

WELCOME TO



2016



University Of Canterbury
Canoe Club



WELCOME TO UCCC 2016

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Front Cover: Owain John on Citoren, Kawarau River

Back Cover: UCCC Crew on Waiau

INTRODUCING UCCC'S PRESIDENT

Hi all, my name is Hamish, I have been in the club in a number of roles for 5 years now. For me during my time at uni UCCC was the best thing that could have happenen...

“this crazy group of kids knew how to have fun.

Kayaking has a way of bringing friends together and building trust like no other sport, as a new member to the club I was quickly welcomed into an environment where you could challenge yourself while knowing there was a dedicated and experienced crew supporting you.

UCCC has given me a group of lifetime friends who I know will always be up for an adventure in the river or anywhere in the outdoors. It has been fun to watch generations of paddlers come through the club from their first Zero 2 Hero to killing it down the bluff.

“The club has come such a long way from a small drinking club with a kayaking problem”

...to one of the largest clubs on campus winning UCSA awards every year and sign ups out the door. This wouldn't be possible without the hundreds of volunteer hours being put in every year by our fantastic committee. I am proud to be a part of an amazing club that has had such an impact on hundreds of students over the years. This year will be better than ever. Cheers, Hamish.



EDITORS NOTE

Welcome to UCCC...

Thank you to everyone who helped bring this together! Looking forward to meeting you all on the water this year.

Nicola



Kia ora Koutou. E noho.
Ko Taranaki te maunga.
Ko Tinkerbell ahau.
Ko WHITE WATER KAYAKING mother frothers!

That opener took me a long time to think about whilst I went through Joseph Jury's facebook pictures and educated myself on the multiple uses of a grapefruit, so I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did.

First of all, welcome to the club. Let's take this time to reflect on the year that was, the year to come and help you to pick up some pro tips along the way. 2015 was an epic year with the club having the most members in its history.

Pro Tip #1: sign up for trips early

A fresh batch of beginners learnt the ways of white water kayaking and some of our more experienced paddlers were stepping it up big time.

Special mention must be given to last year's club captain, Joseph Jury, for nailing it at the biggest race of the year in Queenstown, the Citroen Extreme Race. He came 2nd by only 1.14s to the two time world Adidas Sickline champion, a.k.a Jo Morley.

Also, our young steed and heart throb Max Rayner competed in the World Freestyle Championships in Ottawa, Canada, as part of the New Zealand team.

I must also thank Taylor Swift and Chasseur medium white wine goon for the many good times.





2016 looks to be bigger and better again with word of our epic adventures, notorious parties and impeccable banter getting out. UCCC is a fantastic club to be a part of with a tight and friendly core group of paddlers. You will get to see places and experience scenery you will have never seen before. Even as a regular paddler and born and bred kiwi, I am constantly amazed by the beauty of the mountains and pristine rivers that surround us. Whilst we do plenty of harder kayaking, UCCC's main focus is to teach, nurture and progress paddlers. We aim to make kayaking accessible for the everyday student. UCCC teaches you the necessary skills to be confident and safe on rivers and have a good day out with your mates. People will be kayaking most weekends so there is plenty of opportunity to get out and about

Pro Tip #2: make friends with the leaders and hassle them to take you kayaking!

After this, there are trips to mighty Murchison and Mariua to paddle waterfalls to your hearts content, a week based around the stunning Fiordland and Queenstown area and we even fly a helicopter into a remote West Coast river for a couple of unreal days of wilderness kayaking and exploration!

Aside from the actual kayaking, UCCC has a strong social culture with regular events and parties throughout the year. There are always a good bunch of people with interesting stories and

accents to spin a yarn with and maybe make a new lifelong friend and global connection (we speak fluent 'Merican). UCCC parties are the tits. Guaranteed a good time, they are the full university experience

Pro Tip #3: Turn up to parties! Come prepared for some laughs and some antics. Just leave Mr. Too Cool and Mrs. Judgemental at home cos we're getting our kit off!

