

**It's just not the same  
round here.**



**Without you!**

Hi Joan

We've missed you down at the club over the past few months. It's not the same without you. We miss your smile and laughter, your infectious enthusiasm and appetite for living life to the full.

But we know you've been sick, and that you're probably feeling a bit down after everything that's happened in the last year.

Everybody would love to see you at the club again. Most of us would like to drop round and see how you're going, but we don't, for fear of intruding, or wearing you out with an endless stream of well wishers.

So we organised a collection of messages from members, and some old friends from around the country. People who you've taught. People who you've paddled with. People you've raced against. People who remember fondly the time they met Joan Morison.

We're not the same without you.

The club is going well. We've had a steady stream of new members turning up and there's plenty of activities in the pipeline. The Time Trial is going gangbusters with over twenty five boats on the water each round.

We're in the middle of preparing for the 2015 marathon series race and we'll be the first club in NSW to return to a two lap, 10km course to give paddlers some more variety in the races. Who knows, maybe we'll see the return of the Viking Race!

But none of it's the same without you.

I hope you find some joy and inspiration in these messages. You've touched so many different people in so many ways over the years.

Because we're not the same without you.

Steve Dawson

On behalf of the Sutherland Shire Canoe Club (and friends)

# Messages for Joan Morison

## **David & Helen Tongway**

Dear Joan, Helen and I remember very well the 1993 Murray Marathon where we paddled closely with you and Bruce, right to the end. We still have the photos you took of us at the finish. Your friendship and assistance has been a highlight of our paddling for the last 25 years. Our very best wishes are with you always.

## **Grant Mascord**

Mrs Joan Morrison what a lady? Certainly not the type that is stereotyped for someone living past the 7th & 8th decades of their lives.

One great competitive lady, not sure if I would have liked to have had compete with her in her glory days, I reckon there would have been a fair few guys in the world of kayaking and canoeing who would have been given a lesson from Joan.

I remember after doing the Hawkesbury in 2012 and after going close to breaking 12 hours, I was packing up and getting changed and here is Joan & Richard completing it in the TK2. I congratulated her as Bruce was giving her a hug and wandered off to finish packing up.

The very next day I get a phone call from Joan, no hello Grant just “you have to go faster, even I beat you!” Joan and Richard had beat my time by a couple of minutes and Joan was rubbing it in . It was soon followed by Joan’s great laugh.

I will end this as I started, Mrs Joan Morrison you are one great lady.  
Grant, Rachelle & Tayla Mascord

## **Tony Bond**

I hope you get back to paddling.

Tony Bond

## **Merle Lovelock**

Thanks to Steve and his knowledge of IT, I get the opportunity to say hi, and send my best wishes. Sunday’s are not quite the same when you are not there to ask questions.

Love MERLE.

**Narelle Evans**

Thankyou Joan for the support, encouragement and friendship you (and Bruce) have given me over the years. We did not paddle together too often as you were always selflessly giving up your time to make newcomers to the club feel welcome and giving them their basic training. I do however remember our Nepean Gorge trip with Peter Tuziak and others. Please be assured we all love and admire you and, of course, wish you good luck.

Your friend, Narelle

**Travis Frenay**

Dear Joan,

I remember the first time that I met you, at the Hawkesbury Classic in 2011. Your excitement at seeing a “proper” canoe was almost tangible. As you and Bruce told stories of your paddling adventures I was both amazed and also distracted – I almost forgot that I was about to paddle a marathon! It was an incredible pleasure to finally spend a day on the water with you at the SSCC – thank you so much for sharing your passion and your knowledge with us. I hope that you find peace in the knowledge that there are a growing number of us keeping the cause alive and spreading the joy of the single blade.

With much love and admiration,

Travis Frenay (Paddle & Portage Canoes)

**Robyn Bingle**

Hi Joan,

Ross and I have only known you for a few years, but you and Bruce will stay in our hearts forever, with your passion and caring nature, not just with paddling but with life itself, Thanks Joan.

Love Robyn, Ross and family xx

**Emilia & Grahame Eling**

Dear Joan,

Sorry to hear that you are still not well since we last spoke to you in February.

We have been caravanning again since mid Feb and are currently in Victoria.

Our thoughts & prayers are with you.

We will never forget you & Bruce and your enthusiasm for life and nature – that Shoalhaven River camping trip in 2011 was memorable.

Best wishes.

Love

Grahame & Emilia

**Tom & Kerrie Claffey**

Hi Joan,

Sorry to hear you're not doing well.

Just want to thank you for inspiring me to do 4 Hawkesbury's – I still want to do the 5th – but I'll never make your record!

We both treasure memories of time with you & Bruce.

Best wishes & lotsa love

Tom & Kerrie

**Kath Tuziak**

Dear Joan. You've been my strength and inspiration not just in kayaking but in doing what is right and just. You and Bruce opened up a new world for Peter and me when you insisted we get into kayaks and the club. We love you both for ever

**Dianne Langan**

Hi Joan

you do know that it was your friendly welcome along with Bruce that encouraged me to join the club – and look – 14 years later I am still hanging about!!

I have even join Lane Cove after moving north & have no trouble still coming regularly to Sutherland Paddlers – thanks for your encouragement

Thanks also for your thoughts and support over our tough time with my dad – the kindness from yourself and Bruce meant an enormous amount to our family

We are grateful to all your enormous efforts to the club

xx

Dianne, Anna & Tom

**Graham Mundy**

Hi Joan,

The memories of past lazy days on the Wonnie and yours and Bruce's instruction in the art of paddling are still with me wherever I go on the water. Mad race days with Luke in double sea kayaks, broken rudders, bandaged hands and your guidance to get me through my first

Hawkesbury still resonate and bring a smile to my face-Best wishes and lotsa affection- Graham

**John and Jan Eades**

Joan, we sure miss your presence at the club. Knowing you are not feeling the best we wish you a speedy recovery and the opportunity to join with us down at the club soon.

John and Jan Eades

**David Little**

Joan, you have been such an inspiration to us all, especially in sharing your passion and advice on paddling whether it be Hawkesbury, marathon or sprint. You're certainly on top of competition results as well, and the first to give a "well done" to the participant when you see them. That's how club spirit is built. Joan, you've been through tough times lately, but you're a tough cookie. Keep fighting. David Little.

**Andrew Giardini**

Dear Joan

Since meeting you & Bruce some time ago through a mutual friend in David Armytage, your personality, character & wealth of experience in the paddling world has rubbed off & inspired myself & many others to do more. Hope to see you soon.

Andrew.G

**Fook Chee Tam (Chee)**

It was an eye opener for me as a novice in kayaking when I joined your SSCC more than 14 years ago. You have taught me tirelessly and without complaint with all my questions asked. You and Bruce are an inspiration to me both in kayaking and life.

I would not have been able to complete my first Hawkesbury CC without your support and advice. I also remember paddling along side with you and Bruce in one of the HCC and you told me to go ahead with all my might. Every stroke I paddled with your words of encouragement in my mind invigorated me through to the finishing line.

Many thanks and warmest regards,

Chee and family.