Taking lifejacket safety nationwide -

Coastguard's Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade Campaign

If a boat capsizes, sinks or a passenger falls overboard, a lifejacket is the number one piece of safety equipment. Lifejackets save lives but they need to be fit-for-purpose to do so!

Coastguard's Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade Campaign encourages boaties to trade-in their old and often dangerous lifejacket for a discount on a brand new, quality Hutchwilco lifejacket.

This summer Coastguard's energetic Old4New team, Sue Tucker and Mary Miller, drove the Old4New van exhaustively across the country. Over a ten week period they stopped at 55 popular boating locations to give boaties the opportunity to be safer

Many of the 3,000 lifejackets traded-in were unusable and

"A farmer brought in an inflatable jacket that had been stored in his barn over winter and the rats had got inside and nibbled the inflatable lining. It was worse than useless. The farmer was shocked, as he had no idea how dangerous it was," said Old4New Community Ambassador Sue Tucker.

Sue also saw jackets that were over 70 years old, filled with Kapok and water-laden. "A chap in Hawkes Bay brought in a Kapok relic he used as a spare for children on board. When I pointed out the poor condition of this jacket, his jaw dropped as in an emergency it would have been more of a hindrance than help. He thanked us and said, 'you'll never know how many lives you are saving nationwide'."

The benefits of the Old4New campaign also extend beyond our shores, as traded-in lifejackets in good condition are boxed up and sent to communities in need in the Pacific Islands. Since the start of the Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade Campaign in 2014, over 1500 jackets have been donated and are keeping fishermen and children safe at sea. Another great outcome!





Happy boaties have traded in their old lifeiackets, with the ones still in good condition heading off to the Pacific Islands to communities in need.

You rescued a 76-year-old from a cruise liner nightmare

Picture the scene: a 93,000-ton cruise liner, a struggle against fierce conditions, and a passenger's life hanging in the balance. But this wasn't a film - it was a critical, very real situation that our volunteers had to face on January 18th.

Shortly after it had left Auckland, the cruise ship Norwegian Jewel Linda and her husband were lifted carefully into one of made a distress call. A 76-year-old Australian passenger, Linda*, had suffered a heart attack and needed emergency medical attention. With no way to airlift her from the cruise ship, the Norwegian Jewel needed a sea-based rescue. The Coastguard radio team, Police, St John, and Ports of Auckland pilot boat planned how to tackle the challenging conditions to help Linda.

Coastguard volunteers Simon, James, Rebecca, Steven, Tony and Megan launched their rescue vessel at 9.14pm. They reached the cruise ship in just 26 minutes to find Linda's condition was critical. She was drifting in and out of consciousness. She needed urgent medical help.

the Norwegian Jewel's lifeboats and lowered down to the rough seas below. The massive cruise liner dwarfed the Coastguard rescue vessel and it was very tricky to stay alongside in such rough, dark conditions. But our volunteers delicately lifted Linda and her husband onto their rescue vessel. Safely aboard, they sped back to their rescue base, and transferred her to a waiting ambulance.

If our volunteers hadn't been on hand to rescue her, Linda might well not have made it. Thank you for supporting our volunteers. You're the reason Linda's life was saved at sea!



Coastquard volunteers battled heavy seas in the pitch black to come to the aid of the cruise ship passenger Linda. Photo credit: Simon Marshall, skipper of Lion Foundation Re



Coastguard Auckland are on hand no matter the time or day thanks to your



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Chief Executive Officer Coastguard New Zealand

Thank you so much for helping our heroes save lives at sea!

Royal New Zealand Coastguard Inc is the charity saving lives at sea Charity Registration No CC 36138

Coastquard New Zealand PO Box 33559, Takapuna, Auckland 0740, New Zealand

T: (09) 489 1510 F: (09) 337 0765

E: info@coastguard.nz

w: www.coastguard.nz THE CHARITY SAVING LIVES AT SEA





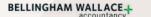














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Coastguard Supporter Newsletter | Autumn 2018

The calm voice at the end of the line

Looking out across the sea, volunteer radio operator Ian Graham patiently stands by for the next distress call.

In his role at Coastguard Northern Region Communications, he can receive a staggering 300 calls a day. He's one of the many volunteers you support with your generous donations to Coastguard. It's thanks to you that volunteers like lan are the calm voice at the end of the line keeping boaties safe on the water.

lan's volunteered with the Communications team for the past six years, and has seen his fair share of urgent callouts. He has the difficult job of remaining calm and composed even when there's no guarantee the people he helps will be OK. lan's years of training and experience help get him through these difficult times.

"When a call comes in your heart rate goes up, and you do feel quite nervous," says lan. "But we do a lot of training and part of that is how to respond to a distress situation. That's very important because any radio operator at any time will out of the blue get a distress call

"Normally you'd get a routine call dealing with a stuck anchor or a motor that won't start. But when a more urgent call comes in, training is very, very important to make sure we don't clam up."

(Continued over)

Over 1,000 people rescued thanks to you

SEE INSIDE...

The calm voice at the end of the line (Continued)

lan's years of service have involved him in many memorable rescues.

"I remember once taking a Mayday call on an afternoon shift. There was an elderly person, probably just a bit younger than me, who had capsized in the harbour. He was freezing and couldn't get back into his kayak."

Whenever a Mayday call like this comes in, lan looks to his cue cards to help him respond to the person in trouble. There are three key questions he needs to ask in order to save them.

"You have to determine the position, problem and people—where are you, what's the problem, and how many people are we looking for? If you can get those three things, then everyone else can swing into action and get the rescue vessels on the way."