Social events are a great way to meet other club members and the cool exchange students we have joining us for the semesters.

To wrap things up, I am privileged enough to be your club captain for the year under the watchful, heart-warming gaze of Hamish Dephoff. His masculine lumberjack beard and calm nature make you feel safe as soon as you meet him. I, along with the rest of the committee, look forward to meeting you all and spending some good times paddling and partying with everyone! I'm excited! Come get amongst!

All the best.
Hwhite Hwater. Yolo.
Your Club Captain
Mark Houwers (a.k.a Tinkerbell)

WHITE WATER

WWW is UCCC's biggest, bestest, and most Facebook-profile-pic-trip trip of the year; perfect for any aspiring kayakers.



It is aimed at getting those that have enjoyed Zero to Hero, or other aspiring wet whitewater seekers to the next level. UCCC heads up to the New Zealand kayaking capital, Murchison, where we seek out this wet goodness for a massive five days. Locating some of the best grade 2 and 3 whitewater in the country and sending wave after wave of kayakers down.

So here's how 2015 went...



An overwhelming amount of applications caused us to increase our number from 50 to a whopping 82 paddlers. Two trailers, a heap of overloaded cars, and the signature UCCC faffing saw us on the road a little later than expected. But of course there was still time for us to buy out the usual pie shop.

As we near the final destination we naturally stop at the Maruia Falls, a 10 metre waterfall that us kayakers casually paddle off. We continued on after the odd drama here and there, like Emma Barr injuring her shoulder, Nick Pascoe testing his cockpit strength with his face, and exchange student beginner Chris Calhoun showing us how America does it!



Once in Murchison we kayak all the classic rivers, Buller, Matakita... and bring up the difficulty throughout the trip aiming for the Earthquake rapid. This is one of the biggest most rewarding runs for any beginner, and can even still prove to be a challenge for club veterans (Ed Radcliffe).

The Granity rapid, one of the most challenging rapids of the trip and has in previous years caused a few headaches, so only a select few got to try this one out.



