meeting Closed:** 9:11 p.m.

(Writing up these minutes took me another 4½ hours!)

**Report on Shed-Use Sub-Committee:** The sub-committee met on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> February after the Handicap Races, with an apology and list of possible boat moves from Barry M. The meeting decided that the Club Shed was basically for Club Boats, with the only boat which could be permanently removed being the orange-decked, white-bottomed B-line short recreational kayak. It was decided that people who wanted to use a storage rack in the shed for a short time (e.g., for training for State or National Champs, Hawkesbury CC, etc.) would be able to present a case to the Property Manager and/or Committee, with the option to swap a rack space and remove a little-used club boat to their own secure storage for a short time only (maximum of 8 weeks) while they kept their training boat in the shed. The fee would be discussed at the next general meeting, but \$5 per week is being suggested. People who removed a club boat would be obliged to make sure the club boat was available for special events which might occur over the time their own boat was in the Club Shed. E.g., triathlons, beginners' group, touring event, race, etc.

## *It happened - 10 years ago*

**The 1997 Murray Marathon featured 26 BGCC members. Much more than the paltry few who took on the challenge in 2007. Among those 26 were a couple of still familiar faces around the club today. They are Helen Tongway and Simon Stenhouse.**

**I don't mean the few in 2007 were paltry, they paddled magnificently and we are proud of their efforts but there were only four which is a paltry number compared with 26. Get it?**

**The craziest idea from ten years ago was a plan to dig a canal from the airport to the river for a fleet of water taxis to operate between the airport and the city.**

*John Harmer*

### **The Lifestart "Kayak for Kids" Challenge**

***Are any club members interested in going up and taking part? I'd like to, but don't want to go by myself!! Patricia***

Lifestart and AROC Sport are joining together to make miracles happen for special kids who need your help. On Sunday 30 March 2008, hundreds of paddling crafts will line up next to Manly Wharf, getting ready to dash towards Sydney Harbour! The course meanders along the North shore of the Sydney Harbour, leaving from Manly and heading to Lavender Bay past the Harbour Bridge, after a dip towards Spit Bridge in Middle Harbour.

There are 2 ways to participate in this event which makes it accessible to anyone:

- Solo paddlers can bring their own craft and paddle the full course (21km).
- Teams of 3 can complete the whole distance while teams from 6 to 15 can relay each other and only paddle one section in very stable 3-person sit-on-top kayaks (provided).

Established in 1996, Lifestart is a not-for-profit organization which provides a community based program managed by families, for families working with professionals such as speech pathologists, occupational therapists and special educators. This is one great opportunity to help a vital cause while having a great time on the water paddling in an iconic location with views on the Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

For course details and registration, log on to: [www.kayakforkids.com.au](http://www.kayakforkids.com.au)

# 2008 NSW Marathon Series

## Race 1 Canberra

**DATE:** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2008

**RACE:** Divisional Races over 20 km, 15 km and 10 km

**ENTRIES:** 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (Entries on the day, only.)

**BRIEFING:** 10:30 a.m.

**START:** 11:00 a.m.

**COURSES:** 20 km – Molonglo Reach to Scrivener Dam and return  
15 km – Molonglo Reach to Weston Park and return  
10 km – Molonglo Reach to Australian Museum and return

**CONTACTS:** Helen Tongway [dtongway@inet.net.au](mailto:dtongway@inet.net.au) 0418 861 613  
John Harmer [jjharmer@bigpond.com](mailto:jjharmer@bigpond.com) 0417 480 950



Don't forget the Saturday evening Spit Roast by the River

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Burley Griffin Bash

**DATE:** Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2008

**RACE:** Traditional distances - 30 km & 14 km - class categories

**ENTRIES:** 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. (Prior entries welcome. Download form from [www.bgcc.org.au](http://www.bgcc.org.au))

**BRIEFING:** 8:30am

**START:** 9:00 a.m.

**COURSES:** 30 km – Molonglo Reach to Scrivener Dam, to Grevillia Park, to Black mountain Peninsular and return to Molonglo Reach.  
14 km – Molonglo Reach to Black mountain Peninsular & return.  
5 km – Loop on Molonglo River for Under 14 yrs.  
2 km – On Molonglo River for Under 12 yrs.

