



Five boats & two sails - photo by Graham

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Editorial

For an account of the **Hinchinbrook Trip**, go to **Kayak Diary** <http://www.kayakdiary.net/index.php?tripid=126>. Chris, Graham, Mark, Stan, Sue and Tom seem to have had another dream run with the weather and an experience of a lifetime.

A few days before the **Open Invitation Paddle**, the forecast was for strong winds on the way to Currigee, stronger winds and rain overnight and strong winds on the way back. This frightened most people off. In the end there were moderately strong winds both ways and some drizzle overnight and those who went had a ball. Currigee South has a lot to offer as a campsite, with its hot showers, toilets, covered communal eating areas with electric barbeques and campsites a short carry from the water.

Is anyone interested in **trips in the Sunshine Coast region**? Robyn lives at Maleny and has pointed out that there are many great paddling venues in the area north of Brisbane. Robyn is reluctant to come on day paddles, especially those south of Brisbane, due to the time and cost of travel and the state of traffic on the highway. Are any paddlers interested in scheduling some trips in this region? If you are, contact Robyn on Robyn_graham@hotmail.com

Damiano, and others, found the inaugural **Sea Kayak Symposium** was a tremendous success. Considering also that it was the first one, the whole presentation and program was terrific. The main guest speakers (Crossing the Ditch and Adventure Philosophy) were absolutely stunning. The variety of attendees (from beginner to advanced) showed that the Symposium has something for everybody both on and off the water.

If you were in the market to upgrade/purchase a new sea kayak, there was no better place. All the major brands were available for demo often with instructors explaining the benefits of each model. A prospective buyer could real make an informed decision on the kayak that is best suited for him/her, not by simply listening to the verbal spill from the rep, but by testing the craft on the water. The vendor area was packed with new products that often, if you are using mail order, you cannot try before you buy. Having all the food provided on site saved a lot of time trying to get a meal off site.

While I probably would like to have seen some real advanced surf clinics offered, the rolling ones were facilitated by world class instructors. I talked to many attendees and did not hear any negative feed back. It looks like the next one will be bigger and better again. Damiano.

Bedrooms Weekend, 27-28 September. By Robyn

I hastily emailed around on Friday to see if anyone else was coming to the Bedrooms; but the signs were ominous, the ether was silent, unperturbed. Some good people returned my calls to confirm that no one else was going to come: some were opting for a Sunday paddle closer to home. Luckily my brother Ron was keen to go. The weather was promising to be spiffing and I was looking forward to showing Ron around that end of the bay. We packed our gear and headed off on Saturday morning in perfect conditions, the run out tide did our work for us. The traffic on the Broadwater wasn't too bad, considering it was school holidays.

We camped in the usual quiet spot among the casuarinas whilst further up the beach many campsites jostled together cheek by jowl. Flocks of seabirds hurried along the sand flats, but my bird book wasn't much help as they are almost impossible to identify one from another. Passers by all stopped and wanted to talk in admiring terms about the (wooden) boats. After lunch and a snooze we went for a walk up the island, disparaging the expensive gin palaces, and then came back along the ocean beach. The huge midden piles of oysters and other shells in the sandhills remind us how the vegetation cover has been lost since aboriginal people sat there regularly, it must have been very pleasant in the shade of the trees eating seafood fresh from the water, watching the whales go past. We too saw a few whales commencing their southern migration.

The following morning we didn't go to Swan Bay but decided to come back early through Tiger Mullet channel as the wind was coming up later and the tide would be against us. Even so, that last reach required some effort. The conditions were choppy with jet skis going in all directions. More frustrating however were lengthy delays on the Gateway Motorway, reminding me once again, why I am reluctant to venture southwards from Maleny for day paddles. There is plenty of paddling to do to the north of the sunshine coast, I can paddle any day of the week, and I would like to hear from other paddlers in the sunshine coast area and northwards who would like to develop a program of paddles up here. Drop me a line at

Robyn_graham@hotmail.com

Saint Helena Island, 5 October. By Linda

Nine kayaks put in at the boat ramp in Wynnum Creek just before 9:30 am on a glorious October morning to paddle to St Helena Island. Some, like us, had not paddled much with the group, while others were regulars. We spread out across the bay paddling on a rising tide into a freshening north easterly breeze which the BOM forecast would reach 15 to 20 knots. Peter and I stayed together somewhere in the middle of the array, and at one point caught a glimpse of a narrow fin cresting above the waves. Although we were pretty sure it was a dolphin's dorsal fin, we discussed the possibility of it being that unrelated fish species with a prominent dorsal fin, a shark. Peter's GPS registered an increase in paddling speed at this point. We had been maintaining about 4.5 km/h previous to this, but stepped it up to 5.5 km/h after the shark discussion.

