

River Canoe Club

Small Craft Launching Facilities
December 2019

Summary Information Package for
Registration of Interest to Boat Now Program Round 3



The
RIVER
CANOE CLUB
of New South Wales



General location



Located within Inner West Council, adjoining Canterbury-Bankstown – both experiencing significant population growth

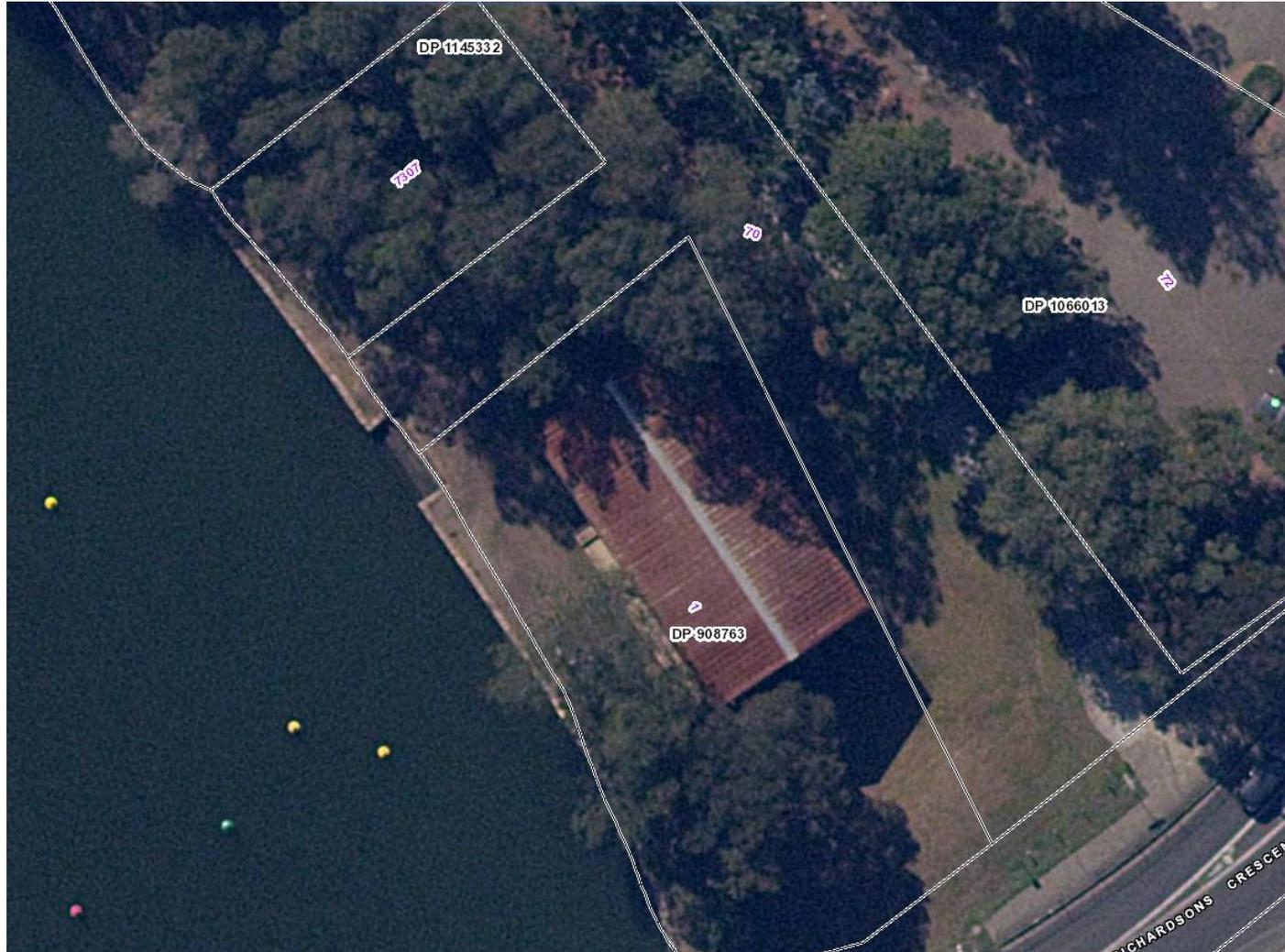
Good level of general road access to area.