BGCC Food Stall in operation for morning and afternoon tea and lunches on both days of racing at Canberra. A goodly selection of cool drinks, tea, coffee, cakes, barbecued meats and vegetarian dishes and salads will be available.

## We are asking for volunteers to help out with a variety of jobs

ALL SORTS OF HELPERS NEEDED TO SET UP, RUN AND CLEAR UP – BEFORE DURING AND AFTER THE BGCC'S DIVISIONAL RACE AND 32<sup>nd</sup> BG BASH. Jobs Include:

Tents, tables and Power cords; Entry Taking; Time Keeping; Starter;

Food Stall Convenor and assistants; Tinnies—procurement and drivers;

Checkpoints A B C D; Laying course with GPS & buoys; Car park;

General Labouring

Please let Helen or John know on the contacts above if you can help out in any way

### 30th January,

5 km: MK1 - Trent Birkett, 24:20;  
LMR1 - Carol Elvin, 29:31;  
LTK1 - Joy McDermid, 35:01;  
10 km: MK1 - Simon Stenhouse, 43:21, Brendan Cowled,  
47:42, Barry Owers, 49:21, Dave Hiatt, 49:23, Jason Chen,  
54:04;  
LK2 - Gabrielle Hurley & Brooke Rowlands, 51:56;  
MSS1 - Scott Hunter, 52:13, Gerry Foster, 61:10;  
MLR1 - Russell Lutton, 52:28, Richard Fox, 57:12, Danny  
Galbraith, 61:48;  
MTK1 - John Preston, 53:53, Mike Wootten, 55:30;  
LLR1 - Patricia Ashton, 63:50, Helen Tongway, 66:44  
MTC1 - Frank Kingma, 64:53;  
XTC2 - Margaret Tayar & Clive Richardson, 74:04.  
Winner of the Smarty Pants "closest to nominated time" was  
Jason Chen at plus 4 seconds.

### 6th February,

3 km: LTK1 - Karen Owers, 31:01;  
5 km: MK1 - Scott McDermid, 27:09;  
MMR1 - Michael Peedom, 30:08;  
LTK1 - Danielle Winslow, 29:59, Joy McDermid, 34:17;  
10 km: MK1 - Steve Harmer, 44:32, Brendan Cowled, 44:34,  
Trent Birkett, 48:07, Chris Elliott, 48:36, Dave Hiatt, 49:28,  
Shane Lund, 56:54;  
LK1 - Renee Todd, 50:55;  
MLR1 - Russell Lutton, 51:37(PB), Richard Fox, 55:26, Ja-  
son (& Kate) Baldwin, 58:46, Danny Galbraith, 59:37;  
MSS1 - Scott Hunter, 52:00, Pete Garbutt, 53:57, Craig  
Kentwell, 55:37,  
MUR1 - Steve Hanley, 52:57;  
MTK1 - Barry Owers, 52:57, John Preston, 55:29, David  
Baldwin, 55:52,  
Mike Wootten, 55:57, Damien Woods, 57:40;  
LTK1 - Hayley Sakkara, 57:42, Patricia Ashton, 59:26,  
Carol Williams, 63:37,  
LLR1 - Helen Tongway, 66:19.  
Winners of the Smarty Pants "closest to nominated time" were  
Danielle Winslow and Patricia Ashton, both spot on time!

We've had some record numbers turning up for the Time  
Trials of late, its great to see so many people on the river!

A reminder that participants, those with boat numbers and  
being timed, must be paid up club members, or affiliated with  
NSWCI.

