



## ARAWA CANOE CLUB

### 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

#### OFFICERS 2012 - 2013

Patron	Lloyd Bathurst
President	Bianca Teague
Secretary	Bruce Johnston
Treasurer	Mike Robertson
Club Instructor	Brett Leask
Equipment	Devern Burchett
Membership	Bianca Teague
Racing	Warwick Taylor
Marketing	Chantal Rosenhart
Media	Peter Hall
Club Captain	Ryan Quickenden
Auditor	Craig Cox
Life members	Graham Allan, Clyde Cook, Ray Hines, Taff Hubbard, Brett Leask, Mike Robertson

#### ***PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Bianca Teague***

2012/2013 was a much better year for Arawa than the previous. With the return to the Avon River and our Club – we have been able to slowly get back to “normal”.

There have been a multitude of people associated with assisting the Club this year – in the Club, on the riverbank and in the background.

Firstly, I wish to thank our hard working committee members. Devern Burchett has been an integral part of our committee since 2005 and is standing down. Chantal Rosenhart has done a fantastic job in obtaining sponsorship and funding for the past 2 years, and now moves on to the busy and important role of first time mum. Warwick Taylor has done a great job organising and running our Club races over the last 3 years, but finds himself with less hours in the day, than anticipated and so will also step down. The Club thanks you all very much for your many hours and a great job well done.

I would also like to thank those that contribute financially to our Club, by way of Sponsorship, Professional Time and also Donations. Wynn Williams, EQI Global, Dyers Road ITM, JKK Kayaks, Thule, Fleet Cycles, Air Rescue Trust, NZ Community Trust, The Christchurch City Council and The Canterbury Community Trust.

And lastly a big thanks also goes out to the many volunteers who make our instructional sessions, races and working bees happen.

It has been very satisfying to see our membership grow once again, and Christchurch recovers from a pretty hard couple of years. It's great to pop down to the Club at any time of the day and see people utilising our facilities.

As far as progress on our building/location goes, until the Government makes a decision as to what will happen to the land around our club, we will continue status quo. Our building is safe and secure and we will continue to stay on our current location for the next few years. We will also continue to work to provide improvements to Club facilities.

### ***TREASURER'S REPORT - Mike Robertson***

The club again has had another successful year from a financial point of view. As at 31 March 2013 there was \$33,991 in our Savings Accounts and \$6,824 in the Cheque Account. These accounts are held with the BNZ. There also is a term deposit with the BNZ of \$540,602.00 dated 16 March, currently invested for 180 days at 4.15%. These proceeds are from a payout from the insurance company for the clubrooms.

The club has no mortgages or long term debts.

The Club received interest income on these investments of \$31,434 this year, and being an incorporated society and a registered charity means that the club does not have to pay any tax on this income. These funds are accumulating and are to be used to rebuild the new clubrooms at some unknown date in the future.

Once again the club has benefited from some very welcome sponsorship/financial help from club members, sponsors and community trusts. I wish to thank those generous benefactors to the club and I hope club members will endeavour to use the services of our many sponsors. In particular I would like to thank EQI Global, Dyers Road ITM, JKK Kayaks, Thule, Fleet Cycles, Air Rescue Trust, NZ Community Trust, The Christchurch City Council and The Canterbury Community Trust.

Thanks must be given to other committee members for their assistance in helping me with my job. Bianca has been of great help in doing the monthly financial accounts and in her role as membership officer. Bianca gets paid a small fee for her work but without her great assistance my job would be impossible. Thanks must also be given to Craig Cox for once again carrying out our end of year, financial Audit.

Michelle Bennett, through a generous grant from the Community Trust, has helped the committee with a lot of the day to day administration of the club (including the mammoth job of processing the Club memberships and chasing overdue accounts) and it is great we have received continued funding for this position.

Over the last year membership subs and storage have grown so the club is in a very strong financial position to meet the future and the challenge, when it occurs, of building new club rooms.

### ***COACHING – Brett Leask***

#### **Squad Coaches**

The Club and members are very grateful to Leigh Barker as well as Grant and Tammy Restall for their great work in providing guidance to the elite and developing paddlers in the Club squads. Their work has shown great results, for club paddlers over the past season who had competed in Canoe Racing New Zealand events such as Blue Lake sprint regattas and the 2013 CRNZ Sprint Nationals, as well as the 2013 CRNZ Marathon Championships.