Existing car park shared between Club and the Concordia Club

Immediately opposite Tempe Train Station and Cooks River Cycle Way – providing excellent access

A 'gateway' to the Cooks River both upstream and downstream.

Land ownership/property boundaries.



Arrangements planned to secure necessary landowner consents

Lot 1 on DP 980763 the subject of current licence arrangement. Lot 70 part of Mackey Park Reserve, managed by Inner West Council

Photos of existing access





Existing arrangements:

- Insufficient length for many paddle craft
- Often slippery, with design resulting in silt deposits
- Unusable for many people, requiring high level of strength and agility – step height excessive etc.
- Poor condition

Overall project Status

- Project team with necessary specialists formed (coastal engineering, planning, heritage etc)
- Initial service locations identified.
- Initial heritage advice obtained – with the assistance of Urbis Heritage Team
- Preliminary investigations and consultation with agencies underway
- Initial benchmarking with other similar facilities completed – with the assistance of team from Advisian.
- Following ROI submission and initial discussions, we're looking to commence concept design prep.

Potential reference designs

(among others...)

Kurraba Reserve Kayak Launching Ramp	
Client	North Sydney Council
Location	Neutral Bay, NSW
Date	2019
Client Challenge	<p>North Sydney Council proposes to develop a new boat ramp for use by kayak owners in Kurraba Reserve, Neutral Bay. This facility has recently experienced an increase in use and the public is demanding that it is improved and made safer to use.</p> <p>North Sydney Council engaged Advisian to undertake conceptual and detailed design of the kayak ramp, as well as a Review of Environmental Factors. A conceptual design was completed in early 2019. A FRP ramp was retrofitted over an existing concrete boat ramp to improve access to Sydney Harbour for kayakers at low tide. The design allowed for access steps, allowed penetration of light under the ramp to minimise impact on the marine environment and was aesthetically sympathetic to the heritage structures surrounding it.</p>
Other Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed Design report, Drawings, and Cost Estimate• Review of Environmental Factors, including marine ecology assessment.



Milson Park Boat Ramp	
Client	Roads and Maritime Services
Location	Kirribilli, NSW
Date	2017-8
Client Challenge	<p>The existing boat ramp in Milson Park, Kirribilli, adjacent to the Sydney Flying Squadron Club, is steep and narrow. Scouring has occurred at the toe of the ramp, with boats dropping out at the end of the boat ramp. This poses safety and access issues for users of the boat ramp.</p> <p>Roads and Maritime Services engaged Advisian to undertake conceptual and detailed design of the boat ramp upgrade, as well as a Review of Environmental Factors for the boat ramp, including contamination and acid sulfate soils assessment and heritage impact statement. As noted in the NSW Boating Statement 2015, the aim of the project is to "investigate options to improve non-powered vessel access at Milson Park, Kirribilli", as one of the eight Priority Regional Projects within the Sydney Harbour Region. A conceptual design was completed for the Milson Park Boat Ramp at Kirribilli in late 2016. The concept design process addressed the need for a wider and less steep boat ramp, and stepped access to foreshore adjacent to the boat ramp.</p>
Other Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Detailed Design report, Drawings, BoQ and Cost Estimate, Geotechnical Investigation• Review of Environmental Factors, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Heritage Impact Statement○ Contamination Assessment○ Acid Sulfate Soil Assessment



Supplied: Advisian

Alignment with strategic documents

Our Place Inner West
Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement
23 Sept

Providing opportunities for people to interact with water in various ways - from wading and kayaking to admiring the view - is a key outcome of this plan.

Connective City 2036
CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN

The community's desire for a healthy River valley requires long-term resilient partnerships that create collaboration across government, industry and the community. These partnerships would support innovative funding models that activate the practical solutions that can restore the Cooks River system and provide the community with a liveable and healthy River valley.

For Yaramba Lagoon, the City will look to the State government to improve the health of the lagoon and bring activity to it.

Increase visitor access and improve community connections to the River.