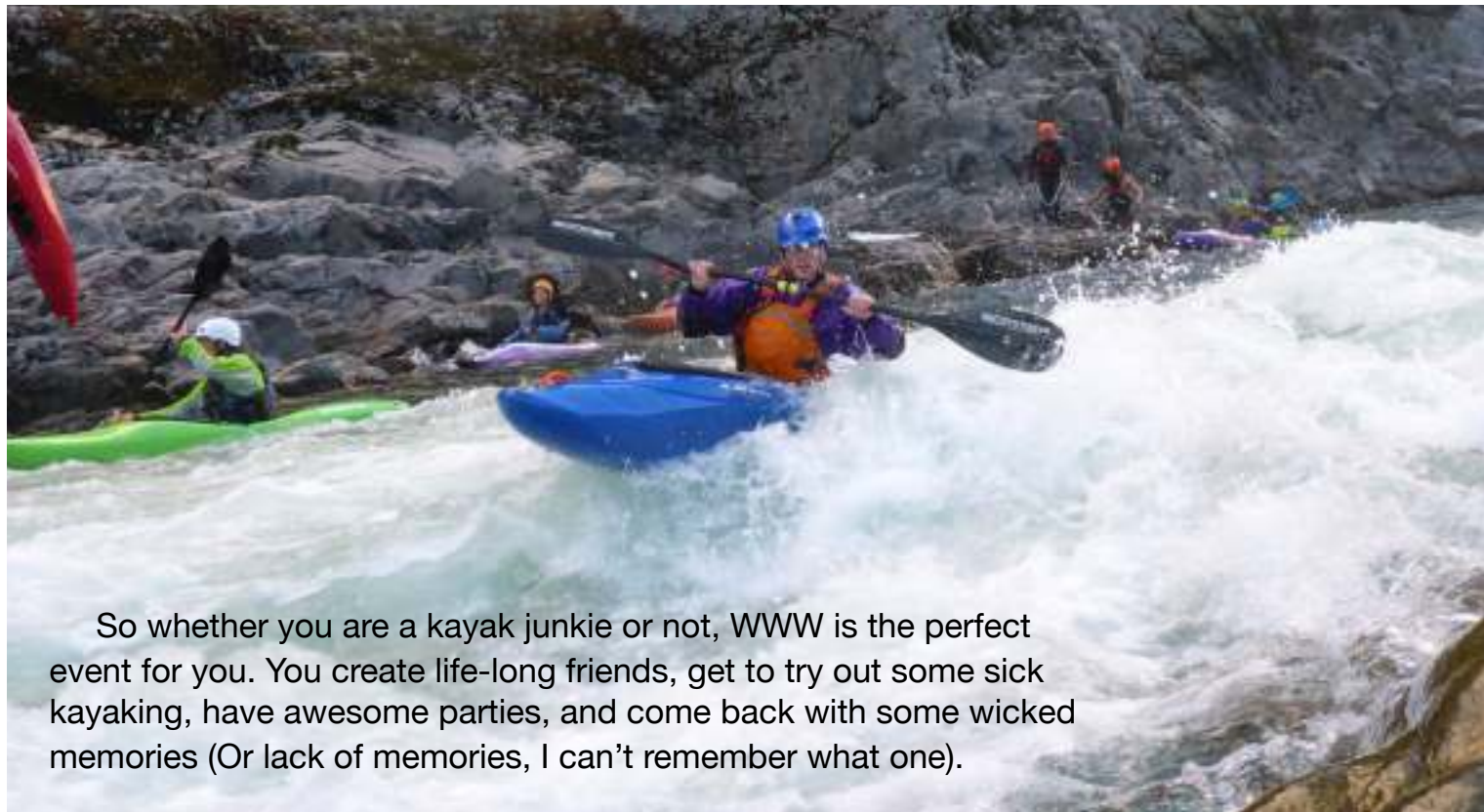
Previous years it was always 3 quiet nights and 1 big party at the end. Somehow, even after accidentally leaving our 40 L of alcohol in Christchurch, there was a sufficient flow of the glorious goon to sustain 4 wild party nights. These were filled with the usual nudity and skinny dipping of both the UCCC babes and Babettes, a naked run through town, dancing on tables, kayaking down slides, no-shirt-allowed-kitchen-raves. Oh and also four guys showering together, because who can afford a \$2 shower alone. (No pic for that one, sorry ladies)



There is always some carnage, but with it comes the fun of a booty (Kyle Nicholson – A beautiful concoction of goon, smelly feet, and sand.)







So whether you are a kayak junkie or not, WWW is the perfect event for you. You create life-long friends, get to try out some sick kayaking, have awesome parties, and come back with some wicked memories (Or lack of memories, I can't remember what one).



So I can't wait to see what WWW 2016 brings, hopefully some more kayaking and goon sinking, or both together

(Ed Radcliffe showing his big Kahunas, by drinking RED goon).

We'll hope to see you all there, James, UCCC Treasurer



ZERO 2 HERO

Learn to paddle white water!

If you're a complete beginner, this is for you. We'll take you through the basics in a warm swimming pool before progressing to a lake and then finally spending a weekend at the Hurunui river - oh, and we'll also have a sick party on the Saturday night, camping beside the river.



Z2H weekends kick off early Saturday morning, as everyone arrives at the UCCC gear shed buzzing with excitement. Gear is loaded, beginners were ticked off the list and then after a whole lot of faffing we head to the Huruni. After the shuttle we sort into groups and get on the river, taking skills from the previous pool and lake session and putting it to practice. The day normally flies by and after a busy day it time to head to Lake Taylor and set up camp. Evenings are spent slapping goons around the campfire, as exciting stories are shared of times beginners nearly flipped or got saved by a leader and second. The night lives long with a lot of drinking, keg stands and skinny-dipping!





Sunday morning comes around too soon, as we are woken to the sound of excited yelling “LET’S GO KAYAKING” the lake often a mirror reflecting the rising sun. After more unavoidable faffing we leave for the second day on the river and perfecting what the previous days skills.