David, Mark and Kimberley reached the island first and watched as the rest of us arrived. In the background was a flock of sails as the St Helena Cup yacht race left Manly Harbour, quite a picture. We shared morning tea under the trees. We missed Carol's cake but Kimberly had visited a bakery which almost made up for it.

The paddle back on the high tide was quickened by an increased wind speed with gusts of up to 20 knots from over our right shoulder. This proved to be more challenging and a couple of paddlers ended up in the water. They were quickly assisted by others. The conditions provided opportunity for a fun surf if you could time it right, with plenty of practice at rudder and bracing coordination.



Nev ready to go from Wynnum

I had been reluctant to join paddles with this group as I had the impression that everyone had sails. I realised that this is not the case, and, in conditions such as we experienced today, a sail is not necessarily an advantage. There is a great camaraderie amongst the group represented on the day with a range of ability. Peter and I look forward to joining in other events on the SEQSK calendar. See you on the water, Linda.



Comparing paddles at Saint Helena

Girraween Weekend, 16 – 18 October.

Mark and Susan and the rest of the crew had a host of memorable experiences at, and on the way to and from, Girraween and took photos of most of them. It sounds like a place where you could easily spend several days as long as you took your winter woolies and good walking shoes. If your legs were not in good shape at the beginning of the trip, they would be by the end of it.

Go to <http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/marine/wind/index.jsp> and you can read Susan's very full account of her experiences and see a gallery of beautiful and informative photographs of the area.

Karragarra for Breakfast, Sunday 26 October. Text and photos by Brian, Susan & Tom



Breakfast table one

While Sal, Mark and Susan went back directly to the boat ramp and Grant set off for a trip around Macleay, the main group headed onto Russell for a morning tea pit stop with a selection of cakes supplied by Carol and Linda. I had saved one of Jenni's Pecan muffins spread with Marie's real butter from breakfast to add to the feast. By the time we were returning, a north easter had started to build creating an opportunity for limited but worthwhile sailing but bringing up a bit of a chop. The tail enders well and truly worked off their breakfast on the way back.

Whatever it was, the morning delivered a beautiful day, great food and enjoyable company.



Breakfast table two

Clontarf to Deep Water Bend, Sunday 2 November. By Brian & Dave with photo by Tom



* Cheryl, Ray, Dave, Carol & Brian back at Clontarf.

to Clontarf before venturing out into the chop. The wind and the chop added to the interest of the trip and also the effort needed to push the boats along. Most were able to carry sails over the final stretch.

The coffee shop on the esplanade also sold great fish and chips so very few of us had a net energy loss for the day but, in the words of the prophet, Dave, "A good time was had by all".

Fast or Efficient? Adapted from Nick Schade @ Guillemot Kayaks

People ask me is your new kayak faster than your old one. Nick Shade of Guillemot Kayaks answers the question for me.

How fast is your boat? Do you know? **Does the question even make sense?** Isn't any boat going to go faster if you apply more power to it? What people really should ask is how efficient is your boat? Efficiency means is that, for a certain amount of effort applied to making the boat move, you will get a certain amount of motion. A more efficient boat will move more with less effort. This could mean that for a given speed, a more efficient boat will require less effort, or for a given effort, a more efficient boat will move faster. Efficiency is inversely proportional to "drag". Drag refers to how much slowing force is created by the boat while moving through the water. More drag means that the boat will slow down more rapidly and take more effort to maintain its speed. A boat with less drag will go faster for a given amount of effort.

