



July 2010 // Memo No. 10/18

COASTGUARD CONFERENCE 2010



The Annual Conference and Gala Awards Dinner is in Taupo from **17-19 September**. You have by now received an email about Conference. The website is now live for registrations and all of the information about Conference can be found online at- <http://www.coastguard.net.nz/Conference/>

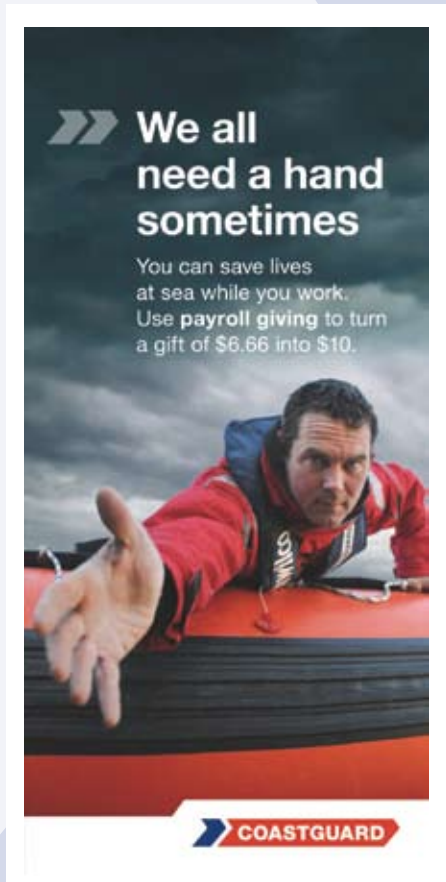
Get in early and book it now.

PAYROLL GIVING

This year the government introduced the payroll giving scheme. Payroll giving means that people can support Coastguard by making small regular donations directly from their pay and receive an immediate tax rebate of 33 percent. It works like this:

If your workmate chooses to donate \$15 to Coastguard each pay, they receive \$5 straight back as a tax credit. So their \$15 donation only costs them \$10 and Coastguard receives a \$15 boost to its coffers – it doesn't get much better than that!

Each volunteer will soon be receiving a letter from the Coastguard President, Ian Coard, encouraging them to invite their work mates to donate to Coastguard through payroll giving.



Coastguard Statistics

Year to Date (July 2009 to June 2010)

COASTGUARD REPORTING	
Professional Volunteer hours	347,266
Calls for assistance	3,666
People assisted	6,560
Radio calls	327,408

SAROP REPORTING

TOTAL SAROPS Category 1 Category 2	567	Professional Volunteers hours	7,535
	547		Lives Saved
SAROPS by Region Northern Region Eastern Region Central Region Southern Region	20	Lives Rescued	402
	250	Lives Assisted	133
	149	Fatalities	30
	45		
123			

REGIONAL ROUND UP

Northern Region

Well the drought has broken in the North and in some areas there appears to be too much water. Boating activity has slowed with the onset of the cooler conditions.

Since our last report we have had The International Boat show, which as always Auckland attended with Lion Foundation Rescue as the main feature of the stand. We also beefed up the accompanying stand to launch some of the new education promotions and found the tattoos for children very popular.



For the first time CNR attend the Polyfest festival at Manukau City with an aim to gain greater awareness within the Polynesian community especially younger members of the community. The gutter boat racing was a good draw card.



We also increased our stand and promotional activities at The Hutchwilco Boat show though numbers were not as good as previous years.

Kawau had the formal launch of their new CRV and a very well run affair that was. Waiheke now have their new 10.2 CRV which is going through it final trials and SSM process and we hope to see this fully operational in the next few weeks. Great to have the unit back up and running having been without a boat for many months. Auckland's new 9.5m continues to progress in the builders shed with delivery scheduled before the onset of summer.

The nine Northland based units held major social event for all the unit volunteers at Hokianga. Well attended by over 150 people it has proved a very popular social activity which is expected to occur on an annual base. The hospitality of the Hokianga

community was exceptional and for the not so faint hearted a run across the Hokianga bar was laid on by the local unit.

The Region continues to enjoy membership growth with our membership base now at 15100 which is approx 1000 ahead of the same month last year. This continued growth of our membership has been very encouraging and a vote of thanks goes to those many volunteers who are out their pushing the membership program. We have also recently launched a new education course initiative called "Suddenly in Charge" aimed at those who often go boating but rely on others to run the vessel. Indications are this maybe a very popular program as the first two nights are sold out with others waiting to attend future courses.

Our VOIP (voice over internet) connection to Coastguard Tauranga which has been in operation since December for answering calls overnight on their behalf has proven a good test of the system. We have not been aware of any issues. It appears to be a good option for linking up the Coastguard VHF network.