Once lan got all the information he needed, Coastguard volunteers jumped into their vessels and headed out into the harbour to find the kayaker, and in just ten minutes he was rescued.

"Had he been in the water any longer it's possible he might not have survived."

Coastguard radio operators are vigilant around the clock to keep people safe on the water. Their constant presence is reassuring for many boaties, especially when something goes wrong. But for all his hard work and dedication, lan is quick to brush off praise.

"We're sitting in a very comfortable air conditioned facility looking out at the water. The Coastguard volunteers on the rescue vessels have the difficult job of bringing people home safely.

"But we're a vital part of the whole system. Without the radio operators and the duty officer it would be extremely hard for the rescue crews to do their job. And of course the duty officers are the ones who plan how a rescue is carried out.

"It's very satisfying helping people in difficult situations where you manage to get them help in time."

While radio operators like lan are on hand for all kinds of emergencies, they couldn't do it without you. Thanks to your support for our crews, lan and his team are trained to the highest standards and can respond to people in trouble. Thank you for keeping our radio operators ready for the next emergency.

You might recognise
Ian from our summer
appeal. He's part of
the team who helped
rescue three good
mates when their
boat flipped as they
were crossing a bar.
John, Buzz and Oisin
radioed Coastguard to report

that they were about to cross a dangerous sand bar, and when they never called to confirm they were OK, radio operators leapt into action and sent two rescue boats, an aircraft and a rescue helicopter to find them. That one radio call saved their lives – the three friends are only alive today thanks to our dedicated radio operator crew.

We're still raising funds to help train our radio operators so they can respond to the next emergency. If you'd like to help save more people like John, Buzz and Oisin, please give today by using the donation form on the opposite page. Thank you for your very kind support for our volunteers.



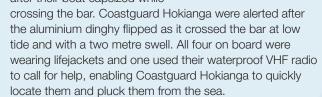
Imagine what would happen if you weren't there for us

This summer has been a busy one for our volunteers! They've come up against all kinds of harrowing situations, and have worked around the clock to help boaties right across the country. They couldn't do any of this without your donations of training and rescue gear! Here are just some of over 1,000 rescues this spring and summer.

Location: Hokianga

Date: 8 February 2018

Incident: Three men and a woman had a narrow escape after their boat capsized while



Location: Waimakariri River Date: 8 November 2017

Incident: Coastquard

Waimakariri-Ashley received an urgent request from the

Police alerting them of two cars trapped in the rapidly-rising Waimakariri River, with eight people clinging onto the roofs. The crew quickly launched their rescue vessels and when they reached the river they saw it was completely flooded with logs, trees and other debris hurtling down the stream. The current was strong but both vessels persevered and worked their way upstream to get to the vehicles. They worked painstakingly to get the terrified passengers off the roof and into the rescue vessel to safety.

In December and January alone, our volunteers were called out

times!

Location: Kaituna River Date: 26 January 2018

Incident: What was meant to be an enjoyable day fishing turned into

a nightmarish ordeal for three men. They were returning from a fishing trip when their boat flipped as it crossed the bar, trapping them in the cabin. Coastguard Maketu launched their rescue vessel into the river, and quickly found the men shaken and scared, clinging on to a chilly bin and other debris from the boat. They had managed to escape the vessel and swim underneath the boat. With cuts to the head and bruising and scratches from being thrown about the cabin, the three men were overioved to finally make it to shore.

scared from the vessel to the I

overjoyed to finally make it to short



Location: Bluff

Date: 14 October 2017

Incident: On a windy Saturday afternoon in Bluff, the Police were alerted to

a 10 year-old boy on a kayak quickly drifting out to sea with no lifejacket. The outgoing tide and strong breeze swept him further out into the harbour, so the volunteer crew from Coastguard Bluff leapt into their rescue vessel and raced off to find him, assisted by a local boatie in a runabout who joined the search. They found the terrified boy in his kayak, as well as his mother who was struggling in the water as she tried to help him. They were quickly taken by the rescue crew to an awaiting ambulance.

Your messages of thanks have arrived - thank you!

Thanks to all of the many people who sent a 'message in a bottle' from the last edition of our SOS newsletter! A hymn of praise You are doing for your spirit in taking on the role a wonderful job wishing for your saving lives on the of Samaritans of own safety during sea. Good to read Keep up the good work folks! You all Always there when needed. Keep up the Seas', around of your rescues. uour missions. our long and turbulent coastline. what would we Keep up the good do such good work the good work. do without you. Thanks again. CM, Te Puke Bill, Maungaturoto

Tear along dotted lines and detach.

Yes, I would like to donate to Coastguard heroes today!

Please accept my gift of:

\$20 \$50 \$100 \$20 each month (Credit card only)

AMEX Diners

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Please charge my:

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Card number

Name on Card:

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I have made a donation using online banking: Royal New Zealand Coastguard Inc
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If you would like to know more about leaving a gift in your Will that will support Coastguard into the future then please tick one of the following.

Please send me a booklet about how I can leave Coastguard a gift in my Will

I have already included Coastguard in my Will

I intend to include Coastguard in my Will

I would welcome the opportunity to speak to someone about the best way to help Coastguard through a gift in my Will. If you have any questions about leaving a gift in your Will, Joanne is here to help. Please call her on 09 905 4763.

Please return this form to:

COASTGUARD NEW ZEALAND PO Box 33559, Takapuna Auckland 0740, New Zealand T: (09) 489 1510 F: (09) 337 0765



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