There are two main sources of drag on a boat. The one, people with a little knowledge of boat design tend to think of first, is wake drag. This is a force created by the effort required to make the waves in the wake of a kayak. Most people are familiar with this idea through the term hull speed. This force is roughly proportional to the square of the speed, that is, it is minimal at low speeds but becomes more and more significant at higher speeds. Long narrow boats tend to have a low wake drag. The other main source of drag is skin friction. This is roughly proportional to speed, that is, it is low at low speeds but increases steadily with speed. It tends to be lower in smaller boats with a low wetted surface area and is the main source of drag at low speeds.

In general, short boats with lower skin friction can be more efficient at lower speeds but long boats with lower wake drag will more efficient at high speeds.

The question that you should ask yourself is how efficient is your kayak at the speed at which you wish to paddle it?

Whether it was the favourable forecast, the early start, the destination or Brian's words of encouragement, it drew the numbers. By breakfast time, twenty paddlers had converged on Karragarra having left from the southern bank of Weinam Creek. With that many kayaks plus boaties with trailers cluttering the Esplanade, the locals had territorial assertions as to where you could and could not park despite a lack of signage.

It was nearing the top of the tide and the wind was light. As the group passed through the channel at Garden Island, a pair of large birds of prey circled overhead. Arriving at Karragarra, we found others of like mind already having breakfast on the beach accompanied by a glass of bubbly. Talk of bacon and mushrooms had the tapeworm fired up and there was no time for a swim. A scrummy plate of bacon, sausages, tomato, mushroom and eggs kept the peace and was washed down by a welcome hot coffee.

The forecasters got it right and there was 10 to 15 knots of southeasterly when eleven paddlers set off from Clontarf. Mark led us on a course almost parallel to the waves and the Houghton Bridge until we reached the channel leading up the Pine River. We surfed under the new and the old bridges and into the calmer waters of the river. The tide was by then high enough to cover all the sandbanks. Those who had not already done so raised their sails and, with the assistance of both wind and tide, cruised gracefully to Deep Water Bend about five kilometers upstream. Landing quickly on the edge of the boat ramp, we took over a nearby picnic table. While Carol and Jenni did not exactly replicate the miracle of the loaves and fishes, both produced very tasty cakes which fed the multitude. We discussed the five plans in Brian's email to the forum and chose plan B, paddle straight back to Clontarf and detour via a coffee shop on the way home.

Feeling refreshed we set off down the river against the breeze and the last of the incoming tide. Most stayed upstream of the bridges until they were close

Currigee, Open Invitation, Camping Weekend, 8 - 9 November. By Jenny with photos by Tom.

Saturday morning saw me gazing hopefully across the carpark at Jacobs Well looking for a large group of kayaks for the overnight paddle to Currigee. I briefly glimpsed Brian's boat doing laps so quickly joined in. It looked as if there was only Brian and me so we unloaded the boats and began fussing with drybags and paddle leashes to a running commentary on the fortitude of our paddling buddies. Just before launch, Tom comes along wheeling his boat from the other end of the carpark where he had been from the start! So the three of us set off in a stiff 15 to 20 knot, following breeze. Tom and I quickly hoisted sails and Brian paddled on.

All went well on my first sail, until I stuffed a sail angle change and ended up in the drink. Not a problem, Brian and Tom soon had me bailed out and back on board, with only a fleeting thought of bronze whalers to disturb me. We carried on down the seaway enjoying the overcast (not too hot) conditions, the stiff breeze and the, at times, very choppy seas.

A paddle around the marina at Curan Cove and a stop for morning tea was welcome. Neither Tom nor Brian produced the large slices of cake that I had been looking forward to sharing, now that I'm finally getting out with the group. Maybe they thought I was going to bring the cake. Well they know better now!

Soon after we left Curan Cove, Patrick loomed up behind and it wasn't long before he overtook us. He had decided that, with the wind, he didn't need to start so early and he was right. We fairly tore down the side of South Straddle with the wind up our tail and large wash from an impressive array of seacraft jostling us. Brian, who was paddling, had a moment of glory when he caught a wave and surfed passed Patrick in his mini Titanic with its Pacific Action sail pulling like a train. Patrick returned the compliment soon afterwards but Brian still had a grin from ear to ear. Another incident saw Brian dodging out of the way as two large motor launches seemed intent on mowing him down.