We still need volunteer time keepers. Helen will be let-  
ting you know when you have been  
volunteered! Please accept this challenge—  
**there are only 6 twilight time trials left**

### 13th February,

5 km: LTK1 - Joy McDermid, 34:19;  
8 km: LSR1 - Carol Elvin, 67:00;  
10 km: MK1 - Steve Harmer, 40:03, Trent Birkett,  
46:26, Chris Elliott,  
48:07, Scott McDermid, 51:27, Shane Lund, 56:53;  
XTK2 - Renee Todd & Jason Slade, 57:53;  
MLR1 - Russell Lutton, 51:41, Barry Marshall,  
56:10, Jason Baldwin,  
57:54, Danny Galbraith, 60:50;  
MSS1 - Craig Kentwell, 55:05;  
MUR1 - Steve Hanley, 51:53(PB);  
MTK1 - Barry Owers, 49:24, John Preston,  
51:31, David Baldwin, 54:09,  
Mike Wootten, 53:38;  
LTK1 - Hayley Sakkara, 56:54, Julie Quinn,  
58:32;  
LLR1 - Helen Tongway, 66:42.  
Winner of the Smarty Pants "closest to nominated  
time" was Craig Kentwell at minus 5 seconds.

### 20th February,

5 km: MMR1 - Michael Peedom, 30:44;  
LTK1 - Joy McDermid, 34:50;  
10 km: MTK2 - John Preston & Simon Stenhouse,  
46:02;  
XTK2 - Renee Todd & Barry Owers, 47:24;  
MK1 - Chris Elliott, 47:58, Shane Lund, 48:04,  
Scott McDermid,  
51:50;  
MSS1 - Pete Garbutt, 48:12, Craig Kentwell,  
55:45;  
MUR1 - Robert Peters, 54:13;  
MTK1 - Mike Wootten, 55:12, Damian Woods,  
58:40;  
MLR1 - Barry Marshall, 55:45, Richard Fox,  
55:46, Jason Baldwin, 57:47,  
Danny Galbraith, 60:52;  
LTK1 - Patricia Ashton, 59:18, Danielle Winslow,  
61:16, Carol Elvin,  
66:18;;  
MTC1 - Frank Kingma, 61:38;  
LSS1 - Keri Vaughan, 61:40;  
LLR1 - Helen Tongway, 65:20.

Winner of the Smarty Pants "closest to nominated  
time" was Chris Elliott at minus 2 seconds.

So you've digested the changes to the Winter Series as presented on the NSW Canoeing website and you crave information and amusement with a kayak theme, try the award winning canoekayak.com. which is an adjunct to the magazine bearing the same name. Despite the advertising, which tends to intrude at times, this site is well worth a look. Although it is written for an American audience there is plenty here for an Aussie paddler to enjoy. A quick click on one of the major topic areas on the home page soon opens a collection of anecdotes and articles written for canoe and kayak enthusiasts.

One article that caught my eye was Canoe and Kayak's 2008 Paddling Resolutions. Some of the resolutions suggested are quite amusing and / or thought provoking, for example:

**Resolution 7. Improve your Karma.** – Pick up hitchhikers wearing PFD's.

**Resolution 8. Work Less, Paddle More.** (If only...)

**Resolution 10. Learn to Start a One-match Fire in the Rain** (One for the touring kayaker or the pyromaniacs in our midst)

**Resolution 11. Paddle with a legend.** As luck would have it at a recent club time trial I had the opportunity to paddle the 10 km race with the legendary Simon Stenhouse. This proved to be a great experience for me and a fantastic resistance training session for Simon. It got me thinking, however, that you don't necessarily have to be a fantastic winning paddler to justify the 'legend' tag. Our club boasts a number of paddlers who have done some amazing things and who could also be considered to be 'legends'. Accolades such as this are subjective and the criteria I use to label someone a 'legend' may not be what others might use. Many of our club legends go about their business quietly with their legendary credentials tucked away out of sight. I'm sure there are legends in our club that I am unaware of, but I can name a few with whom you might like to paddle. Helen Tongway has paddled in more classes of canoe / kayak in more races than you can poke the proverbial stick at and she still has the paddling passion. She is also the backbone of our club and appears to be either running or attending everything our club does.

John Harmer has completed 31 Hawkesbury Classics, that is, every Hawkesbury since its inception. John has also been a tireless worker for the club over many years. Definite legend.

A different sort of club legend is Bob Collins who recently completed the Murray Marathon as a solo competitor. Bob has overcome adversity on a level that can't really be imagined. Bob survived major heart surgery only to develop cancer that nearly killed him. After months of rehabilitation and chemo his determination and resilience paid off and he was able to become more active. Despite a continuing heart problem that will need further surgery Bob was determined to complete the Murray (404km). I find this sort of legendary performance inspirational and it helps to put things into perspective in our own lives. That annoying graze on my back suddenly seems irrelevant.