The Cooks River People's Plan
A strategic plan for united action on the Cooks River and its catchment
2018-2021

www.cooksriver.org.au

Cooks River ALLIANCE

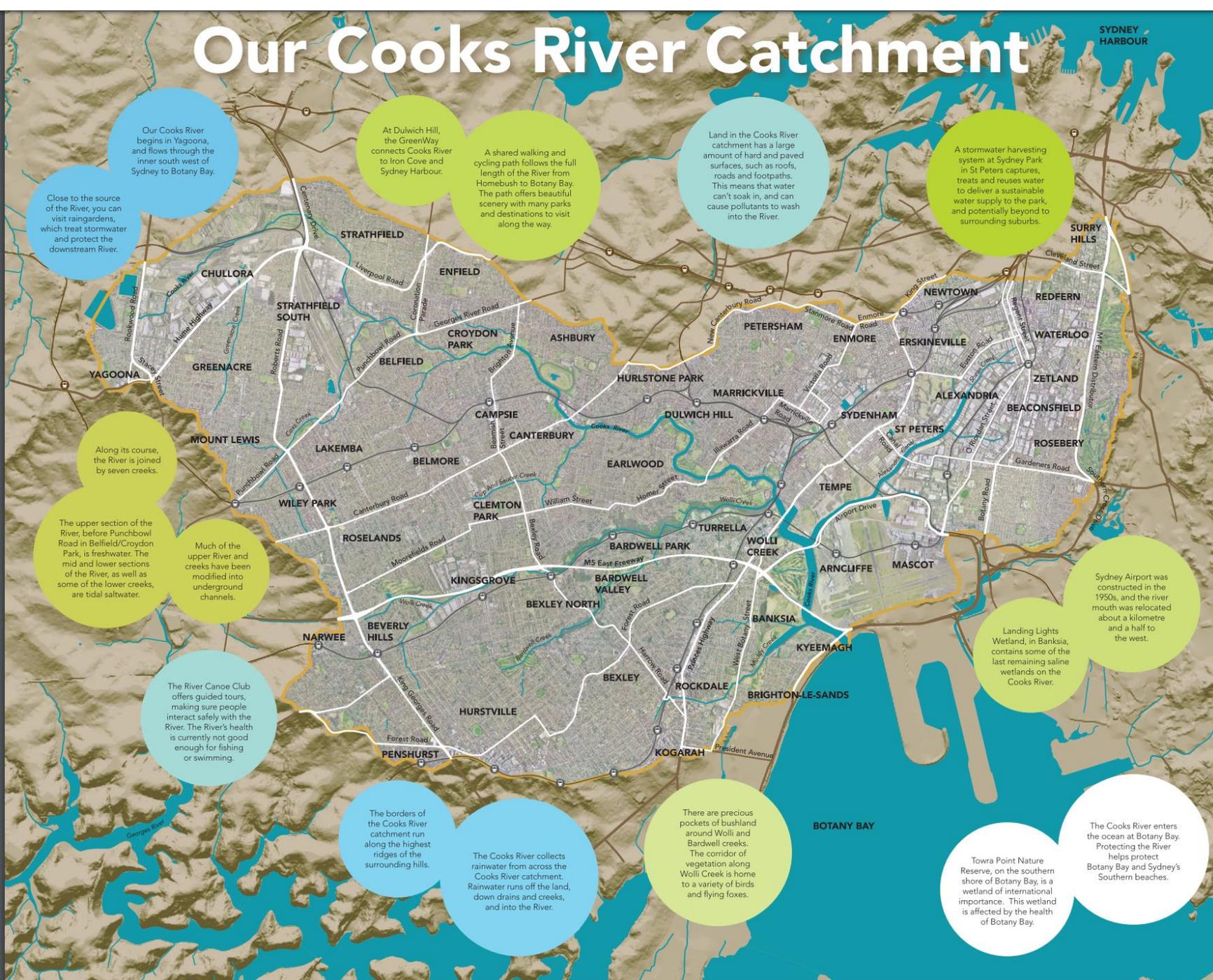
Bayside Council
CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN
INNER WEST COUNCIL
STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

Alignment with Cooks River Master Plan (Inner West Council)



Improved waterfront access adjacent to clubhouse of River Canoe Club identified as a specific recommendation within master plan

Our Cooks River Catchment



Our Cooks River begins in Yagoona, and flows through the inner south west of Sydney to Botany Bay.