On arrival, the rain held off and we went for a walk up the beach. I was convinced there was another track across the island and we spent a good bit of time bush bashing in an attempt to find it. It doesn't exist but we eventually got back to the original track in time for a hot shower before happy hour. There was a bit of a drizzle so we were more than happy to make use of the tables and chairs in the shelter shed.

The camp at Currigee is very pleasant for a public camp ground. They have installed little LED lights all along the walkways, with red and green at the corners. So when you are navigating towards the dunny at night you know to keep the red on your.....umm?



On the beach near Curran Cove

Patrick needed to get back to Brisbane early so he left before we woke on Sunday morning. After a leisurely breakfast and pack up we were on the water again. The weather folk got it right and, after a millpond when we woke up, the wind picked up again even stronger than it was on Saturday blowing us northward this time. We traveled close to the coast around Hope Island to avoid some of its bluster. Back in the main channel we scooted along at a great rate and I thoroughly enjoyed it. I lowered the sail a couple of times to give my heart a chance to catch, up especially after the Penguin decided to broach in front of a very large oncoming ship!!! I suspect I gave the skipper problems with his heart too!

We stopped again for morning tea at Curan Cove, see photos, before a final dash up the coast to the inlet at Jacobs Well. On the last leg we were side on to the wind and I actually had to paddle!

In all we covered about 44 km over the two days and finished with lunch in the carpark after loading the gear. Many thanks to Brian and Tom for babysitting me through a brilliant weekend and thanks to Patrick for advice on how to set up a Pacific Action sail. It worked a treat on the way back.

Where are we going next? I'll bring a cake!

Editors Note. Writers of songs say it so much better than writers of prose. Johnny Mercer, who probably didn't have a clue, once wrote, "*Fools rush in where angels fear to tread*", while Bette Midler, who did have clue wrote, "Did you ever know that you're my hero?"

On Thursday Jenny emailed the forum saying. *Hi all, I am planning to come along, unless it's absolutely revolting. Cheers, Jenz.*

While most paddlers stayed at home, Jenny, on her third time in her sea kayak, set off in 15 – 20 knots. She then tried out her Pacific Action sail for the first time in conditions where most paddlers would leave it on the deck and held it kept it up for the next 40 km.

Jenny, I want you to know that you're my hero.

Coochie Mudlo Is Night Paddle, Saturday 15 November. By Brian.

I arrived quite late for the paddle (sound familiar?) and expected to see the fleet disappearing into the distance. To my relief about half of the eleven boats were still on the bank.

We soon set off, at the bottom of the tide, into about ten knots of northeasterly, to circumnavigate the island clockwise. It very soon became dark and we had to navigate using the yellow flashing yellow beacon which marks the end of the reef, north west of Coochiemudlo. This was not as easy as it sounds as we could see three yellow flashing lights in the distance. Of course no one had thought to memorize the flash rate of "our" beacon and, until you were rather close, it was very difficult to judge the relative distances to the lights.

As we gathered at the yellow beacon, before heading for the red beacon at the north east corner of Coochie, a small chop washed over the boats. The story on this leg was the same. We could see several red beacons and two of them looked quite close. If you headed for the more easterly of the two, you could not go to far wrong and, as we got closer, this proved to be the correct one. The beach along this section of the island is quite rocky especially at the bottom of the tide and was very dark so we rounded the red beacon and decided to land near the jetty. We knew that there would be good sand to land on, good light, shelter from the breeze and a picnic table. It was not a difficult decision.

The calendar said, "*Bring prepared (gourmet) finger food to share*" and people did just that. There was an amazing variety of quite exquisite food.

After doing what we do best, eating and talking, we set a course for the boat ramp. By then the moon came out from behind the clouds and there were a multitude of lights to make navigation easy. I did find that at times I was reminded of some of the tasty items that I had eaten for tea but it was well worth it. Conditions were very mild and soon the boats were washed and loaded on the cars and we set off on the dangerous part of the journey after a different but enjoyable trip.

