

Whitewater Canoe Club (Inc.) - The Trip List – March to August 2009

Here it is in some detail, right through to the Brass Monkey.

There some really good trips in here and there is a mix of away/local, softish/hardish, G2,3,and 4, and amazing Combos where advanced paddlers run the 'upper' and then accompany intermediate paddlers down some easier tasty wilderness runs, with some eating and drinking and general socialising. The cost and our carbon footprint are much lower if we paddle as a club, and we can bring those members along who want to tackle harder stuff this way. Our social activities are mixed in with paddling - or is it vice versa?

We used to:

- Just post the Trip List out with the Newsletter every 2-3 months – people lose them or move and don't update their addresses.
- Then we emailed the list out as an attachment – some work email systems delete it as spam. Also some people get too many irrelevant (to them) emails and filter out club emails.
- Then we put the trip List on the website – and this has been a learning curve, and we're making steady gains. *There are links to video clips, photos and considerably more detail here.*

PAY ATTENTION NOW..... Always check the website for updates and excellent links.

Mass emails with Trip Updates will be used sparingly and selectively. It really helps everyone – all volunteers – if you could just update your details on the website. Just have bloody go, it's not that hard. The website needs your support if it is to deliver its potential. www.whitewater.org.nz >>Membership>>then enter your name, and some choices will pop up. You don't have to put all your info in, but your address, email and phone would be nice. Paid your sub??

PLEASE NOTE

1. **COMMUNICATE:** The organiser is not a mind reader. Just txt, phone, email them where it says so. Some trips have limits on numbers for safety and other good reasons, like accommodation and logistics.
2. **THERE WILL BE A TRIP SOMEHOW:** The organiser will try and run a trip of the Grade advertised regardless of weather and flows – on another river or somewhere. A lot depends on who turns up. This is a judgement call at the rendezvous on the day. The Club can't run trips without the appropriate balance of skills.
3. **CONTRIBUTE:** You will get out of this club just what you put into it.


Brendon Smith, Trip List Officer,

and his assistant,

Hugh Canard, Life Member and Certified Old Paddler

Date	Trip	Overall grade	River Descriptions. <i>Note: check out the WWCC website for videos, photos of most of these trips. www.whitewater.org.nz</i>	Based at	Organiser	Need to contact the Organiser	Meeting at
Fri/Sat/Sun 27/28 th Feb and March 1st	Bullerfest weekend.	2,3 and 3+ Many options	http://www.rivers.co.nz/bullerfestival/2008/2008-PROG.pdf Friday - Kayak race down the Lower Matakitaki Saturday - slaloms on rafts and kayaks at O'Sullivan's rapid Sunday - Big Air competition - kayaks slide down a big ski ramp and show off. Slide show of expedition paddling in India and a big dance party on Sat night. <u>Very</u> social weekend. Mostly WWCC members just go for a few quiet paddles and catch just some of the action.	Murchison Riverview camp, cabins. Motels, restaurants and pubs	Debbie Bloxham 027 459 9118	No	Get yourselves there. Meet at the Riverview kitchen block @ 8-30am Saturday
Sun 8 th March	Rangitata Combo Lower section, Klondyke to Peel Forest And the Gorge run	G2 max G4	A local trip while Daylight Saving lasts. A day on some easy G2 with a few rocky rapids near the start. If flow is high then there's wave trains and surfing. Paddlers who want to run the Gorge G4 are welcome and this makes both shuttles way easier. If you've never run the Gorge, and you think it's a step up for you - see 18 th April Trip below. Beginners must contact David by Wed evening prior please		David Binstead 021 0220 7822	No Except beginners YES	Caltex Hornby at 8 am.
Sat/Sun 14 th /15 th March	West Coast Combo fly in And some walk-ins and road access. Wanganui + Lower Kakapotahi	G3 inter- mediate, with G4 option for advanced	Trip 1 - the Wanganui River - fly in to the bottom of the G4 section and paddle the G3 section (one portage). Advanced group lands earlier but higher up and catches up with G3 group. (it works, and it saves everyone money!) Trip 2 - the Lower Kakapotahi - tight, technical, steep and beautiful. A good test at lower volume. Best in a creek boat. Helps to paddle it with those who've run it previously. Family/Partners -the Hokitika Wild Foods Festival is on Saturday the 14 th , if you like eating garden pests. Intermediates - You will need to be catching eddies in G3 and enjoying more technical water. Discuss with the organiser. Creek boats or river runners. Heli cost is \$110 G4+ and \$90 for lower G3. This is a BARGAIN. Good video of Lower section at > http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PItTvPguw6Y 10/pp Tent site shower and toilet no kitchen. \$20/pp backpacker	Based at Harihari 6km from get out & loading area.	Brendon Smith 358 4606	Yes.	Random transport, leaving Friday night.

