



2017 Magazine



Welcome to UCCC!

Hope you enjoy the pages of banter and tales to follow..

Thank you to all who contributed to this magazine. See you on the water.

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Captain's Column



Welcome all swimmers, stout huckers and those just here to party to UCCC 2017!

My name is Max Rayner and I'm extremely excited to be your Captain this year. I'm in my third year of university and I enjoy kayaking quite a lot. I've paddled for a large chunk of my life and spent my most recent summer chasing rapids and avoiding crocodiles in Zambia. 2016 was an outstanding year for the club with a number of incredible trips, wild parties and a supreme club award to top it all off. 2017 looks to be following in similar fashion with an action packed year that will no doubt be one for the books. As always UCCC is excited to take on a whole new set of beginners and show them the magic that white water kayaking has to offer. If you have never kayaked before than this is a great opportunity to learn a new sport, make a whole new set of friends and experience the outdoors in a way only kayaking can. Get involved, have fun and run some gnar with the UCCC. See you on the river .



Presidents Piece

We are looking forward to celebrating 50 years of UCCC later this year, I am sure when the first kayakers took to the water so many years ago, they would have never imagined it would grow into the club it is today. Over this time UCCC has developed a plethora of customs and traditions in its trips which run each year, every time pushing to make it bigger, better and rowdier than the year before. We look forward to bringing together members from many generations to share many stories of “back in my day...” and celebrate kayaking together.

We owe a huge thank you to all the members who have been influential in the club during the last 5 decades, this is a club which would not be able to function without countless hours from volunteers every single year.

I am proud to have been a part of these traditions, and I welcome new members to come along and join in with the shaping the future of this club. Enthusiastic students who are new to kayaking are just as important as the old beaters, they are the future of our sport and the ones who will ensure that in another 50 years we will have an excuse to have another huge party up the Hurinui to share more tales of excitement and debauchery.

I look forward to catching up, sharing a yarn and slapping a goon with everyone at the party.

Hamish



A week of goon sinking, eddy catching and getting weird

White Water Week 2016

The best thing about WWW is it gets kayakers of all ability levels together, from the leaders, seconds and to those who have done a Zero to Hero or are completely amateur. 2016 was no different. UCCC heads up to the Tasman district for 5 days to immerse ourselves in rapids and an endless supply of goon. The Buller and Matakaitaki Rivers offer some of the best rapids in the country, perfect to send our group out on.



Once again we headed to the picturesque Murchison where we immersed ourselves in the bush and travelled the white water of the Buller and Matakaitaki Rivers. We all arrived early at the UCSA building, many still battling from the night before where we gathered at the gear shed for the buildings final WWW. Finally, we stocked each and every car with gear and people, many carrying boats with James being the man he is and towing the jam packed new trailer.



It is fair to say that WWW 16' did not disappoint, we had a frothing week, this year at the start of the holidays from the 9th to the 13th April. It brought many adventures and also an event that changed WWW forever. First up on the journey we ventured to Maruia Falls where the hard core kayakers showed us how it is done, and showing just how gnarly the sport really is. We all hung out on the rocks watching them go down, I think from those that were there watching, we're not going on the rocks again!

A big part of the trip is the building up of rapids on the Buller and Matakita Rivers, with the overall goal of mastering the Earthquake Rapid. It's always reassuring when you see Nicola Swim on one of the rapids, leading to her beginners having to fend for themselves. That rapid was a massive task for all and took some impressive leadership skills to sort everyone out. For those leaders and seconds, the Gravity Rapid is the one that they build up to and gets them frothing, being where the beginners and those less confident hopping out of their boats to check the pro's out.



Goon, Booties, Bonfires and Nudity summed up our nights out, and what great nights they were. Heading into WWW many were not prepared for the intensity of what was to come. The kayaking had already pushed some of our limits, and who would have believed that they would again be tested with 4 big nights going hard. There were the nude runs into town, there was losing Stiffy, there were the nude and shirtless kitchen raves. It's fair to say that WWW this year was taken to a new level. On top of the nudity, the goon, the gnarly rapids we had some interesting shit, quite weird to be honest.