I believe our club has many potential legends many of whom are quietly and unobtrusively going about their business, perhaps you'll be paddling with one soon.

Sorry about the personal rant back to the resolutions.

For those who need some guidance in the acquisition of a paddling date pay heed to **Resolution 20** which suggests that one should "shower at least once a week. With soap." Could explain the difficulty I had procuring a doubles partner for the State titles.

Some of the other resolutions are even more practical in nature and provide information on fixing canoes with deck mounted painters eg **Resolution 22 Pimp Your Ride.** So if you're into deck mounted painters (and who isn't?) this article might just be up your alley.

February in the ACT has been surprisingly cool which has had many of us discussing the fun to be had while training on Lake Burley Griffin in mid winter. Winter in the north of the USA and Canada is much more severe than here so we should probably have no problem with Resolution 24 especially since our waterways don't actually freeze over.

#### **Resolution 24**

Go Paddling when it's cold.

Go when it's raining.

Go when it's snowing.

Always go.

Since most resolutions made on January 1<sup>st</sup> are now distant memories perhaps we could create some, that if carried out, could make our paddling experiences even more enjoyable and our club stronger.

#### **Resolution 1**

Thank a club official for their work. Those dedicated volunteers who do the work around the club and behind the scenes quite often miss out on paddle time themselves as they perform their duties.

## Resolution 2

Pick one piece of rubbish out of the water each time you paddle. A little effort in this regard will make our water environment even more pleasant to paddle on.

## Resolution 3

Volunteer to help out at least 1 club activity in order to help out those who seem to be 'lumbered' all the time.

One other article from canoe/kayak.com that attracted my attention is one that may be of interest to the readers in the club. Canoe/kayak's Favourite paddling Tales. 20 Great reads That Entertain and Inspire. some of which I've never heard of but the plot summaries for some seem intriguing enough to check out once I'm through the Christmas books. I've read and enjoyed the top 2 books in the past and seen 'Deliverance' the movie which was popular in its time and probably did for recreational canoeing what 'Jaws' did for open ocean swimming.

The Top 5 books on their list are:

- 1) The Adventures Of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain (1884).
- 2) Deliverance, James Dickey (1970)
- 3) The Survival of the Bark Canoe, John McPhee (1975)
- 4) Dangerous River R.M. Patterson (1954)
- 5) The Happy Isle of Oceania. Paddling the Pacific, Paul Theroux (1992)

There are many features on canoe/kayak.com that are relevant to a wide range of water enthusiasts so check it out.

Over the next few months if you participate in a race, expect to be interviewed for a comment about your performance. First off will be the State titles.

John Preston.

Scene from 'Deliverance'



**After being inspired by John's story, its now time to think how you can help out within the club.** Nothing runs by itself, and for the club to run events and offer activities we need you to help out. The annual AGM will be held in April and we'd love to see some new committee members. Most positions don't require a lot of time, and some positions like Social Convenor could be shared by several people. Committee meetings will be run once every 2 months, however, President, Secretary and Treasurer will probably need to meet more often to sign cheques, etc. This could be done at the river or where and when convenient. The club really only becomes time consuming if there are only a handful of people doing all the work. So pitch in and have a say.

Things like the time keeping roster for time trials and the shed roster for Sunday mornings and triathlons are also areas you could really help out, you only need to 'do your bit' once. We have had up to 30 members at any one time taking part in time trials and have to 'hassle' for volunteers; we have about 40 key holders and only 3 members volunteered to open on a Sunday!! This then becomes a time-consuming effort to 'organise' people. We have over 150 members eligible to assist in triathlons and while the response to e-mails has been really good, its often the same members. I know I'm whinging, and I know everyone is busy.....but so are we!

Attached is a run down of positions within the club, please consider the positions seriously and help out if you can, or just put your hand up for one of the other ongoing jobs.

Patricia

## Duties of Club Committee Positions.

### **President** (The Buck Stops Here.)

Manage club committees and meetings, this includes ensuring the agenda is followed, all business is completed, presentations are made and guest speakers welcomed.; Have a good working knowledge of the club constitution, club rules and the duties of all office holders; Be well informed of club activities; Be responsible for decisions made on behalf of the club; Be the supportive leader of all club members.