Robin's Trip to Cooloola, August 2008

Landscape photography was the focus of a leisurely five day trip in August up the Noosa River with an old friend from down south. The aim was to take our time, see everything, and intersperse paddles with bushwalks into Cooloola. As we avoided the weekend we had no trouble booking our campsites; there were few other campers apart from some exuberant school groups having a ball. The weather was glassy still most days, ideal for photography and we floated along enveloped in a sense of wonder. We had the full operatic range of light effects – moody, misty, golden sunny, cloudy, pink dawns, red sunsets but no rain or wild storms. All of this was combined with the spectacular display of wildflowers that Cooloola puts on at this time of year. We did the obligatory walk to the Cooloola Sandpatch, then the walk to Wandii Waterhole and other shorter walks.



* Robyn's cute little guy

At campsite four we had the company of a couple of hopping mice who dined with us and then kept me awake for hours while they squabbled within centimeters of my head on the other side of the fabric. Cute little guys nevertheless.

This really was a very pleasant time. We followed it up by rushing home, depositing our boats and throwing our gear into backpacks. We then spent a few days walking the northern section of the so-called Sunshine Coast Great Walk. I found this walk disappointing and certainly not up to the expectations created by branding it as a 'great walk'. The trails were for the most part old logging tracks and weeds were rampant. Most of the sizable trees had been cut out. Nevertheless we found some botanical beauties to make it worthwhile, such as the yellow climbing orchid, a saprophyte. It was a bit silly carrying backpacks around this area (Thilba Thalba and Gheerulla Creek). It is better suited to day trips. I don't recommend it to anyone for a multiday trip except if like me you are seeking to toughen up for other bushwalks. What can the EPA be thinking of, exaggerating the claims of the walk, and installing all the expensive infrastructure of walkers' camps that seem to be rarely used.



An example of beautiful landscape photography.

Peter Weallans.

In late October Brian received the following unexpected email.

*Hi Brian,
What is the meeting time and venue for the Breakfast at Karragarra trip, please? Thanks, Peter Weallans..*

Brian sent Peter the following reply.

*G'day Peter,
I have attached the latest calendar. It will give you the details of Breakfast at Karragarra and the rest of the currently planned trips. It is a very long time since we have had you on a Claytons Club paddle. People have assured me that you have not fallen off the edge of the world but seeing is believing. It will be great to catch up with you. The core of people from your time with the group has not changed much, although how many of them will come to Karragarra remains to be seen. Regards, Brian.*

Later, Peter sent Brian the following email, filling in some of the gaps.

*Hi Brian
I am heavily into bushwalking and go walking basically every Sunday. I have two, 19 foot, Gibbons racing skis and tend to be concentrating on paddling in the surf as normal kayaking isn't extreme enough to really develop your paddling skills. I also have the 19 foot and a double Mirage. I am thinking of buying a Kaskazi Dorado. I have been going to Currumbin a lot with my son. We usually get there just on daybreak and are back home by 10 am. You still have the rest of the day to do chores and walk on Sunday. I would like to become more active with the group again.
I am going to put my Mirage Double (Kevlar) and custom built trailer on EBay shortly. My wife gets back problems so it never gets used.
Good to see Ted, Ray and Stan in some of the photos. I might even get to Stan's for the meeting.
Peter.*

Pumicestone Passage, 23 November. By Robyn

The paddle program stipulated Bells Creek Road for the launching point, but some of us had doubts about its location and there was not much information on maps. Why are there no decent maps of this area? Apparently the launching point is shown in *Beacon to Beacon*. In recognition of the confusion we agreed to launch from Roys Road.

The weather forecast was for a fine day with 20 - 30 knots from the south west. The day was clear and sparkling and the south westerly, lived up to the prediction. Stan wanted to try out his sail, so we (Jenny, Stan, Brian, Carol, Ray, Dean and Robyn) tore off northward with the assistance of a fresh breeze and a lively ebb tide for about 4 km. This brought us to a point of reckoning on the eastern bank in choppy conditions where we recalled that we were laying up a store of punishment for ourselves to retrace our strokes later in the day. We turned around. In the lee of the western side of the passage we devoured Carol's most delicious chocolate cake. Then we hugged the mangroves and toiled back to the cars against the wind and tide.

The return trip was windy, hard work but it gave us an opportunity to learn a few lessons about towing. Robyn's Taku was, as usual, handling poorly in the wind - a combination of no rudder and no ballast in the bow. Stan graciously offered to tow. What we found was that the towee still had to work hard so as not to be a dead weight at the end of the tow rope. From time to time, whenever the bow of Taku threatened to veer off course, the tow rope was there to straighten the boat and keep it on course. After a while Ray also came along to assist and passed a towing line to the bow of Stan's boat. We found this line of paddlers highly effective for keeping the party together and moving forward efficiently. The tow rope could also be very useful if anyone broke their steering during a paddle.