Being a newbie to the Kayaking world, it was a learning curve and a massive eye opener. I swam (But not as much as Strath), but luckily mastered all but one rapid, instead meeting my downfall in the eddy arrivals and departures. It was a really loose crew this year with M.C. Rayner recruitment program in full swing bringing a new crew of amateurs into the white water kayaking world. Some of these amateurs (and others) mastered the rapids, the rolls and the rinsing at an impressive pace while others spent more time swimming and passed out than the ideal situation, enjoying capsized life more than the beautiful scenery the Tasman has to offer. It amazes me the commitment that was had, after the first day kayaking down the Buller river learning the ropes and how to keep afloat, the 1st of the 4-night bender began. You wake up wrecked in your tent thinking 'fuck kayaking let's just chill' to 20 minutes later getting into your car with a cold sausage and soggy muesli bar somehow pumped and frothing for the moist and gnarly adventure that awaits.

By the way, it turns out that if you have 5 'gains lads' in a Subaru Forester with an overflowing boot and 4 boats on the back you will get back to Christchurch having to replace the springs and shock absorbers, but hey WWW was fucking dope so well worth it I'd say (1 off though).

It wouldn't be the trip it was without the solid company, the drivers and their cars, the organisation of the UCCC crew and everyone pulling their weight. Biggest thanks to the leaders and seconds that made this all possible, you looked after everyone on the rivers and provided 4 bloody good nights that no one will be forgetting in a long time, especially Anna and Robin. Cheers UCCC for a banger of a week.

Yours Faithfully, Alex Holmes xoxo





Zero to hero is UCCC's awesome weekend trip away for new paddlers to improve their paddling skills. The trip consists of a pool session to get started, a lake session to build the kayakers basic skills and their anticipation, and a weekend at the Hurunui river.

The first trip of the year started off with a blast, with over 30 kayakers signing up and ready to get started. The pool session was a great way to start the kayaking careers of the beginners, with everyone in boats practicing barrel rolls and wet exits and having a good time with some games at the end.

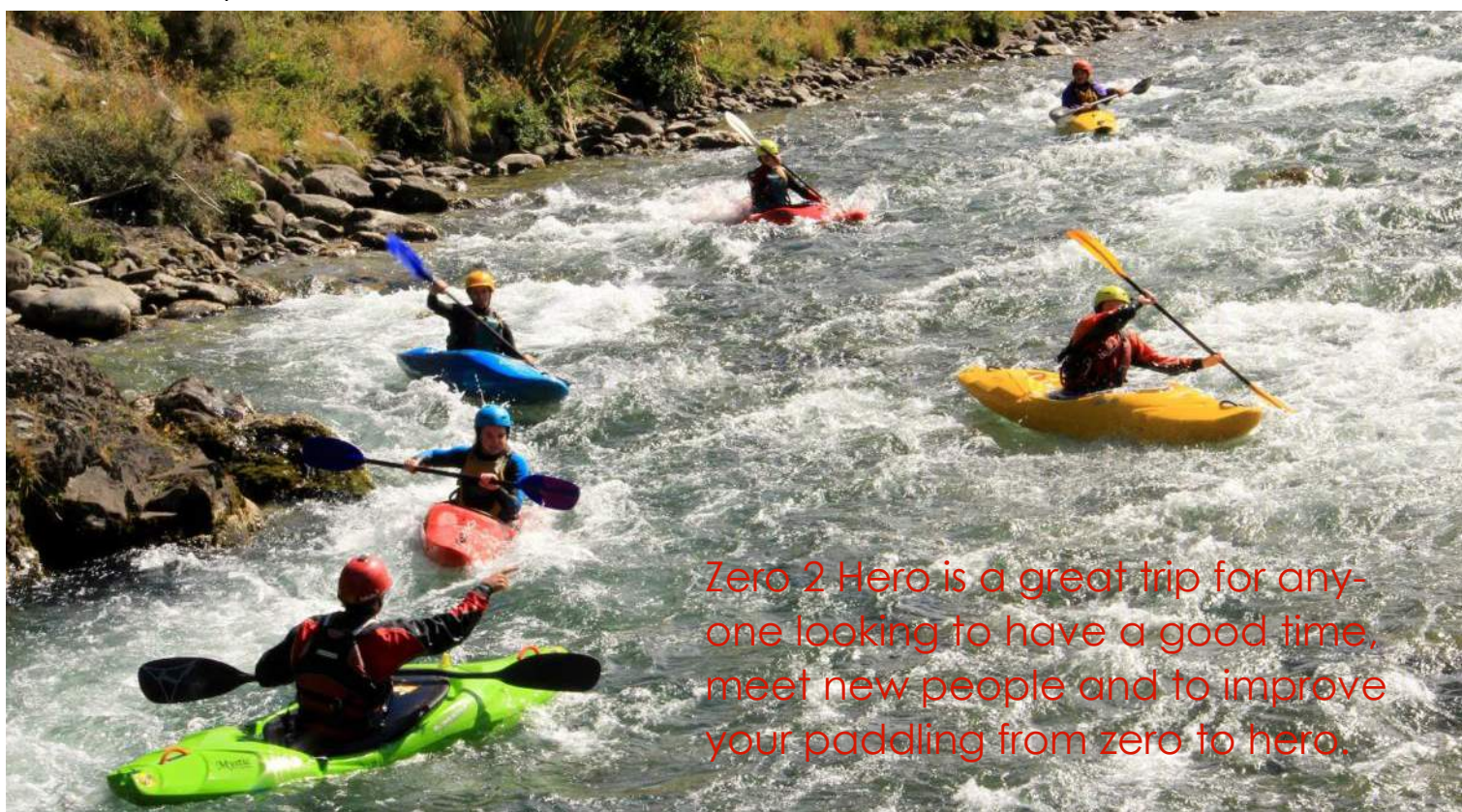
A few days later everyone was back for the lake session. The lake session helps develop the paddling skills needed for the river and without the carnage that comes with being on white water. After an evening of paddling in circles on a lake and a sweet game of kayak bull rush it was time to wrap it up for the day.