Catch you all in the next edition

Dean Lawrence

Chief Executive Officer (Northern Region)

Eastern Region



Incidents from around the Region

Units in eastern Region have responded to 40 SAROPS in the last three months, and the noticeably busy Units attending have been Taupo (5) and Turangi (3), Tauranga (7), Gisborne (5), Rotorua (6), Hawke's Bay (5), Whakatane (2), Maketu (4) and Opotiki (3).

Gisborne attended two Cat 2 and 1 Cat one incidents on the same day. Also of note is the quiet time on the Eastern Coast of the Coromandel Peninsula.

Vessels

Coastguard Whitianga's vessel is progressing well after a delayed start. The vessel is currently at the paint shop. On return to Blue water boats the electronics, motors and general fit out will be completed (jpg 2 and jpg4) to be included in article.

Turangi has decided on an 8.5m Orca, similar to the Rotorua vessel and the final \$100,000 dollars of fundraising is underway.

Coastguard Taupo launched its smaller jet boat earlier in the year and this vessel will predominately be used on a section of

the Walkathon River, in their area, below Hula Falls. Taupo has also replaced their outboard motors. (Include dsc34 photo.)

Coastguard Whakatane has decided on a new vessel rather than an intended upgrade and the Units boat committee is currently researching options.

Coastguard Tauranga has added a foil to TECT Rescue and this has enhanced both performance and economy.

Regional Communications

The hardware and software for the introduction of a Channel 16 service on Lake Taupo is installed and tested. Maritime New Zealand, who is responsible for the emergency channels, supports the initiative and through the Maritime Operations Centre has agreed to officially trial, then pilot prior to officially introducing

the service. The same technology will be used to provide the Channel 16 service on the Rotorua Lakes.

As a separate project, the provisioning of a 24/7 VHF radio service for Units in the Region is ready for five Units to participate. The remaining Units have been provisioned for and funding from NZCT is awaiting a decision. New software has made it possible to link all static IP addresses to a single work station, that can be placed in anywhere with an Internet connection.

Training

A busy three months of training with numerous First Aid courses held throughout the Region.

Weekend courses have been held to cover both Inboard and Outboard modules, as well as Radar and GPS modules. Good attendance at all courses. One and three day courses have been held and these saw the finalising of the CIMSAR program in the Region.

A good contingent from Eastern Region attended the NZSAR workshop recently held in Wellington and were brought up to speed with developments from all Marine SAR sectors.

Tsunami Alert system has been reviewed and a text alert system has been introduced. This is a back up to the email alert. This will eliminate any potential delays in dealing with emails that are not monitored 24/7.

Graeme Murray
Regional Manager

Central Region

Half Way Mark

I am not sure where time goes these days; here we are already into the middle of 2010. Again since the last time I put pen to paper for Coastcom, quite a bit has been happening.

CCR Award Winners

Dave Collins (CCR AND CNZ Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year 2009) was unable to get away to the RNLI in April. However Gary Darnell (CCR and CNZ Volunteer of the Year 2009) got there and then could not leave! Gary was caught in the flight cancellations as a result of the Iceland volcano eruptions. He eventually made it home a few days late having thoroughly enjoyed his experience with the RNLI. Gary will be providing a presentation at the CCR and CNZ AGMs on his time with the RNLI.

Having mentioned last years Award Winners it is also timely to mention the CCR Awards for 2010.

It is again time for the great work you people do on a daily basis in Coastguard to be recognised! Your efforts are what make Coastguard the great organisation it is; so get those nominations into CCR **by 21 July 2010.**

CCR Coastguard Air Patrol Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (HUET)

Recently CCR CAP's converged on New Plymouth and completed a day of HUET. The day included water survivability techniques, working around life rafts, winching and of course the HUET.

The training day was a success for all with lots of learning opportunities

Lottery

Just last week with the help of Kevin McKenna, Unit President at Coastguard Wanganui; we had the pleasurable task of handing over the Coastguard Boutique lottery prize of a boat to a Wanganui local – Mr David Cronin was very pleased to receive his prize and is looking forward to getting her on the a water.

Coastguard Air Patrol Weekend A Great Success!

Over the weekend of the 17 / 18 April 2010 CCR Peter Dixon, members of Coastguard Kapiti Coast and Rebecca Karl again put together the CNZ CAP weekend which was a great success with all CAP's nationwide attending.

Besides the opportunity to learn from one another one of the great things that came out of the weekend was Memory Map being provided to all CAP's nationwide. A very generous offer from Memory Map which has been taken up by all CAP's.

Coastguard Units Operationally

While we may be heading into the colder, quieter part of the year, you all continue to be busy both operationally and with training. Thank you to each and everyone one of you for your continued application of effort in Coastguard as you work together to **"Save Lives At Sea"**.

