

Trans-Tasman Crossings

Over the past few years, there have been some attempts to paddle from Australia to New Zealand – across the ditch! Some recent attempts have been successful, others not so. In 1976, a New Zealander by the name of Colin Quincy took 67 days to row the Tasman. Andrew McAuley attempted to kayak the distance but is presumed dead after sighting land and being 1 day away from completion. In 2008, 4 rowers and 2 kayakers, paddling opposite ways have been successful in “crossing the ditch”. Both had far superior craft, specifically developed with shelter.

Why do they go? What is the drawcard? Why do we as humans seek to achieve what has never been done before? No matter how dangerous?
There are many articles available. These are the links to a few. They range from newspaper articles to videos. Perhaps some answers lie in this information.

<http://www.crossingtheditch.com.au/>
website of Justin Jones and James Catrission (Kayakers)

Kayakers

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/080112/2/p/15iae.html>

<http://au.lifestyle.yahoo.com/b/sunrise/2729/kayakers-mateship-gets-them-across-the-ditch/>

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/National/Kayakers-postpone-transTasman-crossing/2007/02/12/1171128899116.html>

Rowers

<http://www.theage.com.au/photogallery/2007/12/30/1198949663732.html>

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/rowers-relied-on-mental-toughness-and-medicines/2007/12/30/1198949655167.html>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/01/13/2137311.htm>

McAuley

<http://www.outdooreducationaustralia.org.au/news/index.htm>
go to bottom of page to click on interview with Andrew McAuley

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/last-scenes/2007/02/25/1172338469233.html>

<http://media.smh.com.au/?rid=26012&sy=smh&source=undefined>
last audio recording of Andrew. Played at his memorial

<http://www.smh.com.au/multimedia/kayak/index.html>
video with Andrew talking

All

<http://www.theage.com.au/news/national/deadly-ditch-stirs-watery-spirit-of-adventure/2007/12/08/1196813083769.html?page=fullpage>
article talks about all attempts