The following weekend with blue skies and smiles all round, we headed up to the mighty Hurunui river for some grade 2 action. Once there we split up into groups with a leader and second in each group and got on the river with the leaders showing everyone the ropes. The beginners soon got some action as they practiced eddy turns and ferry gliding (some with more success than others), and we headed down the river enjoying the day and having a great time.

After a hard days kayaking, we headed to Lake Sumner Campground and set up some tents and the barbeque, got plenty of goon and had some great banter. I can't confirm everything that happened, but in classic UCCC spirit there was bound to be some skinny dipping, and maybe even some pass the plate to top it off.

On Sunday morning the Hurunui proceeded to demonstrate how good of a hangover cure some cold water to the face is, and as we got on the river it as clear how much everyone had improved the previous day. We kayaked down the Hurunui river again, enjoying the view (the scenery and Francis's questionable helmet), and with everyone feeling a lot more confident some of us paddled the gully (a more difficult grade 3 section) at the end of the day.

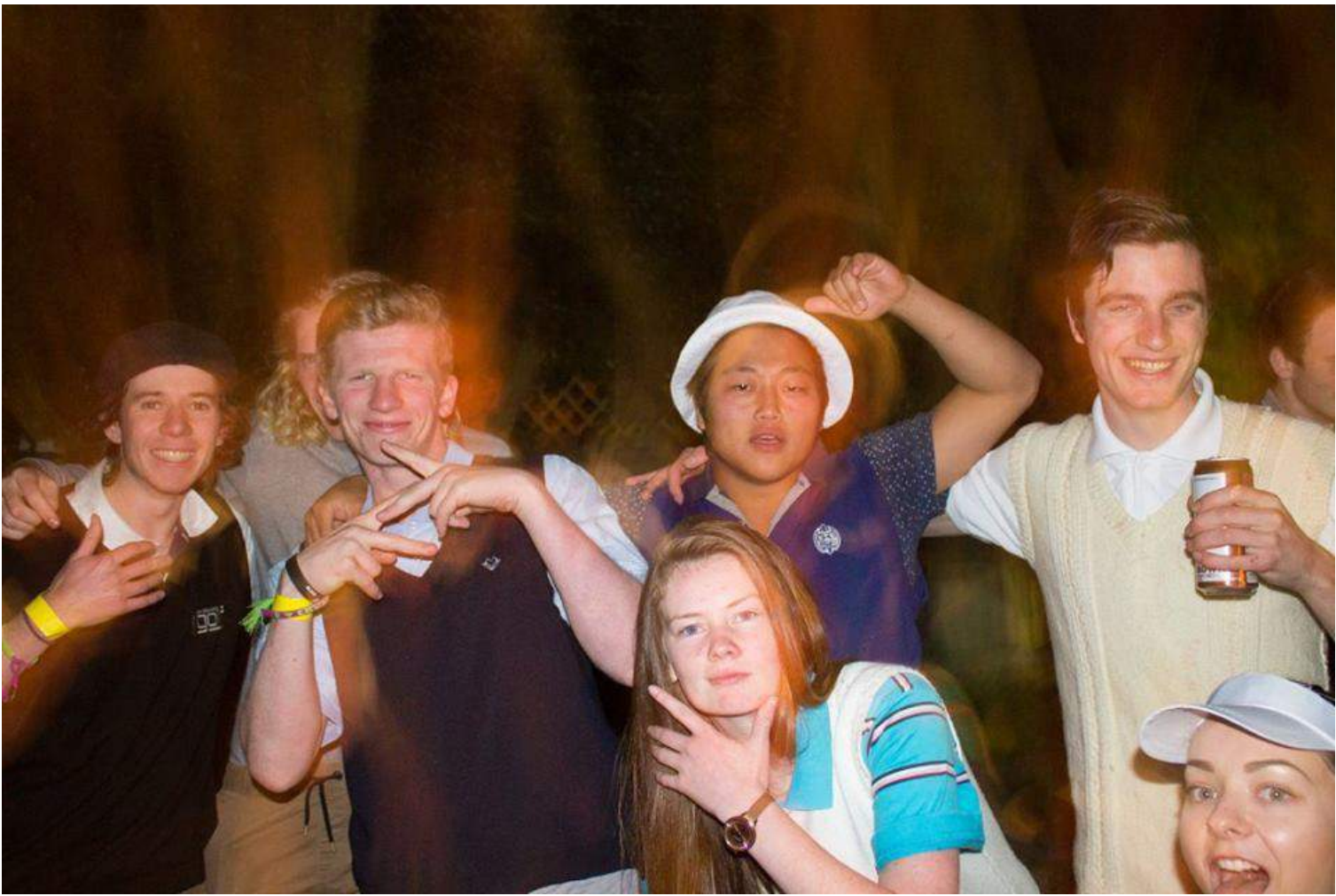


Zero 2 Hero is a great trip for anyone looking to have a good time, meet new people and to improve your paddling from zero to hero.



A lot of truly great people died in 2016, David Bowie, Carrie Fisher, Harambe... the list goes on and on. However, while we mourn for these lost souls, we should also celebrate the roaring success of a year that UCCC had as it lived on just as glorious as ever. We had all the right ingredients for a banger of a year; raging d-floors, goons to slap and some American exchange students. All we needed was a few magical nights to squish it all together and so here's a quick summary of how that all went down.