The second day on the river becomes more predictable as you understand how the river moves the boat and you become more in control. Once you are more confident you are given the opportunity to challenge yourself with harder moves which can be exhilarating but also quite daunting.





At the end of the weekend everyone is exhausted but fizzing for more action, A progression from Z2H is to sign up for White Water Week (Easter) or indicate interest in day trips which usually occur most weekends.

I highly recommend doing Zero 2

Hero if you are thinking the slightest about kayaking as you meet a bunch of UCCCs finest guys and gals and you get to experience some places only accessible by kayak.



KAYAK SAFETY COURSE



On the first weekend of October, ten UCCC leaders and seconds attended a kayak safety course with the NZ kayak school in the small township of Murchison. Doing these courses are very important to the club as they greatly improve the safety skills and awareness of UCCC instructors.

During the course we learnt a variety of knots, rescue techniques and tips for dealing with beginners in rescue situations. In particular, our throw bagging skills, which we practiced on dry land as well as swimmers in the Buller river.

The two instructors, Daan and Jess, shared a wealth of knowledge with us and by the end of the second day we had improved our safety skills a lot. Thanks to The NZ kayak school, Nick Pascoe, the UCSA and UCCC!!

Max Rayner
2016 Safety Officer



CANOEPOLO

What is Canoe Polo?

What is a Canoe?

How do you fit a horse in a kayak and then play polo?

Why is it called Canoe Polo, when it's played in kayaks?

If you've ever pondered these tough life questions then hopefully this article should set your mind at rest. Read on to learn about this new sport that is gaining worldwide recognition at a rapid pace! (Ha get it?? Rapid... Like White-Water... No? Oh..)





Imagine basketball on water, or water polo in kayaks. It is a super fun game that caters to all abilities. With five players on the pitch, this game is all about team work! The goals hang 2 meters in the air and your objective is to get the ball in the goal by any means possible! Games are separated into two ten minute halves, with two games being played per team each night. Playing levels range from complete beginner to national level representative, so no worries if you've never even paddled a kayak before – we will find a team perfect for you made up of fellow UCCC members.

Also, I have no idea why it's called Canoe Polo, when it's played in kayaks. I guess that is just one of life's great unsolved

This is a great mid- week tournament (Tuesday night's 6-9pm), meaning you can get in that mid-week paddling fix and then head out to grab a social beer with the team afterwards. The games are held at our local lake (Lake Roto Kohatu) that is only 15 minutes' drive from University of Canterbury and the league continues for six weeks until beginning of April. UCCC has a history of being the most enthusiastic, supportive team and having the best sportsmanship attitude in Christchurch, so come along and help us continue our legacy!

This is all about having fun, meeting new people who are just as rad as you and catching some evening sun before daylight savings ends and the winter sets in.

Get in contact with the current Polo Officer – Alan Williams (contact information is on our website) for more information and to be put into teams.

Alec Dempster
Canoe Polo Officer
2014/15



CONSERVATION UPADTE



2015 continued to be a busy year for the conservation team! Phil worked with WWNZ to submit against the Kawareau Jet application to run commercial trips on the dog-leg section of the Kawareau, a favourite run for UCCC-ers on kayak roadies and the annual Hollyford trip. This attempt has been objected to by UCCC every step of the way.

UCCC was also closely involved with WWNZ in submitting against the Silver Fern Farms application to dump effluent into the Waimakariri River. A short-term consent was unfortunately granted to Silver Fern Farms. However, we will continue to oppose the unnecessary dumping of crap into our rivers where and when we can!

There will be further challenges to the future of New Zealand freshwater in 2016. This is especially the case in Canterbury where agricultural development has continued to intensify. Farming can put a huge amount of pressure on our land and water; threatening water levels through irrigation takes and water quality due to runoff of pollutants that end up in our waterways.



We value our freshwater systems highly for their recreational values so it is important that we keep our rivers healthy and safe to play in!