Delegate to other club members such duties as are needed for the smooth running of the club.

### **Vice-President**

Acts in the position of the President in periods of his or her absence.

### **Secretary**

The Secretary is the chief administrative officer of the club. He or she provides the link between members, the committee, and external organisations.

Duties - Receive inward correspondence and assist in checking PO Box.; Write and disseminate outgoing correspondence. Write up and distribute agenda for the meetings; Record minutes of meetings; Keep and distribute minutes of club meetings; Hold copies of records maintained by other office bearers or sub-committees; Possess definitive copy of official documents, e.g., Letter-head, constitution, etc.; Maintain correspondence lists (email, mail etc)

### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of the club.

Duties—Attend to the banking; Maintain records of current income and expenditure; Prepare monthly accounts and present invoices for approval by the committee - and pay bills; Prepare annual financial accounts for auditing. Ensure annual financial returns are lodged; Be a signatory on club cheques (conjointly with President or Secretary.); Collects and banks all club monies; Keep records of all payments made by the club; Present to club meetings an up-to-date statement of club finances; Deal with tax returns and income tax payments - paperwork from ATO, BAS and GST invoices.; Present to an Auditor the annual financial dealings of the club so that an audited report can be presented to the club's AGM in April.; Make sure of the paperwork for the Bank for the changeover of committee members for the signatories to the cheque book.

### **Editor**

Aim to produce an issue of *Blazing Paddles* to be available one week before the next club meeting.; Obtain and print the results of club members entries from as many competitions as possible.; Reproduce a copy of the minutes of the previous club meeting.; Persuade as many club members as possible to contribute articles for *Blazing Paddles*.

### **Public Officer**

Presents to the ACT Government (?X?) a copy of the incoming committee members plus a copy of the audited financial statement for the previous financial year.

### **Social Convener**

Arranges a venue, menu and costings for the Club's Birthday Party in each June in consultation with the committee and other club members.; Co-ordinate the food and/or Santa and/or games for the annual Club Christmas Party.; Assists with arrangements/food etc. for Triathlon Thank You Barbecue, Mothers' Day Mayhem and Fathers' Day Frolic race days.

### **Event/Discipline Conveners**

Keep in touch with all that is happening in their discipline of canoeing. Find out who is doing what; when events in that discipline will be held; help organise events; and, in particular, be present at club meetings to report on how the discipline is faring, what its needs are and how many "triumphs" have occurred since the last meeting. A conduit of information.

### **Property Manager**

Keep a record of all equipment owned by BGCC.; Consult with other committee members on who has access to the Club Shed.; Consult with other committee members on who has the use of spare racks in the Club Shed.

Arrange for invoices to be sent to those storing their boats in their Club Shed.; Performs minor mends on damaged boats and arranges for more heavily damaged boats to be taken to a commercial repairer for major repairs.; Make suggestions as to what boats are past their best and need replacing. (And advertise which boats are for sale to club members.)

### **Membership Secretary**

This is an ongoing, continuous task. Collect the NSW Canoeing Membership Application Forms, make sure both sides of the NSW form have been signed, update the Club's membership database and post the form to NSW Canoeing. Pass the updated list to the editor and secretary at regular intervals. Remind those whose membership has or is about to lapse. Check that NSWCI has recorded the correct names, etc and that they have charged the correct fees.

### **Triathlon Co-ordinator**

This can be one person, or one main person with one or two or more assistants.

In consultation with the BGCC Committee, ensure that Triathlon ACT and any other group running triathlon events agree to the fee structure for the coming season.

Liaise with Triathlon ACT to receive notice of all the triathlons for which BGCC help is requested. Information needed includes date, time and place of swim start; distance of swim; ability of the majority of swimmers; expected number of swimmers; approximate time of swim finish; any expected number of assisting boats.

Produce a list of triathlons with places, dates, times, swim distances and any other relevant information for inclusion in Blazing Paddles.

Publish in Blazing Paddles a list of club members to assist at each triathlon, with instructions on how to swap an inconvenient time/date with another club member.