Phil Pollero
Regional Manager



The Only Way Out



Huet Taranaki

Southern Region



PCC Rescue Launch



Lake Brunner MOA

Pub Charity Canterbury Rescue was launched on 24 April and despite the persistent nature of the rain a good crowd turned out to help Coastguard Canterbury celebrate. Coastguard Kaikoura and Waimakariri Ashley arrived by boat representatives of the CSR, Sumner Lifeboat and Coastguard Canterbury Air Patrol by land! The boat was launched by a local representative of Pub Charity the major funder, with local and national government representatives in attendance.

Coastguard Lake Brunner took delivery of their first CRV with the transfer of Magic of Auckland Rescue from Canterbury Coastguard. The CNZ owned vessel was given a facelift and remedial R&M before transport over the Alps. Coastguard Canterbury generously donated their Nissan 4WD tow vehicle which had been modified to work with the boat trailer. Mark Whitehouse, Rachel Mackenzie and Paul Elliott spent a weekend with the Lake Brunner crew familiarising them with the vessel.

Operations Manger, Mark Whitehouse, and five volunteers have participated in an Action Oriented Team Leadership Course run by SARINZ. Feedback from the course from our people was positive. Feedback from one participant was "I have learned a lot about myself and how I interact with others in a team environment, all of which I can now use in my Coastguard role. Most of our people could learn a lot from the course if they are willing to get stuck in and participate." This was a trial for Coastguard

and will be reviewed against other courses being trialled in other Regions. We have provided SARINZ some feedback on how the course can be improved and are holding further courses in Canterbury and Southland to evaluate the changes. Also on the course were people from LandSAR, Police, MNZ and others. A key tool for our people was the SAP (Stop, Appreciate and Plan) process.

A regional project team looking at how to achieve 'fit for purpose' design criteria for Coastguard Rescue Vessels also met during April. Bruce Reid joined us and we identified the need for the development of an evaluation tool to assist with the decision about the type of vessel required. We discussed the adoption of an internationally recognised standard or the NZ equivalent of for example the Lloyds Registry G2 or G3. We looked at a rescue vessel build design process and a design criterion for larger vessels 10-12m.

Updating of all SSM manuals to a regional standard is nearly complete. Units are currently working on the evaluation of optimum crew numbers and within that evaluation the number of crew at each training level to best meet the needs for crewing their vessel. Unit Capability Studies are nearly complete and a modified study format is being developed for use with CAP units.

Treasurers met on 15th May and looked at funding distribution within the region, and began work on a region wide evaluation of CRV operating costs in relation to developing consistency in charge out rates

for SAR 1 & 2 operations across the three classes of vessel identified per the CNZ CRV Policy. Budget forecasting in each Unit for the three financial years ending in 2014 is underway to assist CNZ with information for the renegotiation of the SLA. Budgets are prepared against the standard Coastguard chart of accounts to enable budget consolidations for planning purposes.

Six people from the region attended the SARINZ Marine SAR Workshop in Wellington on 16 – 17 May. Feedback from participants is very positive about the opportunity to network and the development of greater shared understanding of marine search and rescue across all agencies. The workshop identified some key action points to be worked on.

Regional Volunteer hours to 30 April 2010: 39,684 including 17,296 in training and 1,906 in Search & Rescue Operations saving 318 people. Our volunteers are spending 43.6% of their time training and 4.7% of their time on SAR operations. To date we have had 56.5% more Police SAR1 operations than the whole of last year and rescued 12.7% more people.

Recent SAR operations have brought some issues to the fore and given us an opportunity to work with our SAR partners in overcoming these. The strengthening of relationships and development of a stronger partnership approach is very positive.

Cheryl Moffat
Regional Manager

IT UPDATE

CONFERENCE PHOTO COMPETITION



Yes – its time to get clicking and sending those amazing photos of your people and your Unit in action.

Last year Waihi Beach was the winner of the conference photo competition – so let's see what your Unit can come up with this year.

Send your photos via email by **20 August 2010** to **Christine.har@coastguard.co.nz** or on a CD to

Christine Haru
Brand/Relationships Manager
PO Box 33559
Takapuna
North Shore City 0740

CHANGING OF THE GUARDS

The regional appointee for Coastguard New Zealand has recently changed. Jody Foster has been the representative and she is now replaced at the representative on the CNZ board by Joe Davis. Thanks Jody for the significant contribution you have made to the Board over the years and welcome to Joe.



Ray Jones

Information Systems Manager - ray.jones@coastguard.co.nz

We are continuing to look at simplifying the online resources, tools and reporting that have evolved over the past two years.