As kayakers we are lucky enough to experience some of the most pristine, beautiful and untouched stretches of freshwater in the world! We must also be mindful that we are part of the population to witness the vulnerabilities and threats to our rivers. We value our freshwater systems highly for their recreational values so it is important that we keep our rivers healthy and safe to play in. No-one likes slimy, poo-y water! Yet in the latest 2015 ECan targets report it was found that only 67% of Canterbury rivers are considered 'safe' for swimming, falling far short of the target of 80%. Kayakers will be directly affected by any additional decline in water quality and quantity. For this reason, UCCC will continue to take a strong stance against any developments that will threaten our whitewater values and the quality of our rivers in general.

Kayakers are in the perfect position to keep a watchful eye over our favourite spots. If you spot any pollution or poor farming practices while you're out adventuring then get in touch with me, or make a complaint directly to the Council.

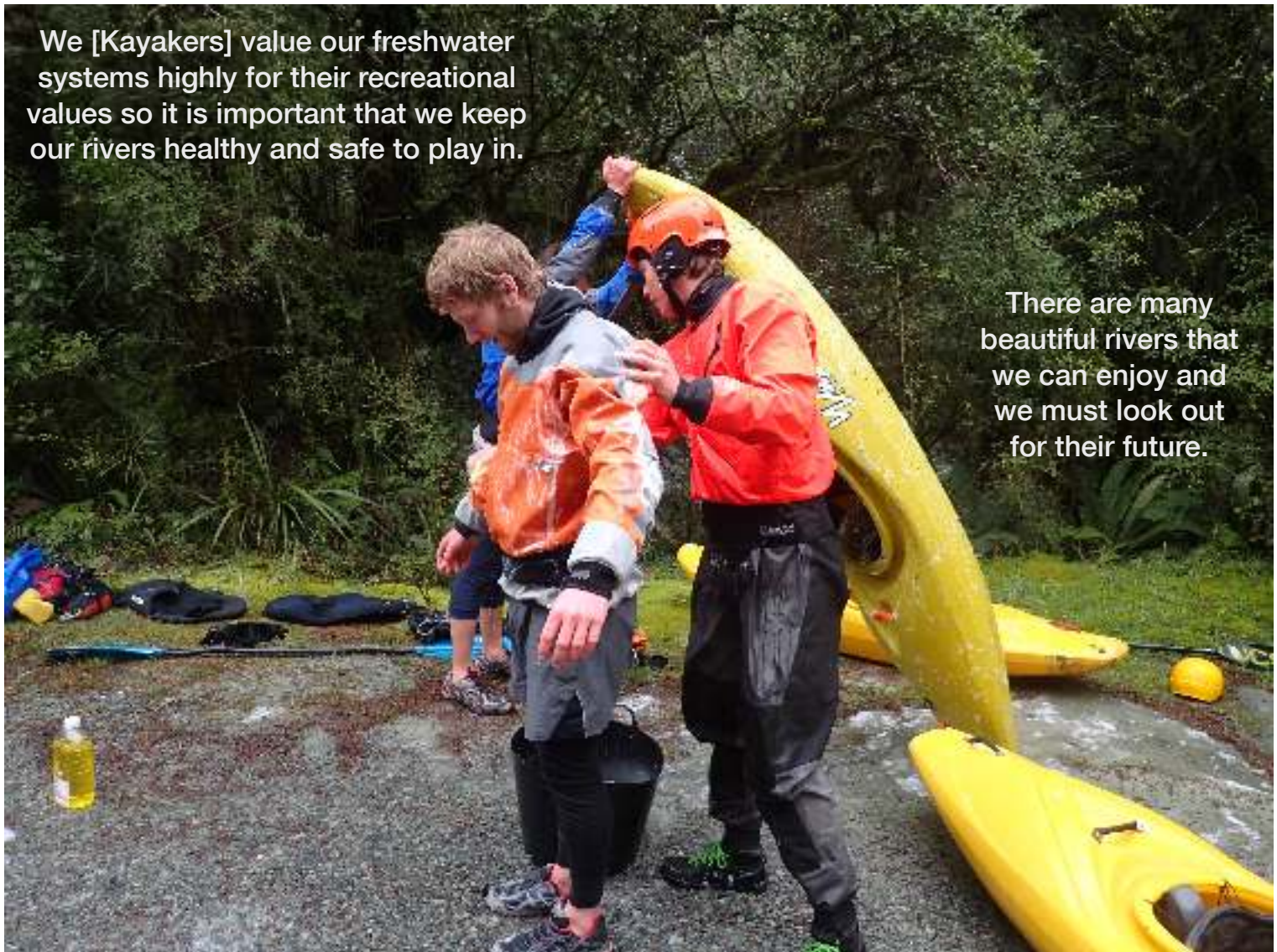
It's not all doom and gloom. There are many beautiful rivers that we can enjoy and we must look out for their future. The 'Choose Clean Water' tour that took place in January is an example of the increasing awareness and conversations about freshwater issues. Visit <http://www.choosecleanwater.org.nz/why-sign> for links to some interesting reads.