After lunch on the bank next to the cars, some of the party went up Coochin Creek in the hope of avoiding the worst of the wind. Their effort proved to be futile and they got gusts of up to 30 knots. I went over to Bells Creek Road to check out the other launching spot. It looks interesting, so I hope we can reschedule that paddle some time soon.

Thanks to all who participated for a most enjoyable paddle.

Please also note that when exiting the Bruce Highway at Roys Road, there is no need to cross in front of the oncoming highway traffic. There is a dirt road that goes underneath the highway bridge beside Mellum Creek and delivers you on the eastern side more safely. From there you can go on to either Roys or Bell Creek roads.

Sea Kayak Symposium, 21-23 November. By Debra

The 2008 Sea Kayak Symposium started on the evening of Friday 21st November. After a welcome and wander through the retail hall it was off to a presentation from Justin Jones and James Castrission from "Crossing the Ditch". Many of us had followed the progress of the boys as they paddled from Forster in NSW across to New Plymouth in NZ earlier this year, a journey of over 3000km in 62 days. A very interesting and amusing account of their adventure was thoroughly enjoyed by some 100 kayakers in attendance.

On Saturday morning there were several choices of hour long sessions to attend. These included more adventure stories from Shaun West who paddled from Southport to Cairns, kayak first aid and gadgets and safety. The afternoon sessions covered trip planning, sea creatures and cooking. After lunch there was plenty of time to explore the retail hall with dozens of kayaks and gear that you didn't even know you needed. There was more time to socialize before making choices for the afternoon information sessions which included photography, kayak fishing and navigation. Then it was time to hit the water with groups of eight to participate in some funny and unusual ways of kayaking, in relay format, out to buoys out in the middle of Currumbin Creek.

The dinner of roast beef with all the trimmings was fantastic and an opportunity to enjoy a meal with many other paddlers from all parts of the country. This was followed by a presentation from Mark Jones (Adventure Philosophy), all the way from New Zealand with a very interesting account of three expeditions, with two of his mates, to the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia and Tierra Del Fuego. The photographs and accounts of their adventures was absolutely amazing. They have published books and DVDs which would be extremely interesting.

Sunday morning we all met on the water. The sight of almost 100 kayaks and paddlers was something not often seen, the many colours made for quite a rainbow of kayaks. We set out in groups of eight to various points along the creek to practice skills such as edging/leaning, towing techniques. Those who were willing, practiced rescues and rolling. After three hours on the water it was back to our launch point for lunch which was followed by workshops. These included kayak packing, demonstrations of, and expert instruction in, kayak rescues and rolling for those that wanted to advance their skills. Also plenty of opportunity to test paddle the kayaks previously only admired in the retail hall. Expedition Kayaks had come all the way from Sydney to showcase their Valley and Impex kayaks which are not often seen here in Brisbane.

All in all it was a very tiring and satisfying weekend. For those who purchased new boats or equipment it was also expensive. It was a great opportunity to meet with other like minded people and expand the friendships amongst fellow kayakers. Invitations to join us on the water were extended and I'm sure we will see some new faces in the future.

Ladies Training Weekend. By Cheryl Christensen

Sandgate Canoe Club, along with Queensland Sea kayak Club, will be conducting a training weekend for ladies only early next year. It will be held on 31 January and 1 February at South Currigee Campground on South Stradbroke Island, across the Broadwater from Runaway Bay. Ladies are invited to come along to share information on kayak touring, skills, gear, cooking and just have fun. Some details are still in the pipeline so contact me to find out the final arrangements. I can be contacted on 0409200237 or by email, cherylc@optusnet.com.au.