Turns out my favourite meal is mashed potato because it is the only meal I can cook, fortunately however, the same cannot be said about the participants of the up and coming chefs who joined in on UCCCs 2016 running dinner. Some people channelled their inner Gordon Ramsey to concoct some pretty scrumptious courses and some others channelled their inner me and made mashed potato. While I feel sorry for people who didn't get the mashed potato I've heard they all still had a wonderful time despite not getting any mashed potato.

Turns out UCCC is well known throughout the club community at Canterbury so when Speechsoc/rocksoc heard of our notoriously good bus trips they immediately requested that we help them out and make yet another classic good night. We did not disappoint. The theme was vegetarians vs barbicans and although some may argue that UCCC got stuck with the more mediocre of themes (vegetarians), we still rocked the night and heated up the bus stripper poles with various assortment of healthy vegetation. There was a slight hiccup when a couple of the rocksoc boys got kicked off and then sulked by standing in the way of the bus. Fortunately, Mark, being the absolute trooper he is got off and coaxed them out of the way before running a pretty extreme distance to catch up with us at the next stop.

The final Party of the year was really owed to some ace diplomacy by the social rep Kyle Nicolson for integrating us seamlessly with the CUSSC party and boy did it go off. UCCC were in charge of the punch that night so and an unmarked bottle of extra strong alcohol that may or may have been lost in with the other bottles wreaked a bit of havoc but did make for an unforgettable d-floor and some truly great memories to send us off into 2017, where I'm sure we'll make many more.