So remain vigilant out there, stay clean and green and enjoy!

Hazel Bowering-Scott
2016 Conservation Officer

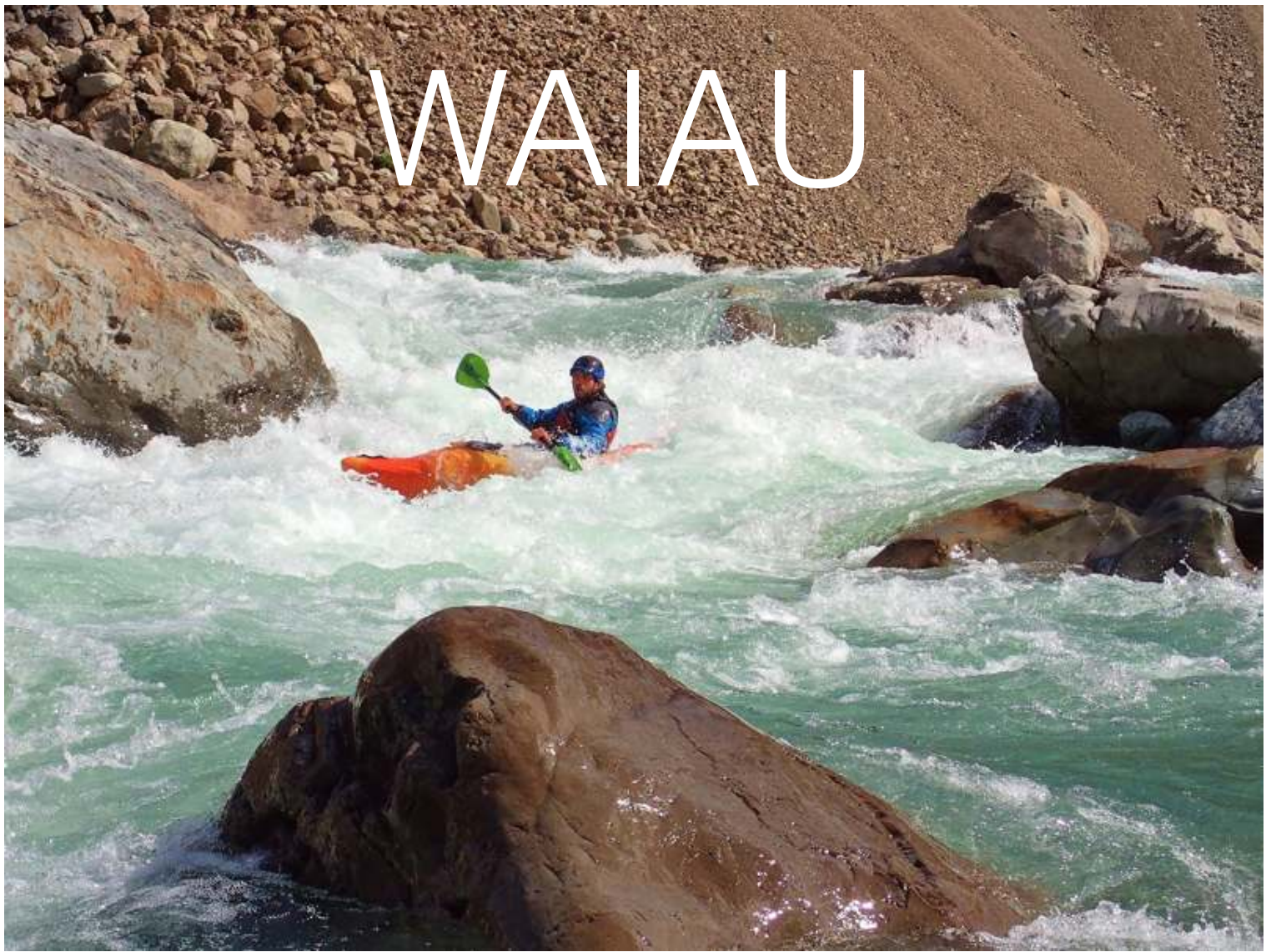
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There are many beautiful rivers that we can enjoy and we must look out for their future.