Cheryl Christensen

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Two Sea Kayaks for Sale

Contact (07) 3261 5287 mob 0414 972 987 email debbrian@bigpond.net.au

One Eco Bezbig, red, 2005 model, in excellent condition. A highly specified ocean kayak for serious expeditions and touring in open water. Fast and very stable yet still maintaining a great deal of manoeuvrability. It is fitted with a unique foam seat system, moulded thigh brace and lumbar support, the Eco Bezbig is the most comfortable kayak around. It has a 12 volt bilge pump worth \$200, extra deck lines plus fittings for kayak sail. Length: 5.4 m, width: 59 cm, weight, 27 kg and carries a maximum load of 200 kg. Price \$2,000.

One Dagger Cortez 15, blue, 2006 model, in excellent condition. The Dagger Cortez 15 one of the fastest in the new Dagger sea touring kayaks. The Dagger Cortez 15 is long and lean and will outpace most other kayaks its length. The overstern rudder is superb and the general outfitting is excellent. It is fitted with 12 volt bilge pump worth \$200 plus fittings for kayak sail. Length 4.62 m, width 54 cm, weight 26 kg and carries a maximum load of 130 kg.

December 2008 to January 2009 SEA KAYAKER CALENDAR

DISCLAIMER: By its very nature sea kayaking is a dangerous sport. The obvious risks include exposure, fatigue, sea sickness, physical injury and drowning. You participate in these activities entirely at your own risk on the understanding that you are aware of these risks and willingly accept them. You also acknowledge and agree that no paddlers are liable in any way for any harm or loss that you may suffer as a result of participating in these trips.

Date	Tide	Description
December 2008		
Sunday 14	HT 10:42 (Brisbane Bar)	North Pine River. Launch from Barungwarra Bushland Reserve, Bald Hills on the South Pine River. Paddle 9 km to Leis Park, Petrie for morning tea. Continue 4 km to Young's Crossing near the Pine River Country Markets. Return to Leis Park for lunch. Long sea kayaks are not advisable upstream of Leis Park.
Sunday 21	LT 10:50	Scarborough Beach. Launch from Shorncliffe. Paddle to Scarborough Beach, for fish and chips, and return.
Sunday 28	HT 10:05	Free paddle. Use the forum to choose a paddle for this weekend.
Wednesday 31 to Saturday 3 Jan	N/A	Maleny Weekend at Robyn's. Day 1: Arrive at Lake Baroon (Maleny side) for a paddle followed by a byo BBQ tea at the lake (if not raining). Stay overnight at Robyn's. (Beds and other spaces are available or camp on the back lawn if the weather is dry). Day 2: Up early to spend the day at Woodford Folk Festival (Book your own tix). Back to Robyn's to sleep it off. Day 3: Recovery paddle at Borumba Dam after brunch at a scenic spot. Day 4 Bring kayak camping gear in case we organize a further paddle to camp out overnight. Contact Robyn for address details via email: robyn_graham@hotmail.com
January 2009		
Sunday 11	HT 09:41	Circumnavigate McLeay Island. Launch from Point Halloran Paddle via Potts Point and Lucas Passage to Karragarra. Continue around McLeay Island to return to Point Halloran.
Sunday 18	LT 08:55 HT 14:40	Tipplers for Breakfast. Launch from Cabbage Tree Point. Paddle to Tipplers for breakfast, the Bedrooms for lunch and return via Whalleys Gutter and Eden Island.
Wednesday 21	N/A	Meeting at Mark and Sue's, Coorparoo. Please email marksue@pacific.net.au for address.
Saturday 24 to Monday 26	LT 17:37 HT 23:00	Stradbroke Island Weekend. Launch from Cleveland. Paddle to Stradbroke Island and camp at Blakesleys on Saturday and Amity Point on Sunday.

Paddlers should wear clothing that will protect them from the sun while being suitable for immersion. They should know their own level of capability given the sea and weather conditions that could be encountered. They should wear an approved PFD, be able to carry out rescue techniques and paddle with others. Inexperienced paddlers should seek advice from experienced sea kayakers and avoid hazards beyond their skill level.

The minimum skills needed for any calendar activity are the ability to perform a wet exit and re-entry and sea kayak paddle strokes, including bracing. Paddlers should have their own maps, compass and safety equipment and be able to use them. They should understand the tide, currents and wind in the area in which they are planning to paddle. They should contact the Maritime Weather Service for Southeast Queensland on 1300 360 428 prior to, preferably on the day of the activity and heed the conditions outlined by the service.