Conservation Update

On the conservation front in 2016, UCCC worked with WWNZ to submit against the Kowarau Jet application to run commercial trips on the dog-leg section of the Kowarau, a favourite run for UCCC-ers on kayak roadies. We also battled against the unnecessary hydroelectric development on the Waitaha river, an untouched area of NZ beauty that boasts kayak runs which have been mastered by only a handful of kayakers, and sits on the bucket list of many. We are currently waiting to hear results for both of these submissions as they go through court hearings.

In the coming year we will continue to oppose the dumping of crap into our rivers, insure water taken for irrigation does not compromise the health of our waterways, and of course our kayaking adventures, battle any other developments that will threaten our white-water values and the quality of our rivers.





As kayakers are in a unique position to experience some of the most pristine, beautiful and untouched stretches of freshwater in the world. 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. Each year more rivers are classed as unsafe for swimming with a decline in water quality and quantity. 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 out and about, get in touch with me or make a complaint directly to the Council so we can keep our country clean and green!

Let's get out and enjoy the mighty rivers with which we have been blessed and protect them for the future. See you all out there!

Conservation Officer, Laura van Ginkel



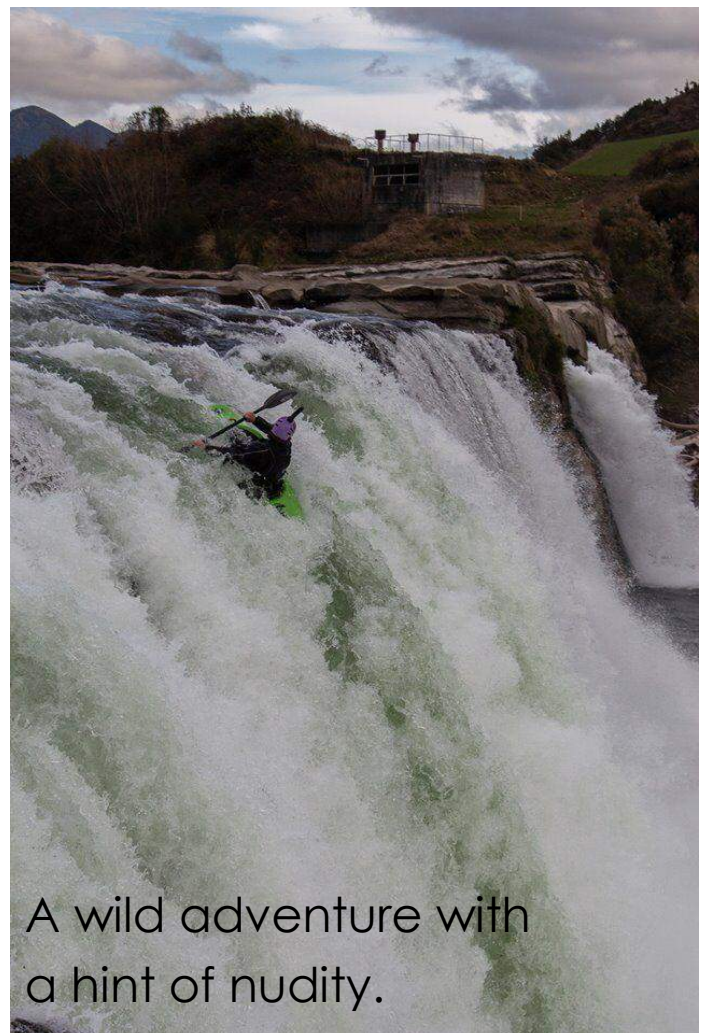


Murchison Academy

Murchison Madness was a new trip for the UCCC in 2016 aimed at developing the skills of promising paddlers over a 4 or 5 day period later in the year. It was an opportunity for everyone to challenge themselves and learn some essential white water rescue skills. For anyone that is looking at taking their kayaking to the next level, this is for you. So what actually happened? Sit down, get a beer, and let old dog Watson spin a yarn for you.

It starts out with the classic UCCC faf, tying boats on and making our way up the South Island to the beautiful white water capital, Murchison. As is tradition with white water week, we stop off at Maruia Falls, a waterfall that has seen it all, kayakers, naked kayakers, naked kayakers with a dildo helmet, double kayakers, inflatable dolphins, three naked Sam's jumping at once... and if it hasn't been done come make it happen.