WAIIAU



The Upper Waiiau is a must do multi-day trip with continuous class 3 white water, stunning scenery (of course!) and some sweet camping. With two full days of paddling!



HOLLYFORD HOEDOWN

The Hollyford Hoedown is a must do trip for any UCCC paddler.

It offers a completely unique way to explore arguably the most scenic parts the South Island has to offer.



Over 15 keen paddlers set off south in October to try their luck on some of the most technical and scenic rivers Queenstown and Milford had to offer.

The first stop, (after copious amounts of flogging and a short detour via Timaru) was a stint on the Hawea play wave. This is a great man made wave that was formed as a requirement with the Hawea dam construction. A few swims later we arrived at dogleg takeout, our first campsite for the evening. The next day Jo Jury, Will Hand and Mark Houwers tried their luck on the Nevis Bluff section of the Kawarau River.



“You know that a rapid is big when you get a rush adrenaline just watching people paddle it from the sideline.”



The rest of the day was spent on one of my favourite grade three runs in the country, dogleg. After the beginners discovered the joys of boils, we paused at the Kawareau bungy to take a photo to protest an application by jet boaters to boat up this section of river, which if were to occur, would eventually result in a dangerous collision between kayaker and jet boat.

“Lean Forward Paddle Hard”

The actual dogleg rapid was an exciting time. Vincent ("It seemed like a good idea at the time") Wilcock convinced the crew to run it truck and trailer. Five swims later, we emerged at the take out. Some of us went to check out the Citroen rapid. A class 4 rapid further down the Kawareau. It always nice running something and feeling like a complete beginner again. Some wise words from Jo Jury on the side line as I paddled down ("Lean forward, Paddle hard!") managed to get me through.



The evening was a massive drive out to the Mavora lakes. A hidden gem just before Te Anau that manages to avoid the tourist trail. The next day was spent kayaking down the Mavora river. This is a beautiful river lined with native trees on either end which made you feel like you were exploring New Zealand as it was 100 years ago. The evening we drove to Guns Camp, located just before the Milford Tunnel along side the Hollyford river. This was my first experience of this part of the South Island and it felt like very corner progressively produced greater and greater scenery as we drove along.



At Guns Camp, we settled in for our base for the next three nights. Some of us managed to begin construction of a 10,000 piece puzzle. As we were less than 500 pieces away, an intoxicated Belgian tourist broke through the retaining doors to the kitchen, ran to our puzzle and threw it into ten thousand pieces on the floor before leaving running off into the night. Needless to say, this was probably the lowest point of the trip.



To heal our puzzle wounds,
while Mark, Jo and Will went to
kayaking down Moraine Creek.
The rest of use went for a
scenic paddle along the
Hollyford River.