Close to the source of the River, you can visit raingardens, which treat stormwater and protect the downstream River.

At Dulwich Hill, the GreenWay connects Cooks River to Iron Cove and Sydney Harbour.

A shared walking and cycling path follows the full length of the River from Homebush to Botany Bay. The path offers beautiful scenery with many parks and destinations to visit along the way.

Land in the Cooks River catchment has a large amount of hard and paved surfaces, such as roofs, roads and footpaths. This means that water can't soak in, and can cause pollutants to wash into the River.

A stormwater harvesting system at Sydney Park in St Peters captures, treats and reuses water to deliver a sustainable water supply to the park, and potentially beyond to surrounding suburbs.

Along its course, the River is joined by seven creeks.

The upper section of the River, before Punchbowl Road in Belfield/Croydon Park, is freshwater. The mid and lower sections of the River, as well as some of the lower creeks, are tidal saltwater.

Much of the upper River and creeks have been modified into underground channels.

The River Canoe Club offers guided tours, making sure people interact safely with the River. The River's health is currently not good enough for fishing or swimming.

The borders of the Cooks River catchment run along the highest ridges of the surrounding hills.

The Cooks River collects rainwater from across the Cooks River catchment. Rainwater runs off the land, down drains and creeks, and into the River.

There are precious pockets of bushland around Wollie and Bardwell creeks. The corridor of vegetation along Wollie Creek is home to a variety of birds and flying foxes.

Towra Point Nature Reserve, on the southern shore of Botany Bay, is a wetland of international importance. This wetland is affected by the health of Botany Bay.

Sydney Airport was constructed in the 1950s, and the river mouth was relocated about a kilometre and a half to the west.

Landing Lights Wetland, in Banksia, contains some of the last remaining saline wetlands on the Cooks River.



Working together for a healthy Cooks River catchment

What you can do

-  Visit the Cooks River, to explore the many great creeks around the catchment.
-  Put your rubbish in the bin and pick up after pets, so it doesn't end up in the River.
-  Get involved in a local community group to help care for our River.
-  Keep your gutters free of leaves, and safely dispose of oils and chemicals. Rain carries pollution to the River.
-  Plant locally native species in your garden, to increase habitat for plants and animals.
-  Build a raingarden or install a rainwater tank, to minimise the rain water that runs off your property to the River.

The club is working very closely with Cooks River Alliance to achieve a better future for the river.

Improved river access for small boats a key part

Visit cooksriver.org.au to find out more and to sign up for our email newsletter.

Get in touch with us at:

-  info@cooksriver.org.au
-  [/CooksRiverAlliance](https://www.facebook.com/CooksRiverAlliance)
-  [@Cooks_River](https://twitter.com/Cooks_River)



THE CLUB'S HISTORY

THE PREMIER RECREATIONAL CLUB IN NSW, STARTED IN 1935



- On 22nd June, 1935, [Mr. Paddy Pallin](#) held a “Shoalhaven Reunion” at his home at Lindfield. To this reunion were invited all those who were known to have canoed down the Shoalhaven River. The response was enthusiastic and eighteen people (including three ladies) partook of an enjoyable evening.
- Shoalhaven experiences were related and photographs compared while a feeling of good fellowship prevailed throughout.
- The formation of the canoe club was proposed and carried unanimously and it was decided to hold an inaugural meeting on 3rd July at Mr. Pallin’s. At this meeting a committee was appointed to prepare a constitution.

They would laugh and shake their heads those old boys and girls from 1935 if they saw us paddling now. They would laugh at our neoprene, our waterproof clothing and our buoyancy vests jingling with hardware. They would be bemused by the tiny plastic craft we paddle on whitewater and the sleek boats used on flatwater rivers and at sea. But at an evening paddle by the clubhouse on the Cooks River, out at Penrith whitewater course, down by Kosciusko side on the Victorian safari or when camping on the shores of Jervis Bay, they would still recognise the camaraderie of the Rivers Club and the excitement of new paddling adventures.