Make sure each club member assisting at a triathlon is in a suitably stable boat, is wearing a PFD and has received instructions on how to assist swimmers in need of help.

Just prior to the event, introduce yourself to the Triathlon Organisers and obtain any last minute news and information.

Collect signatures of each club member helping at a triathlon event, before they get out on the water.

After each event, collect any data on number and type of assistances needed, and thank each club member for their help.

Report any incidents to the Triathlon Organisers after the swim is finished.

When the total number of swimmers in an event can be ascertained, consult with the BGCC Treasurer to ensure an Invoice is sent promptly to the appropriate triathlon body.

Keep a data base of those club members who have assisted at which triathlon events so they can become eligible for assistance with money for travel to National competitions.

At the end of the triathlon season, consult with the social convener about holding a Triathlon Helpers barbecue.

At the annual Club Birthday Party, arrange for prizes for the club member who has helped at the most events; and for a lucky-dip prize for one of those who have helped at any number of events (one chance for each time they help.)

### **Other Positions and/or Tasks**

There are numerous other tasks to be done to keep the BGCC running smoothly. For example:

#### **Shed cleaning**

**Kitchen duties** to make sure the kitchen area of the shed is kept clean and relatively hygienic. Wipe around the sink, wash tea towels, ensure supplies of detergent, tea, coffee, sugar, etc are sufficient.

**Trailer maintenance** make sure the trailer's registration has been paid and the new registration label attached in November each year. At the same time, check the trailer is safe to use.

**Government Grants** to attend ACT Govt. Sport and Recreation talks (June?) on who is eligible for what amount of money, fill in the application forms, ensure the forms are presented on time (end July?), follow-up on receipt of grants, buying of equipment or other spending of grant money, keeping tabs on the receipts, making sure the grant is acquitted (March) each year. A two person job.

**AGM preparation** confer with committee to choose a suitable date in April. Make sure the meeting date and nomination forms get to each club member at least three weeks before the meeting date. Book a meeting room at Sports House and make arrangements to pick up a key and learn the security code. Buy cakes, biscuits, milk, etc for a supper after the meeting. Make sure any nomination forms get to the Public Officer at the meeting.

#### **And many more tasks!**

Nomination forms will go out with the next edition of  
Blazing Paddles.

If you need information on any of the positions please don't  
hesitate to talk to Helen or Patricia

Could members, especially those taking part in competitions etc, make a  
note of any 'memorable' happenings for awards later in the year!

I know there are several new boats on the river, but this is mine!! Its taken a while to find something, but I think this is it. I wanted something to go touring in, do a bit of sea kayaking, go camping etc. It had to be reasonably light and stable. A day hatch was preferable and it needed a retractable rudder. Strangely enough—I didn't want a Mirage (sorry to all those Mirage paddlers out there) Scott from Wetspot very kindly let me try it out the day after it was delivered, and even though I admitted I'm a bit rough with the paddle, and tend to bang the hull a bit, he let me try it in one of the time trials. Half way around I was convinced—this was a lovely boat (plus it was red which obviously made it fast-ish). It runs well, feels light, turns easily, and its red (did I mention that?). The seat is adjustable and comfortable and though it doesn't have a foot board, I didn't buy it to race with, so that's not really an issue.

So we've done a 10km time trial (only 4mins slower than in my TK), and now we've been on a touring weekend at Kangaroo Valley (see below), I really do want to take it in something a bit more challenging.

### **Prijon - Prilite Touring Kayak (Made in Germany)**

The **Prijon Prilite** is fast, Light and Stable

The Prilite T 505 is a fast, fully equipped single kayak with trihedral hull, excellently suited for open waters. It is 22% lighter than a comparable HTP-kayak and mechanically more durable than a kayak made of GFK.

Many customers ask for lighter boats, as HTP and standard Polyethylene kayaks are too heavy for some paddlers and the roofs of our cars are getting higher and higher. To take into account the requirements for less weight at a high level of stability, we offer, with PRILITE, a material unique in the building of kayaks.



