

Training & Development Committee Report for AGM 2015, Swan Canoe Club

The Chair of the Committee passed from Geoff Emery to Geoff Palmer, during the year and I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by Geoff E during his tenure. Also, I would like to acknowledge the hard work and support the Guides and Instructors have made and their support of the role of Chairperson.

A busy year for both trips and courses

Regular Sessions:

- Avon Descent Course (annually) and Valley trips.
- Monthly Coffee Paddles to Point Walter Cafe.
- Monthly Wet Inductions.
- Training Courses: Intro to kayaking (offered monthly); Intro to white water & Intro to paddling a sea kayak (offered monthly).

Club trips, overnight:

1. Penguin Island two day, member Sea Guide Assessment with 7 members.
2. Blackwood River with 8 members.
3. Broke Inlet, Australia Day Weekend with 14 members.
4. Ningaloo Trip with 7 members.

Club trips day:

5. Club to Matilda Bay
6. Woodman Point to Carnac Island
7. Penguin Island
8. Coogee Beach to the Club
9. Hillarys to Ocean Reef
10. Winery Paddle.

The Committee has concentrated in providing all Members with the opportunity to gain safety skills by offering free sessions on Wednesday evenings, from Spring to early Autumn. Sessions included advanced kayak handling and strokes, rescues both assisted and self rescue, rolling practice and towing. All these sessions were to enhance safety within the Club, but also to ensure that members participating in sea kayak trips are fully trained in safety practices and procedures.

The Committee has also offered Members a series of courses, within the Australian Canoeing Award Scheme, to enhance their skills. During the year Members have achieved:

11. One Member has achieved the *Sea Guide Award*.
12. Three Members have achieved the *Intro to Sea Skills Award*
13. One Member has achieved the *Sea Skills Award*
14. A further five Members are currently participating in the *Intro to Sea Skills Awards* and will be assisted in achieving these.

The Club has a small but dedicated group of Guides, Instructors and Assessors, who are only too keen to lead trips and offer instruction to Club Members, free or at very little cost. The age of the group is becoming older and there are only a few who are under 60 years of age. The Committee has identified the need for younger Guides & Instructors to be encouraged.