Current work priorities are:

Single Log-in Sign-on (drives us all nuts so I will get this fixed)

Implementation of new SAROP Form

Goes live 1 July but as with all new systems there will be teething problems. The form has been simplified to provide easier and quicker input and correction.

Development of simple pathways to the on-line resources and reporting

Currently developing "view's" that will make it easier to navigate Coastguard-Web. Simple visual prompts to the areas most used and relevant to the users.

I will have a group of people from Units who regularly use the site to assist with the goal to having a reworked front page by the end of July.

Development and implementation of a simplified Coastguard Operations Form

Simplified SAROP form to use to record activity at the Unit. We envisage this will assist to capture practical training hours for our people and better data on overall activity.

IT Manual development and printing

We need a simple Manual that anyone in the Unit can pick up and understand what is provided through Coastguard-Web.

Provision of web-sites for all Units

Available now but need a couple of friendly guinea pigs to work with us. (takes a bit more time than just logging in)

There is plenty more on the plate but these are the key ones. I will keep you posted and for those attending Conference I will have my own stand, very excited. See you there.

UPDATE FROM COASTGUARD NEW ZEALAND BOARD

Ian Coard President

The Board has been working hard to clean up and clarify areas of Policy and Position to provide better direction for Coastguard.

The recent work completed and approved can be viewed at www.coastguard.net.nz in the CPD section. This will require a Unit log-in to view.

Position Statements

Position statements are drafted and circulated to Regions for comment prior to the Board approving the final statements. All the following statements adopt the concept of Skipper Responsibility within the statement.

Skipper Responsibility

Coastguard promotes Skipper Responsibility as the core principle to safe boating. At all times the individual in charge of the boat or craft must take all practical steps to keep their craft and those on board safe.

Alcohol (April 2010)

Coastguard Position

Skippers of vessels undertake responsibility for their vessel and all those on board. A Skipper's decision making should not be impaired by the consumption of alcohol or other substances.

The rules applied to motor vehicle drivers on the road, relating to the consumption of alcohol, should be observed by all Skippers in command of a vessel, whilst underway.

Lifejackets (April 2010)

Coastguard Position

Skippers of vessels are responsible for their vessel and all those on board. The Skipper must ensure that their vessel carries the appropriate number and size of life jackets for each person on board. On all vessels these must be worn when conditions place those on board in a situation of heightened risk and on craft less than 6 metres must be worn at all times unless so directed by the Skipper.

All individuals going to sea take responsibility for their own safety and should ensure that life jackets are available and worn unless instructed otherwise by the Skipper

Communications (April 2010)

Coastguard Position

1. All types of recreational vessels, whatever their size or means of propulsion must carry means of communication
2. That vessels within 200 metres of shore should carry at least any one of the following means of communicating distress:
 - (a) VHF marine radio
 - (b) Emergency Locator Beacon* (EPIRB or Personal Locator Beacon)
 - (c) Cellphone (if sealed in a bag)
 - (d) Red flare or smoke flare
 - (e) Whistle or horn
 - (f) Torch
 - (g) Orange "V" flag
3. That vessels from 200 metres to 3 miles from shore carry at least two of the following means of communicating distress:
 - (a) cellphone sealed in a plastic bag
 - (b) water-protected VHF marine radio
 - (c) Locator Beacon*

4. That vessels from 3 miles to 12 miles from shore carry
 - (a) a water-protected marine VHF radio **and** at least any one of the following
 - (b) Red flare
 - (c) cellphone sealed in a plastic bag
 - (d) Locator Beacon*
5. That vessels over 12 miles from shore carry
 - (a) a water-protected Marine VHF radio **and**
 - (b) 406 Emergency Locator Beacon*

*EPIRB- Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon

Vessel Standards and WOF

Coastguard Position

Skippers of vessels are responsible for the sea worthiness of their vessel and for the safety of all those on board.

Coastguard New Zealand supports the defining, detailing, publication, promulgation and education to the boating public of minimum standards required for various pleasure craft, but would not support the introduction of any compulsory 'Warrant of Fitness' scheme for pleasure boats on grounds of practicality and cost effectiveness.

Existing Position Statements

Boat Registration (July 2009)
Pleasure Boat Operators Licence (July 2009)

Currently Under Review

Enforcement (Coastguard)

Policy -

Coastguard New Zealand Policy and Position Statement Health and Safety (April 2010)

This has been rewritten to replace and merge the “1996 Position Statement - Health and Safety” and the “2003 Hazard management Policy.”

Background

The Health & Safety in Employment Act 1992 and Regulations 1995 specifically focused on the health and safety requirements of employee and employer relationships and did not include non employees such as volunteers except in the interests of general public safety.