Length	: 505 cm
Width	: 55 cm
Weight	: 21 kg
Cockpit	: 88 x 45 cm
Volume	: 360 ltrs
Capacity	: 115 kg



**Patricia's new boat**



**From Hampton Bridge**

### **Trip to Kangaroo Valley**

This was our third trip to the Valley—I'm sure there are many other places to visit but this area is quite spectacular (and the weather seems to be good too!) We thought we'd try the river from Hampton Bridge to Bendella, as we'd been told there were a few grade 2 rapids which we thought we could try our hand at (not with my new boat mind!), however....We'd been led astray—this photo which was taken from the bridge shows one of only three 'ripples' and the other 2 were even less challenging! Apparently, we needed to go 7 km upstream of the bridge to encounter the rapids—coming back to Kangaroo Valley and exiting just before the weir. Never mind—just means another visit! This stretch of river is quite pretty, and very popular with 'recreational paddlers' in big plastic canoes (should have been a giveaway really!). After this section we had lunch, changed boats and paddled some distance further from Bendella, checking out the streams and inlets.

Sunday morning we drove up to Tallowa Dam with the intention of paddling up a side creek which seemed reasonably wide on the map. This was about 4km upstream and to the left. It proved to be a lovely piece of water, with rocky cliffs and dead trees, tall and majestic, as well as somewhat eerie. There was also the remains of a road which could be seen along the shore-line disappearing into the

water to reappear 500m further on, on the other side. The road was built up using rocks and looked like it could have been convict built. (We'll need to investigate that). The road was also a good spot for lunch and we decided a handy place to pitch camp on another visit. We were surprised to see a 4WD arrive—after chatting for a while the family was invited to try a couple of boats, (not mine though), an offer they took up. The creek was about 6km long, however, due to the leisurely pace, long morning tea and lunch breaks, and that we had to drive back to Canberra, we didn't quite get to the end—another reason to come back !!

T'was a lovely trip. (our group has been unofficially named "Just round the next bend")

### **Morning tea break**



# PADDLING IN THE TROPICS

## Explore the Majesty of Hinchinbrook Island

Considered one of the best paddling destinations in Australia

Stunning coastline, jagged peaks and secluded bays

Sea Kayak Hires  
& Shuttles

Private  
Charters

Small group trips  
& Expeditions



Or sea kayak and camp on tiny tropical islands,  
Paddle over the fringing corals within the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park

**Club members receive a 10% discount on all extended trip bookings**

### **Coral Sea Kayaking**

for more information, maps, itineraries, ideas etc.

[www.coralseakayaking.com](http://www.coralseakayaking.com) or [coralseakayaking@bigpond.com](mailto:coralseakayaking@bigpond.com)

Tel or fax 07 4068 9154

We can show you the best accessible wilderness sea kayaking in North Queensland.

## **Power Water Katherine Red Cross Canoe Marathon Sunday**

***Take on the Katherine River, Ride the wild rapids!***

***and help the Australian Red Cross***

**June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

The **Katherine Canoe Marathon** will be on again in 2008, celebrating 27 years! The one day event will be held on the Queens Birthday long weekend in June – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2008

People can take on the Katherine River on their own or recruit their own team members and paddle together. There are a number of different classes available and we encourage people of all ages and abilities to get out and participate in this fun and rewarding event. This event brings people from far and wide, together, with a common interest!

At the conclusion of the race there is a Presentation Dinner to round off an exciting day.

Funds raised assist Red Cross to provide services to vulnerable people in the Northern Territory through our Community Programs and emergency services.

Further information and entrance details can be obtained by telephoning (08) 8971 1246 or through e-mail

[JGoodings@redcross.org.au](mailto:JGoodings@redcross.org.au)

Ride the rapids and enjoy the incredible country of the Katherine River. We look forward to seeing many familiar, as well as new faces, joining this fun filled day.