Grant has been employed as CRNZ High Performance Manager whilst Leigh was CRNZ Junior Coach. Club members are very lucky to have people of this quality helping to develop their kayaking skills.

#### **Junior Coaching**

Many of you have probably seen the regular figure of Paul Fidow on the river bank, in the gym, or in the river fishing out a small wet K1 paddler.

Paul has voluntarily taken on the role of Junior Coach and currently has up to 20 paddlers, of differing abilities, most days of the week.

The Club is very fortunate to have Paul take on this role, and he is doing a fantastic job. Recently Paul accompanied Grant Restall, in a CRNZ capacity, to assist with a Team Manager/Coaching role at the Grand Prix 3 regatta in Australia. No doubt this would have provided invaluable experience.

It must be noted that Leigh, Grant and Paul ALL carry out Club Coaching roles on a voluntary basis – with token remuneration sums paid from time to time via Grants. We currently have a funding application awaiting approval with a gaming Trust to assist with a more significant coaching contribution to be made in the very near future.

### **Beginner Instruction**

Beginner sessions are the main source of new membership to the Club. This year we decided to hold the beginner sessions on Saturday mornings during the cooler months and reverting to Wednesday nights for the lighter and warmer period of the year. This means the beginners are in a safer environment and the instructors can actually see their charges.

Over the course of Summer, the Club was very fortunate to have the services of three regular instructors - Fiona Fraser, Tony McGuire and Dion Vincent. Their dedication to showing new or inexperienced paddlers the finer skills of paddling a kayak on has been appreciated not only by the Club management but also those many people attending their session, with attendances peaking at around 13 paddlers per session over the summer and into the autumn.

Instruction of beginners at the Saturday morning sessions was done on a roster basis by a large number of the club members who are sprint squad members. Their efforts in instructing the basic skills of kayaking to our new club members is truly appreciated by all concerned. More recently we have also been fortunate to have the regular assistance of “renewed” member Ruth Knewstubb and also new member Richard Matheson.

A big ‘thank you’ must go to ALL of those who have helped and continue to help improve our Club members, at whatever level they may be at, or aspire to be.

### **Weedcatchers**

Weedcatchers, on Thursday nights, continues to attract a growing support from Arawa members and also other paddlers. Devern Burchett has been the main driver of these sessions supported by Dion Vincent, more recently Rosie Shakespeare and other paddlers when needed.

These sessions involved a variety of activities including the 10 km races or time trials as well as some hard interval type sessions, enjoyed (or hated) by many paddlers.

### ***EQUIPMENT OFFICER (CRAFT AND PREMISES) – Devern Burchett***

The good news this year was the Clubhouse passing the Detailed Engineering Evaluation (DEE). This means that we can continue to use the Clubhouse for its intended purpose. A Working Bee was organised to fix a number of issues such as wall repairs and strengthening, adding support posts, painting and sorting the kitchen. More recently Mike Varnam also helped out by fixing/replacing all the lights in the building, so now we can see as the days get darker. All we are waiting on now is the sewer system to be connected and the clubhouse will be fully operational.

### **Equipment**

New Equipment this year

- 2 x Junior K1's sponsored by EQI Global
- 1 x Junior K2 from Wicked Kayaks paid for by way of Grant received from CCC.

- 4 x junior paddles - 2 paid for by EQI sponsorship and 2 by club funds
- 2 x K1s purchased from members, from club funds
- 1 x K2 purchased from a member, from club funds
- 1 x K1 donated by Rohan McNaughton
- 1 x Sprinter Kayak donated by Hugh Reynolds – Fabrum Solutions
- 1 x small trailer from Mike Mead, paid by insurance claim and club funds
- Race Numbers kindly sponsored by PriceWaterhouse Coopers
- We sold old gym gear and used the proceeds to purchase new gym equipment
- We currently have a new big trailer being built.

Wish List for next year

- New multisport club boats to replace the old club boats
- New kayak ergs
- 2 x Sea Kayaks for beginners and also River and Harbour Race Safety

### ***MEMBERSHIP – Bianca Teague***

Our Club membership continues to grow, with an increase of about 100 members over the past year. Paul Fidow is doing a great job attracting and increasing number of junior paddlers.

Storage in the club is certainly popular once again, with limited spaces available – really only the dreaded “Top and Bottom” racks.