- In September 1973, clubhouse on the Cooks River was burned to the ground. It was obviously pretty devastating for club members at the time. This edition of [Splash!](#) from October of that year provides a fascinating perspective of how the club dealt with the loss. It wasn’t long before plans were afoot for the new (present clubhouse).
- Also fascinating is the trouble members would go to to illustrate their articles, and produce a monthly club magazine without any of the fancy technology we have today. A couple of members mentioned in that edition of [Splash!](#) are still active within the club today.

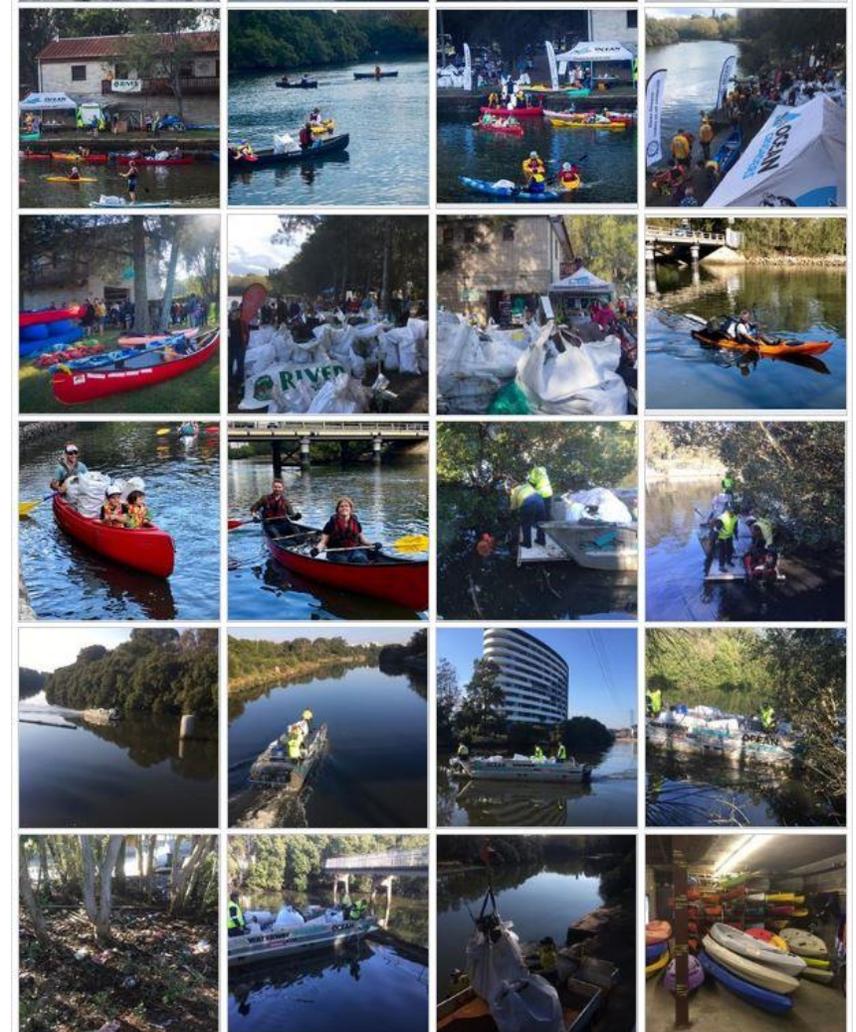
OUR REGULAR RIVER CLEAN-UPS

OUR FOCUS

- Regular participation in clean-up events
- Seeking to further increase opportunities over time, through planned expansion of canoe fleet and continued partnerships with others

PHOTOS RECENT CLEANUPS

Major event:
207 people, 1188kg in one day, 3 tonnes total



ABOUT THE CLUB - WHAT DO WE DO?

OUR FOCUS

- Family friendly
- Inclusive to all
- Engaged with local community
- Encourage active lifestyles

Approx 170 members

Broader community outreach to 400+

Affiliated with PaddleNSW and Paddle Australia

Excellent key stakeholder relationships

ACTIVITIES.

- Teach skills – beginner to international competition level.
- Sea kayaking
- Whitewater
- Leadership development
- expedition
- Organise environmental clean-up events.