Club Shed, Molonglo Reach, Morshead Drive, Campbell. Phone 0418 861 613

1. **Welcome:**
2. **Present:**
3. **Apologies:**
4. **President's report:**
5. **Treasurers report:** Accounts paid: ACT SES, \$200, rescue boats for 2007 Bash; Sladecraft, \$88.00, 3x rudder cables, etc, \$55, repairs to Barry O's TK1; NSWCI, \$1,100.00, memberships; Lakeside Leisure Centre, \$664.20, November pool hire. Payable: Danny Galbraith, \$650?, Seiko stopwatch/printer; Lakeside Leisure Centre, \$332.10, December invoice  
Deposits:\$ Approx balance: \$27k Grants: Announcement in mid-Feb.
6. **Minutes** from previous meeting: (See last *Blazing Paddles*)
7. **Business arising** from minutes:
  - i) Water-skiers & LUG, etc., Any new info from 12<sup>th</sup> Dec meeting? (John H)
  - ii) Beginners' Courses – Due to the amount of time and effort in running beginners' courses, the small number of club coaches are looking at trying a different method of getting new people into boats. Perhaps monthly “come and try days”? (Helen, Patricia)
  - iii) Rash shirts and club caps – interest in short-sleeved rashies (Renee)
  - iv) Progress on Qualifying some Coaches – news on our 3x flatwater trainees? And the 2x canoe polo trainees? Plus other volunteers? (Patricia, Andy)
  - v) Any news on the level of insurance cover we have on club boats, traveling, etc. (Jacqueline)
  - vi) Any further progress on making/buying safe crossing covers the electrical cord over the car-park & bike-path? (Mike, Danny, others)
  - vii) Club Shed light replacements & safety tags for electrical equipment in shed? (Steve)
  - viii) Any progress re a design comp for memorial award in memory of Rainer Swoboda? (John H)
  - ix) 24 hour relay –18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> October, 2008. Any news? (Helen)
  - x) Any news on getting some more sand for the boat-launching beach? (John)
  - xi) Any progress re a club phone number (Renee)
  - xii) New protective case for Seiko timer/printer? (Danny)
  - xiii) Quotation/price on a new Mirage 730 to join the club's fleet? (Danny)
  - xiv) Progress re buying Canoe Polo batts and other equipment handling of “old” gear (Andy)
  - xv) Progress on 4-drawer filing cabinet to keep the club records? (John/Jacqueline)
  - xvi) Up to \$150 worth of adjustable paddle-joiners (hopefully 5x paddles) installed into club paddle shafts – probably at Wetspot. Anthony and Danny to do.
  - xvii) Roster of key holders and coaches for Sunday mornings – times?
  - xviii) The future of our Triathlon Assisting – and the money earned – in view of the difficulty in getting people to help in this venture.
  - xix) Juniors and their paddling care – what has happened? (Helen & Barry O)
  - xx) Child Protection legislation and what coaches and assistants need to do?
8. **Correspondence In:**
  - \* CBA Bank Statement, 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, balance \$27,232.81; \* TACT, cheque for 17<sup>th</sup> Jan Tri, \$132.00
  - \* Lakeside Leisure Centre, \$332.10, January Invoice; \* Seton catalogue
  - \* NSWCI summary of events leading to Special General Meeting, Homebush, 2 p.m., Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March
  - \* NSWCI – Invoice, showing \$1,100.00 paid and \$40.00 still owing, for memberships
  - \* Coral Sea Kayaking are offering club members a discount of 10% on extended tours for this coming season.
  - \* Invite to Grants announcement, with Andrew Barr \* Weird iiNet Invoices, again
9. **Correspondence Out:**
  - \* ACTSport – event dates for Canoe Polo for 2008, for their website
  - \* ACTSport – club contact details.
10. **Business arising:** i) Payment of Accounts: NSWCI, memberships \$ ?;  
ii) Club response to NSWCI letter re its possible defuncting.
11. **Conveners Reports:** Canoe Polo – Annual Cheesecake Challenge White Water Flat-water racing –Series Race in 2008 – 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> March, in ACT, point-score/club?;  
Social: Club Christmas Party, 9<sup>th</sup> Dec, Food Stall at Marathon races?  
Touring – next trip, April? Evening paddles? Property Manager racing numbers on club boats?  
Membership Secretary – now have 170? members. Triathlon –more to come ... Alternatives?
11. **General Business:** \* Talk on club website, from Cathy  
\* AGM date & committee positions  
\* Club response to NSWCI proposals
12. **Next Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2008, at Club Shed
13. **Blazing Paddles deadlines:** 17<sup>th</sup> February and then 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2008.
14. **Anything else?**
15. **Meeting Closed:**