The Health and Safety in Employment Amendment Act 2002 included two important changes to the principal act, one being the inclusion of volunteers and the other covering crews on registered vessels within New Zealand waters.

Coastguard New Zealand supports the principles involved with the Health and Safety in Employment Act and will continually reinforce and assist Individuals, Regions and Units, internally and externally, to meet their responsibilities under the act.

Coastguard Position

Coastguard New Zealand is committed to provide a safe and healthy work environment for its employees, regional bodies, affiliates, volunteers and public to its facilities and vessels.

In fulfilling this commitment Coastguard New Zealand will provide assistance and support Coastguard Regions, Units and other Regional Organisations to ensure compliance with all legislative and statutory requirements.

Coastguard New Zealand support will include the provision of national standardised templates for defining and provision of safe work practices and the maintaining of effective systems for accident prevention, accident reporting, hazard identification and hazard control.

Coastguard New Zealand will encourage all employees and volunteers to participate in the development of safety

programmes and to be responsible for the implementation of safe work practices.

All Regions and Units, through their organisational structures are responsible for the adherence to Coastguard New Zealand Health and Safety Policy and Guidelines.

Refer: **Coastguard New Zealand Health and Safety Unit and Region Guidelines and Resources 2010.**

(Currently in development 12/04/2010 not yet available)

Policy - Coastguard Rescue Vessel Skipper Qualification (June 2010)

Replaces “29 November 2003 Policy - Coastguard Skipper Qualification”

Background

CNZ Board is undertaking a review of the appropriate Policy around Coastguard Training and Qualifications that will be completed by the end of 2010.

It was recognised that the current “Policy” on Skipper Qualification was incorrectly worded and the intent was to clearly identify through Policy the training requirements for a Skipper/Master of a Coastguard Rescue Vessel.

This has been reworded and included below.

“Coastguard Policy is that every Master of a rescue vessel operating under the auspices of Coastguard shall hold a Coastguard Certificate of Competence.

This policy shall not apply to vessels not normally rostered for use as a rescue vessel.”

Moved Packham Seconded Bastin Carried

Policy - Funding (June 2010)

Funding Regulations Document to be completed by August 2010 for implementation 1 July 2011 Funding)

The funding of Regions and Units via Coastguard New Zealand shall be in

compliance with all obligations to the funder/contracting party.

Distribution of funding provided by Coastguard New Zealand shall be determined by the Funding Committee based on need in an equitable and transparent manner.

Funds will be allocated by the Funding Committee in a manner that will achieve the maximum benefit for Coastguard core principle of Saving lives at Sea.

Funds will be paid to the Regions through an agreed format.

Regions will be responsible for distributing funds based on the decisions made by the Funding Committee.

Regions will use and distribute Funds as per National and Regional Policy and Procedures.

Moved Packham Seconded Bastin Carried

Existing Policy

Vessel Replacement	(December 2008)
General Policy	(February 2009)
Rescue Vessel Livery	(April 2010)
Coastguard Awards	(February 2010)

Under Review

Emergency Grant	(February 2006) will be replaced with Regulations
PFD's on CRV's	
Operations Policy and Procedures	(July 2005)
Trauma and Injured Volunteers	(2005)
Endorsement Policy	(2006)
Training:	
Crew Training Policy	(2005)
Revalidation/ Reassessment	(2009)
Suspension/ Revocation	(2003)

Under Development

Database
Volunteer Code of Conduct

COC TRAINING UP-DATE

From Bruce Reid

There has been a fair bit of work done by the Training and Development Committee over the last 12 months that has culminated with some subtle changes.

"We train to be the best" so when you review the full document be aware the changes are to lift our overall standards, bring consistency and most importantly ensure that when you take to the sea you are confident and competent in all aspects of Coastguard you are asked to undertake.

So the major changes to the training matrix:

- One Day Practical is now a compulsory module for those wishing to attain Master.

The summary is noted below but first I need to emphasise that we have worked hard to minimise the impact of those currently committed to training. The changes to the training matrix, apply to those starting from 1 July 2010 however it is strongly recommended that others take advantage of the budget applied, in particular, to the practical training.

(Applies to all new from 1 July 2010)

- Sea time has been altered though the "actual" time remains the same (formulas have been removed)
- First Aid Certificates are required to be current (this has always been the case though we were previously unable to report on it)

Confirmation of the requirements to maintain currency for **Senior Masters:**

At five years or when requested by the Unit:

Medical Certificate Eye-sight test
Minimum active hours per annum met

We are currently looking at how best to improve the consistency of the Practical training so will keep you posted as this evolves.