The morning kick-starts with the usual oats and banter from the night before while we recover for the actual kayaking. The most unique part about this trip is the way in which you read a river, we bomb down the first few rapids and get to a big one that we kayak a few times picking different lines each time. Kayaking the one rapid and walking back up to do a different line or catch a harder eddy is where we start to see some real development. We set a goal for you to aim for and we encourage you to keep trying until that target is met. There were even some challenging lines for our most expert kayakers, and a chance for us to witness how they become so great. It is okay to make a mistake, get up and try again.



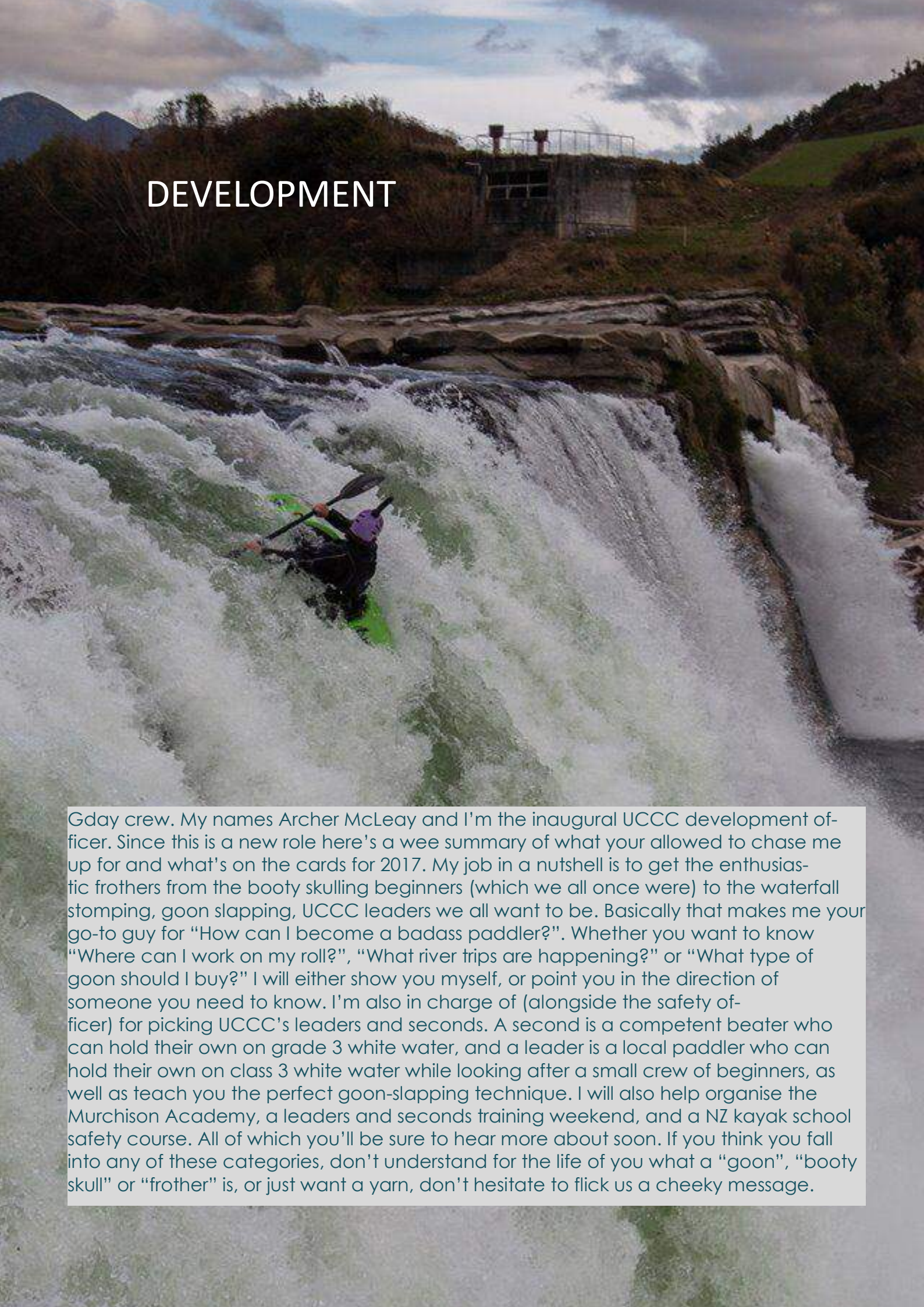
A wild adventure with
a hint of nudity.