“Kayaking gives a
whole
new perspective to
landscapes”

Looking down a river into a
valley lined with steep snow
capped mountains either side
makes you feel very grateful to
be able to live in a landscape as
impressive and as varied as this.
In the evening a few people
went to paddle the Moarine
Creek section of the Hollyford
river. An impressive creeking
run with narrow slots and lots
of wood to navigate, this was
one of the rivers where a few of
the up and comers managed to
test themselves on a classic
fiordland creeking section. A
close call on the same river the
next morning was a reminder
that the river has no sympathy
and the importance of
paddling with a group of
people you can trust. Incase a
situation arises, you know that
your rescue team always has
your back.





The next day we ventured out to Milford Sound. My first time in this part of the country. I spent the entire time looking out the window at the scenery with wide eyes and excitement. Due to a lack of rain we all ended up in our kayaking gear and exploring the sound. Some of the keen ones started out on a large expedition to the other side of the fiord. The lazy ones decided to stay local and managed to stumble across a pod of 30 bottle nose dolphins! We followed them around for a few hours in the sounds, a true trip highlight.

That evening I managed to learn a few life lessons from some of the misfortunes of others:

- 1) Vinny likes Tequila, Tequila doesn't like Vinny.
- 2) If you put your hand on the fire, you have a 100% chance of getting a burn.
- 3) Using a frozen raw chicken as an ice pack for a burn increases your chance of getting salmonella by 850 percent.
- 4) Don't ever drink Tequila.





Our second to last day was spend heading back north to Queenstown. With some good tunes by Fleetwood Mac and a short stint on the Roaring Meg run in the evening we then went to Queenstown for a night of adventure. The final day was another run on the Roaring Meg with some people heading out for a final run on Citroen. Mark Houwers had a look at the retrospect Rapid but decided that padding full speed into a truck sized hole wasn't his idea of fun. After a long drive back to Christchurch, and a full weeks worth of paddling. A long rest was well deserved.



From looking at past Hollyford trips. It is interesting to see how different each one is. Although we didn't manage to get the rain we were after, it still turned out to be one of the most scenic trips yet. It is definitely an adventure to remember and a must do if you are considering joining UCCC or are a current member. However, make sure you avoid those pesky Belgian tourists, nothing but trouble.

XOXOXO

Risi.



In amongst some pretty rad trips and paddling last year there were some good times in the social side of things. It's been great fun keeping up traditions and slapping the goon with everyone! It can be hard for people to make it to the river sometimes, so the events are a good opportunity to get amongst the club still in Christchurch.

Here are some of the highlights of the year.

We kicked things off with the new members BBQ - it was a ripper of a day. Summer sun combined with a keg, about 200 sausages and a shit tonne of punch went down a treat. The dance floor went off with a DJ, massive sound system and lights, and about a hundred new and old members of the club showed up. Thankfully minimal damage, although apparently someone found the ethanol and lit a fire in my kitchen. Not a good idea guys.

Next was the Cops vs Robbers bus trip. We combined with the Snowsports Club and filled up 3 of Charlie's party buses. UCCC were on form as the cops, speedos were plentiful and some horrific dance moves went down. A bit of interclub love was in the air too.



Semester 2 bought on another CUSSC and UCCC party, this one was big! Another BBQ came as well, and then the newly formed running dinner. Owain pulled of what seemed to be a logistical nightmare with about 50 people forming duos, cooking a dish and swapping from house to house sharing food to achieve a full 3 course meal. Some great food and fine wine was had, Vinny and Canning were awarded the worst meal prize and I spewed up on the couch. Oops.

Unfortunately I couldn't make it to the annual Brunner trip this year. From what I hear most memories are limited but it definitely went off!

Lastly we had the UCSA club awards and a big after party for everyone. Despite uni deadlines looming everyone went hard and it was a great way to finish what was an awesome year. I'm looking forward to another good year with UCCC - hopefully I'll see you all on the river or at the dance floor at some point!

2015's Social Officer

Sam Metcalfe