The SAR modules have all been updated, are provided in the CRV Crew Manual and can be viewed on-line under SARTR in the Coastguard Unit login area (no password required)

COAST FLY-IN PARAPARAMU



by Rosie Musters (Coastguard Nelson Air Patrol)

Yes, Coastguard really does take to the air! Air Patrols from Kerikeri to Bluff converged on Paraparamu on 17-18 April for a weekend of knowledge-sharing and practical exercises. Coordinated by Rebecca Karl (Central Region Operations Manager), the weekend activities were based at the Kapiti Boat Club. It was an ideal venue for a gathering of more than 50 participants - the views across the water to Kapiti Island were dazzling and the weather was kind to us.

Coastguard Air Patrols (CAPs) with the greatest distance to fly arrived on Friday evening whilst the rest of us flew in early on Saturday morning. The programme opened with a presentation by NZSAR secretariat, Duncan Fernier, who brought us up to date with recent developments. He said the role of the NZSAR Council is to provide strategic leadership and direction to the many organisations that make up the Search and Rescue sector - Maritime NZ, the Police and Coastguard being among the key players. In building closer working relationships between these agencies, SAR operations are becoming more efficient and effective. Later, Bruce Johnson stressed the importance of Observers being fully trained for their work, whether in a Police helicopter or a Coastguard aircraft. Currently, CAP Observers attend the Police College in Porirua for an initial course with further training in their own regions.

After lunch, the airborne exercise got under way with crews taking off at 15 minute intervals to search for marine and land-based targets. This was a timely reminder to keep our chart-work skills up to speed and not rely solely on GPS technology. Undertaking a navigation exercise so close to the busy airfield circuit also meant we had to keep our wits about us. The debrief gave some useful pointers for exercises in the future.

Saturday evening was spent exchanging stories and teasing

out ideas with each other over a delicious meal provided by the Kapiti Boat Club. It is so valuable to spend informal time with others who do a similar job but in a different context.

Bruce Reid (CEO, Royal New Zealand Coastguard) opened Sunday morning with his appreciation for another year of hard work by the professional volunteers who have assisted thousands of people. Air Patrols alone contribute around 8000 hours each year, over 1000 of which are on actual SAR missions. 'You provide an incredible community service and are achieving very good results,' said Bruce, adding 'we are not quite yet the worlds leading SAR organization, so there's work to be done!'

The rest of the morning gave us the opportunity to describe the activities of our respective Air Patrol units, particularly the training we undertake. This provided an excellent forum for the exchange of ideas and an impetus for improvement.

Bruce brought the programme to a close after lunch with a challenge for Coastguard to continue to strive to become 'better and smarter'. 'You are volunteers doing a professional job,' he emphasized. The new training matrix ensures that our skills and competency become standardized across the country. With a number of different aircraft being used by Coastguard, a working group will be formed to establish the necessary standards to ensure aircraft and equipment are fit for purpose. Another project is to explore licensing matters with CAA which parallels the understanding that Coastguard have reached with Maritime NZ for the operating of vessels. 'Rebecca Karl has taken Air Patrol to heart - her skills and dedication will enable us to get this done,' said Bruce.

With thanks given to Pete Dixon and the Coastguard Kapiti Coast team for organizing such a successful weekend, we headed home in the late afternoon sunshine, proud to be an integral part of 'One Coastguard, saving lives at sea'.

SAR PARTNERS

We are currently working on a number of key areas with our Partners. Phil Pollero is doing much of the ground work to pull together:

Police Memorandum of Understanding

This is in final draft stage and is out for comment with OPSCOM's through the Senior Management Team (SMT).

Marine SAR Management Manual (formerly Marine SAR Controllers Manual)

Currently in the final stage of the re-write. Phil has circulated to the SMT for review and final comments. This project has been directly supported through funding from NZSAR (thanks Duncan).

Part of the redevelopment of the manual has been a reassessment of who within Coastguard should be targeted for attendance. This is a work in progress so until there is a clearly defined training pathway Regions will be working with Units to ensure the investment is made in the right areas.

Schedule of SAREX

We have been involved in working with Police and NZSAR to put in place a schedule for SAREX. This has been developed through the Police district SAR Co-ordinators and can be viewed at www.searchandrescue.org.nz.

July/August events

- 30-31 July Canterbury SAREX Christchurch - Contact: Ryan O'Rourke
- 20 August Palmerston North (Desk Top) - Contact: Bill Nicolson

No planned Marine SAREX in September

COASTGUARD LONG SERVICE AWARDS

We are finally there.

It has been a bigger project than first anticipated but the National Database is pretty close to go with correct start dates for all our people.

This means the roll-out of service awards can start. Regions will be working with Units to identify the best way, times and dates etc to make the presentations and celebrate the service you have all provided to Coastguard and your communities.