In the evenings off the water we went through some essential safety methods on rescuing fellow paddlers in need. This is a crucial element for any leader or second to have. We had throw-bagging, z-drags, knot tying, boat tying, pins... and many more skills learnt. After all of the kayaking and safety there is one other thing we teach, that is how the UCCC parties. Goon, whiskey, gin, tequila, rum... you name it, we had it. From starting the night with a chilled beer and some music round a fire it turns into a raging party with banging beats, nudity, naked runs, skinny dips, drinking games, oh and a unique game called Australian Frisbee courteous of our good friend Aussie Chris (the details of the game too graphic to disclose here).

Anyway, bed time rolls around and most of us end up sleeping on the deck under the stars, emphasise most of us, you don't want to know where some of the others ended up sleeping. The sun creeps up and we vow never to drink that much again... but then the next night happens... again and again.

Overall this is a very valuable trip for any kayaker that is looking at pushing their own abilities and develop some must have skills. If you have done a zero to hero, white water week, and some other personal trips then you will be well prepared for this and we would love to see you come on it. Your dollar dollar bill man (treasurer), James Watson.





DEVELOPMENT

Gday crew. My names Archer McLeay and I'm the inaugural UCCC development officer. Since this is a new role here's a wee summary of what your allowed to chase me up for and what's on the cards for 2017. My job in a nutshell is to get the enthusiastic frothers from the booty skulling beginners (which we all once were) to the waterfall stomping, goon slapping, UCCC leaders we all want to be. Basically that makes me your go-to guy for "How can I become a badass paddler?". Whether you want to know "Where can I work on my roll?", "What river trips are happening?" or "What type of goon should I buy?" I will either show you myself, or point you in the direction of someone you need to know. I'm also in charge of (alongside the safety officer) for picking UCCC's leaders and seconds. A second is a competent beater who can hold their own on grade 3 white water, and a leader is a local paddler who can hold their own on class 3 white water while looking after a small crew of beginners, as well as teach you the perfect goon-slapping technique. I will also help organise the Murchison Academy, a leaders and seconds training weekend, and a NZ kayak school safety course. All of which you'll be sure to hear more about soon. If you think you fall into any of these categories, don't understand for the life of you what a "goon", "booty skull" or "frother" is, or just want a yarn, don't hesitate to flick us a cheeky message.



Canoe polo

UCCC polo has been quiet but steady in 2016, with the club fielding one team in the Spring and Summer leagues. With a rotating weekly roster as assignments permit, the team has been regularly bringing a storm down on the Burnside club opposition in the B grade. Carey Lintott anchored the team through the competition with John, Nicola, Sam, Ines, Francis, Conor, Tim, Sam, and others regularly representing UCCC.

UCCC also ran an introduction to polo session prior to the 2016 summer league, explaining the rules for new players and developing ball skills, which was a great way to spend a warm and sunny afternoon.. In 2017 the club hopes to continue the tradition of representing UCCC in the Canterbury Polo scene and hold another intro to polo night! Keep your eye on emails and have a chat to us on clubs day if you are keen!





Colour coordinated carey



Alec praying for the rain



This photo is my favourite of all time, how is he that soaking wet looks like a cartoon! Must be frothing for the white water.



Scene of boater X at Lowers!





Granity rapid
is all good
when you've
got this team
waiting at the



How to look
good midstroke

UCCC Girls Day!



Twenty or so UCCC ladies had a choice day out together on the Hurunui in November. Great to see so many keen girls getting on the river!





Leaders & Seconds

UCCC's top paddlers learning how to teach the basics of kayaking.





DATES TO REMEMBER

Leaders and Seconds

25-26 Feb

Buller Fest

4-5 March

Instructors Course

11-12 March

Zero 2 Hero

18-19 March

White Water Week

7-11 April
TBC

50th Celebration

16-17 Sept
TBC

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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