			\$55/pp Deluxe Backpacker; \$105 Motel room fully serviced. Or camp at Lake Ianthe Doc \$6.				
Sat/Sun 21/22 nd March	Waiau Hanmer to Leslie Hills	G2	This could be on either the Waiau gorges from the Hope R or from Hanmer down, depending on weather and flow. More flow = upper run. A trip on an easy river with places to play on. Flow is a variable.		TBA Check website Volunteer? Pls call Brendon	No Just turn up	Belfast 9am
Sat/Sun 28/29 th March <i>Turn up on Sunday for the Open day</i>	River Safety Weekend	Doesn't matter	See the club website for details. www.whitewater.org.nz This is a whole lot of fun and entertainment with a serious purpose - to make you and your companions into safer paddlers. The club subsidises the cost of professional instructors. You will learn heaps to make you a better paddler and a better person to go paddling with. Two courses - intermediate/advanced and beginners. See guff posted on website. Stay overnight at Lake Taylor Station Shearers quarters: Or tent/van and use the facilities. Bring Your Own food, bedding/sleeping bag and beverage. Accommodation will be paid for by the club. Maximum number 8 people in shearers shed - first in first	Hurunui River, based at Lake Taylor Station.	Ian Mann via safety@whitewater.org.nz	YES YES SORRY 2 day course SOLD OUT Sunday's course is still open	Belfast 8-30 am Saturday
Sat/Sun 4/5 April You will miss the end of Daylight Saving Time. 5 th April 2009 set clocks back 1 hr.	Reefton Mystery Trip 2 runs in wilderness with road access	G2 mostly G3 max.	Two runs that we bet you've never paddled. See the photo on the website for a typical rapid. Both runs are road access, yet still remote and wild. Rivers run through virgin beech forest (surprise). Be adventurous and bold. The Reefton base is central to a lot of good rivers, so short drives and easy shuttles. If river flows are too high or low, the Maruia and Inangahua are possible too. Accommodation is at the Old Nurses Home, beds, linen, hot showers and cheap. RADIATORS IN THE ROOMS!! TV lounge and nearby pubs, restaurants. \$30 pp twin/dbl share or \$35pp single. It's worth it.	Reefton -253km. 3 hrs	Hugh Canard Hugh.canard@paradise.net.nz 332 3414 and 021 406 546	Yes. Soon as please for accommo dation bookings. You can camp too.	Belfast Saturday morning at 8am.