If you have an up coming evening then please let your Region know and we can get things started.

A reminder of the awards:

INCREMENT	WHAT	BY WHOM
Three years	Coastguard Pin	Unit
Five years	Red Chevron and Certificate	Unit
Ten years	Blue Chevron and Certificate	Unit
15 years	Bronze Chevron and Certificate	Region
20 years	Silver Chevron and Certificate	Region
25 years	Gold Chevron and Certificate	National
50 years	Solid Gold Chevron and Certificate	National



Service Bars



3 Year Pin

Coastguard Summer Lottery



With all of this rain it's hard to think about summer and the summer lottery. So that you can start thinking and planning ahead (and about how your Unit will spend the **\$7 commission** on each ticket sold directly by your Unit) we've giving you an early heads up about the summer lottery start date.

As always, the actual start date is subject to approval by the Department of Internal Affairs – but it is anticipated that Units will be able to sell tickets from around 22 November 2010. We will of course keep you posted with full details closer to the time.

SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT CONFIRMED FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS FROM 1 JULY

Background

From 1 July 2008 Coastguard New Zealand entered into an agreement with Government for the provision of Marine Search and Rescue services.

The agreement provides for a set level of funding for two years to assist with the costs to Coastguard associated to the Category 1 and Category 2 SAROPS (formally Class 2 and Class 3).

This agreement has been extended at the same level until 1 July 2011. We are currently putting together a business case to justify funding past this point.

These Cat 1 and 2 incidents are on average 628 call outs per year. Approximately 15% of total Coastguard rescues (the Coastguard Rescues include what are termed good samaritan or early assists in some circles)

The support funding is to provide a guaranteed level of revenue to Coastguard so investment can be made in developing and maintaining our SAR capability.

The level of funding is not intended to and does not cover the total costs of the SAR service provided by Coastguard Units.

Actual hourly rate charges to agencies to recover "cost of operation" are not included in the SLA so will continue to be charged by the Unit/Region using the current processes.

Coastguard New Zealand has the responsibility of managing the agreement and investing the funds provided into areas that will help maintain and build our SAR capability.

Coastguard Requirements

The agreement has been set up as a "business as usual" model. The requirements stipulated are:

- Provision of SAR services when requested to agreed standards. (still requires definition but means people appropriately trained in SAR and equipment/assets fit for SAR purposes)
- Provision of appropriately trained personnel to assist with Category 1 and 2 SAROP
- Provision of appropriate reporting including:
 - Individual Category 1 and 2 SAROP Reports within 3 days of incident
 - Units/Regions to provide through on-line form
- Quarterly summaries of total Coastguard SAR activity
 - Units/Regions provide through monthly statistics
- Annual summary of activity
 - Units/Regions through Monthly statistics and SAR Reports

Coastguard has updated the online reporting system to simplify the process at Unit and Regional level.

NZSAR manage the agreements and we have received great support from the SAR Secretariat to manage the time and cost impact on Units.

Grant distribution has been agreed with Regions so please follow up with your Boards and OPSCOM's if you are unsure of how these will be distributed.

EXCITING JOINT PROJECT UNDERWAY

Coastguard is working with Surf Life Saving New Zealand to develop a risk assessment tool for "Blue water access" primarily bar-crossings.

ACC through the Drowning Prevention Council have committed funding to assist to develop the "science" and information required for such a system.

By the end of August we intend to have the prototype ready to go and trial on a couple of locations.

Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ) has developed a Coastal Risk Assessment Model which has

now been applied to over 120 sites. The model is designed to capture the risk profile at any given site.

SLSNZ then use the assessments as evidence to underpin decisions for implementing new drowning prevention products and services in the interests of public safety.

Expanding the model into the Boating space has required the expert knowledge provided through Coastguard and by using the same process and system as the Surf model the results will give a wider picture of risk for all water based activity in a given area.

"This is the first joint venture we have undertaken with SLSNZ since signing the MOU between our organisations 18 months ago" says Bruce Reid. "The opportunity of using a tried and tested system in our environment really is an exciting development".

A working group headed by Nathan Hight (SLSNZ) and Paul Smith (Coastguard Waimak/Ashley) met in Auckland last week to work through the detail.

We will keep you posted as this develops.