This coming year I will continue to carry out the role of Membership Officer, which essentially now is just over seeing the processing of the applications and ensuring that payments are happening in a timely matter. Michelle Bennett will be carrying out the processing of the subs and storage and also the new membership applications.

### ***RACING – Warwick Taylor***

The Spring series had little success in getting decent numbers along, and proved to be a much quieter season for racing than normal, with the usual increasing number of budding coast to coasters failing to come along. Possibly due to the great weather and river conditions allowing the Waimak Gorge to be paddled most weekends.

The week leading up to our annual Classic River Race, the Waimakariri River was topped up with a day's rain resulting in fantastic conditions, entry numbers were slow to come in but were once again high on race day. With new categories to cater for Sea kayakers and a good turn out from junior paddlers too.

Mathews cup was run successfully with a good turn out and provided some close racing, but with so many other races/ activities happening at this time of the year it was decided it would be better to move this race closer to Christmas. It was decided that this race would become our end of year break up and would be held after the Classic, but prior to Christmas – with an emphasis on family fun. BBQ and “have a go” paddling taking place at Corsair Bay, while the competitors get out there and race.

Moving into winter races we are once again seeing low numbers, but fast and fun races.

Arawa once again featured very strong at Nationals with a large number our members gaining a place on the podium and also being selected for New Zealand representative teams.

## **SPONSORSHIP AND MARKETING - Chantal Rosenhart**

With the help of other committee members as well as our paid administrator, a number of grants were applied for during the course of the year.

### **Classic River Race**

Due to the economic climate and earthquake events in the region, some major sponsors, understandably, chose not to renew their sponsorship of the 2012 event. However, a number of willing sponsors and supporters were found.

- An application was made to Air Rescue Services Ltd for funding of the safety provisions. A grant of \$2000 was provided which partially covered costs. It was decided to use the Air Rescue Services Ltd as the naming sponsor in acknowledgement of their continuous support over the past years.
- Hirepool provided portaloos as their sponsorship.
- New World St Martins came on board as the drinks sponsor and supplied beer, wine, cider and juice. New World St Martins also supplied shopping vouchers that were awarded to place-getters.
- Spagalimis subsidized pizzas.
- Fleet Cycles donated our major spot prize.
- Many others (JKK, Rasdex, R&R Sports, Thule etc) supplied spot prizes.

### **Administration Assistant Funding**

The Canterbury Community Trust provided \$7000 for this year, so that the club could continue to employ Michelle Bennett as Administration Assistant for this year.

### **Successful Grants Applications**

- NZ Communities Trust - \$15,000 grant towards travel to CRNZ Sprint nationals held in Rotorua.
- NZ Communities Trust - \$12,500 funding towards purpose-build and designed trailer.
- NZ Post supplied 300 postage paid envelopes

### **Grant Applications in Progress**

- Christchurch City Council Small Sports Fund - funding to assist with 30th anniversary of Classic race.

### **Planned Grant Applications**

- Funding for new ergs

Due to a change in personal circumstances I will be standing down from my position as Marketing and Sponsorship Officer at the AGM. I hereby like to thank the committee for all their help with my many questions over the past 2 seasons.

## ***MEDIA – Peter Hall***

2013, has seen Arawa continue to improve its performance with regards to keeping members informed. Weekly emails, the website, regular Facebook updates and newsletters are all used.

### **Weekly Emails**

Regular weekly emails are published. Each week, new, interesting or important information about the club, club events, club members or relevant events is contained in the header section. However, this is reliant on club members providing accurate and timely information.

### **Newsletters**

During the last year, the club has published Spring, Christmas and Autumn newsletters. These have contained event reviews, race results and club information. As these have been well received, paper

newsletters will continue. Additionally, it is another way for members to remain connected to the club and receive something tangible.

It is planned that past newsletters and future editions will be made available on the website.

**Website**

After receiving training, the club administrator now maintains and updates the website. This important media source contains up to date information about the Club, clubhouse, races, as well as holding archive material, e.g. race results. PDF versions of newsletters will be uploaded soon.

**Facebook**

A number of committee members and the club administrator are able to make Facebook updates. It has proven to be a quick and effective way of keeping members up to date with news, events, gossip and cancellations.

**Sportshub**

This website is occasionally used to provide information on Arawa organized races, e.g. Waimak Classic