Sunday 5 th 	Rakaia River 23km to 35km geek boat cruise. Flow dependent	G2	A BONUS trip just for racing paddlers. A trip for long boats - part "training", mostly a day out in the company of fellow long boaters. Opportunity to discover the Rakaia and cruise - not a race, just a swifter trip. No short boats, please - min.length 3.3m Updates and further details will be posted on the website.	Bring lunch and spare clothing.	Bruce Leslie 03 312 6760	YES	Yaldhurst Pub carpark 9am
EASTER Fri/Sat/Sun/ Mon 10/11/12/13 April	Karamea Some local trips on G2 and G3 will probably be run by members - use the website if you want to run one or go on one.	Grade 4 wilder ness	The Karamea is the biggie. This is a world-class experience. Description here. http://rivers.org.nz/article/the-karamea-river-sheer-magic This is a 3 day self-supported adventure with rapids galore each day. Volume+big boulders+gradient+gravity=Phwoarr! After dinner mints possible - Oparara G4+ (technical limestone) is 'possible', and so are the Waimangaroa G4, and the Buller G3. More info will appear on the WWCC website as and when. Raft option? Over to the Organiser. Enquire.	Karamea Backpacker motels, camping. Some huts. Well equipped kayaks with <u>all</u> safety gear. Good footwear.	Steve Hodkinson 021 0226 0710 stevehodkinson@gmail.com	YES	Thursday evening - it's a long drive.
Sun 19 th April	Rangitata Gorge <i>Your big chance</i>	Grade 4	A guided (yes guided by experienced Club members) trip down this iconic run. It's a lot less intimidating if someone holds your hand a bit, shows you the eddies, demos the lines, and sets up safety. For those who can, and for those would like to, but haven't yet. Confident on Maori Gully, Lower Matakitaki? A good roll is rather useful. Step up. Video at low flow and a swimmer http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wuvy_rpPR2c WWCC - so cool and competent http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYZD2TRS1c8&feature=related		Robin Rutter- Baumann 027 209 6101 robinr@xtra.co.nz	YES Also those who have done it before, please.	Caltex Hornby 9 am
Sun 26 th April	Boyle>Hope>Waiau	G2 -2+	A nice mix of different rapids with road access. Flows from 20 to 150 cumecs		TBA Check	NO	Belfast 9 am

Sat/Sun 2/3 rd May	Upper Taipo Adventure and Social w/e End of the season Paddle Eat Drink Laugh Freeze Weep	G4 and G3+	A combo trip. Pay attention..... Saturday- G4 paddlers fly in to Julia Hut and paddle down to the Mid Taipo Hut - 3 hours. G3 paddlers can fly or (non-paddlers?) tramp (4-6 hrs) to the hut. Helicopter drops off G3 kayakers at the top of the G3+ section above the hut to paddle down to the hut. Helicopter drops off food and beverages, dry clothes and sleeping bags and tents. A bit of indulgence follows with a really good meal. Meato/Vego. On Sunday all paddle out 5-6 hours. The G3 paddlers will therefore have experienced minders on their trip. Need fattish boats to carry out gear and empties. G3 group paddling experience - confident on Maori Gully at low flows, catching lots of eddies. Lower Matakaitaki ditto. Talk to the organisers. We've done this before and it worked well. The heli cost reduces too. See video of the G3 section here. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLOODk5Vh10&feature=channel G4-5 section pix are on www.rivers.org.nz Costs TBA but likely \$90 mid/upper and \$115 upper. Share of food cost. Own drinks.	In and around the hut. Need sleeping bag, spare clothing. No banjos or accordions, please.	Brendon and Kayo 358 4606	YES Register early Hut holds 8 - no snorers. The rest in tents or under a tarp. Note: gear is flown in, but is carried out by YOU.	Yaldhurst Pub carpark 9 am Saturday. 2.5 hrs drive to Taipo bridge past Arthurs' Pass.
Queen's Birthday w/e Sat30 May to Mon 1 st June	Murchison where it's warmer than Christchurch	2 and 3	MID WINTER PADDLE/PARTY. Absolutely brilliant time was had last year. Much fun with shortish paddling days thrown in. A mid-winter feast was cooked by 'Paddy's Volunteers'. Jenny Craig enrolments surged shortly after. Let's do it again!	Cabins unless you're tough.	Michaela Ballard 9602688	YES Or go hungry	Friday evening
BRASS MONKEY Sundays fortnightly from 21st June.	Waimakariri The Pylons to SH 1 bridge	2	The WWCC has run this race for all paddlers for over 20 years. Check website DATES are confirmed as 21st June and then fortnightly for 5 races in total. Volunteers please. All welcome. Safety, scoring, marshalling, scrutineering. Full on the job training.		Bruce Leslie 03 312 6760 Needs YOU		See website for details, registration, etc.