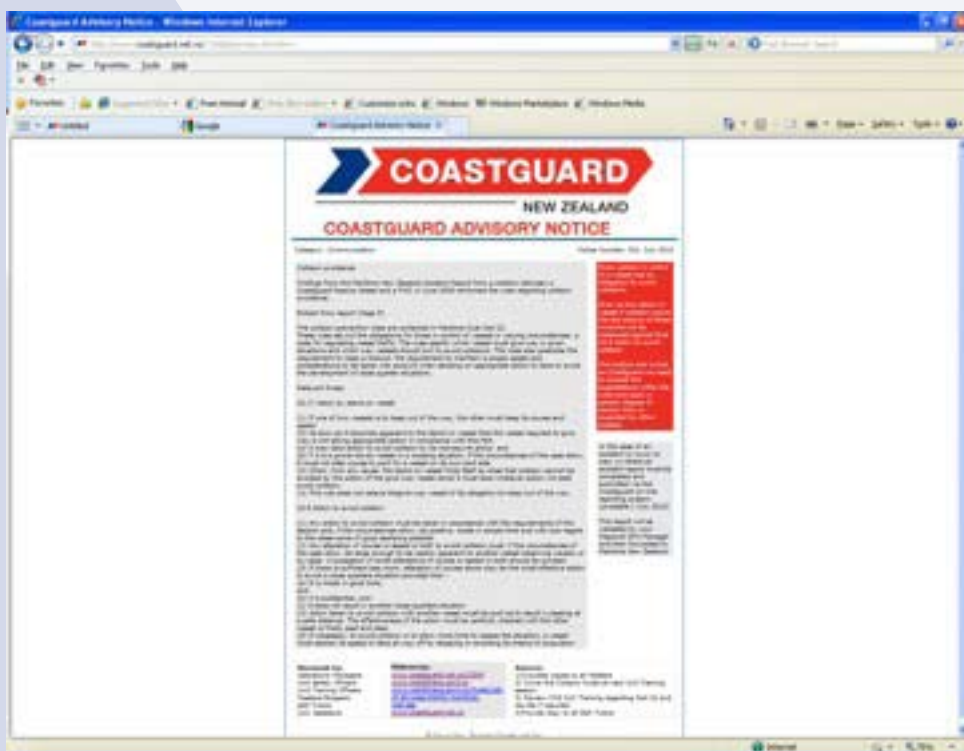
ADVISORY NOTICES

We have developed an Advisory Notice to assist in getting key targeted messages and information to the appropriate people within Coastguard Units.

It is always a challenge to identify what to read with the amount of information that appears in your in box these days so this method of communication will be used sparingly and only for matters of significant importance that require some level of response.

The first Advisory Notice was a clarification of the Collision Rule following a MNZ investigation into an incident involving a Coastguard vessel.

The notice is forwarded to the identified Office holders in the Unit and can be viewed online or printed from a PDF.



THE FINAL WORD



Volunteer Awareness Week - Bruce, Tariana Turia at Coastguard Wellington

Busy time ahead as we look forward to the coming financial year at National Offices.

It is always a challenge to put on paper what is better delivered face to face but I will give it a go.

The Board and Management have had a close look at where we see Coastguard in the next two years and further out to 2020. There is work underway in a number of key areas to bank the great progress we have made since the implementation of the Sheffield recommendations some 30 months ago.

First and foremost we need to make some subtle changes in how Coastguard is Governed and Managed. The key is to get agreed process; systems and responsibilities in place to bank the changes made and ensure that when individuals (management and board) move on, the structure is in place to prevent a creep back to where we were.

So where were we, a quick re-cap;

- Coastguard response and crew safety was compromised by an aging rescue vessel fleet
- The organisation was focussed of internal politics that was distracting from the core purpose "Saving lives at sea"

- Communication Nationally, Regionally and at a Unit level was poor with no transparency from National Office
- A significant disconnect between most parties
- A lack of trust
- A void of effective National Leadership by Management and the Board
- Serious concern at the financial sustainability of Coastguard
- Visibility and recognition was poor

Whilst much of this has been addressed some of the areas above were rocks with plenty of crawly things underneath when we lifted them up and remain a work in progress. (We do joke occasionally that maybe we need a bigger rock)

The immediate issue of aging vessels is now replaced by the need to get consistent design, build and fit-out, we will address this in the coming year so interested parties keep close to your OPSCOM's.

Coastguard financial sustainability has been resolved for now but we face the risk of spending to the funds available and need to keep working on how best to establish and evaluate "need". We are still yet to establish the appropriate level of "corporate support" and "membership/supporter", though both are evolving.

Internal communication remains a challenge but we have certainly made good progress to ensure you all receive as much or as little as you desire to keep you engaged.

I could continue but will run out of page and it has the risk of being one of those relatively long winded CEO answers to questions you have had to endure across the country when we have had the Unit visits.

To keep it simple, the next 18 months will be engaging, exciting and bring more positive change as we build Coastguard into the world class voluntary organisation you deserve to be part of.

I look forward to catching up with many of you at conference.

Bruce Reid
Chief Executive Officer