



FEBRUARY 2009 // Memo No. 09/14

CONGRATULATIONS ON RECEIVING CIMSAR CERTIFICATES

The training programme built as an extension of the CoC is now starting to provide recognition to those who have achieved the standards established with the Bay of Plenty Polytechnic. Although enrolments stopped just over 16 months ago there are 620 Coastguard people working towards the completion of the Certificate.

CBES collated and presented the first group for approval from Bay of Plenty Polytechnic with all achieving the required standard and thereby being certified. Due to timing not all eligible candidates were able to be presented with the first run. We will ensure they are processed with the next applications.

The completion of the training has for many taken a serious commitment of time and, in some areas, a duplication of previously completed modules. The outcome is an even greater level of understanding of the skills required to be part of the Coastguard search and rescue team. Well done and congratulations to:



Robert Faulke
Roderick Hall
Nigel Reading
Simon Barker
Graeme Fenn
William Bishop
Renton Cague
Duncan Elliott
Paul Field
Todd Forsyth
Francis Fransham
Rory Garvey
Kevin Gaunt

Ian Gibson
Cameron Hayward
Wayne Hirst
Craig Houkamau
Murray Jeffs
Peter Kramer
Lindon Pitt
Christopher Reid
Andrew Revans
Stephen Rowlands
Jessica Van Slooten
Reginald Werner
Robert Wightman

Robert Nimmo
Barry Norgrove
Travis Anderson
Adam Gray
John Kemp
Catherine Le Roi
 (posthumously)
Stuart Marshall
Ian McArtney
Ross McKenzie
Wayne Middleton
Murray Paul
Louise Yaxley



For those still progressing through the training we are now able to view your training 'status' in the new national database. We will be proactive in assisting you to complete the training. Regions are scheduling one and three day practical courses. These have been well received by all that have had the opportunity to participate and have provided excellent on-the-water time to put into practice the skills learnt through the CIMSAR training.

VESSEL LAUNCHES

Since the last issue of Coastcom several new vessels have gone on the water. These are very exciting times for these Units where the months and years of planning and fund raising come to fruition with a rescue vessel on the water. These vessels would not have been possible without the continued support nationally by the Lottery Grants Board, the New Zealand Community Trust and locally by the many trusts, sponsors and supporters of Coastguard.



Coastguard East Cape launched their Coastguard Rescue Vessel on Sunday 9 November 2008, as the result of a growing need to place a dedicated search and rescue vessel into the East Cape area. Historically private vessels had been used to go the aid of vessels in distress in the area, but the availability of large well equipped craft had diminished over the years. The new resource has contributed hugely towards filling the need of Eastern Region's obligation to provide a 24/7 Marine Rescue Service.

For Coastguard East Cape, this new resource has enabled them to enhance their operation both equipment and personnel wise. Training of crews in specific SAR modules and techniques will increase the effectiveness of the Unit, and aid other emergency services such as Fire, Ambulance, Rescue Helicopter and Land SAR, which many of the Coastguard professional volunteers are involved with as well. The geographical remoteness of the area has, and will always be difficult to maintain a fast emergency response. But with the new vessel, areas of coastline will become more accessible, and time delays will decrease.

Coastguard Wanganui – The launch on Saturday 15 November was a big day for the Unit and the community of Wanganui. Years of planning and co-ordination has provided a 7.3m Naiad that is fit for purpose has been kitted with new concepts for crew comfort (to minimise fatigue) and search and rescue tools. The day saw a good number of local dignitaries and some of our own there to celebrate the day and the end of the project.

The team at Wanganui comment that "Our new Naiad 7.3m CRV provides a new level in crew comfort and safety. It has excellent sea keeping ability and our skippers have had great enjoyment experiencing the handling and manoeuvrability of the vessel.

Coastguard Wanganui has completed many callouts so far this summer and the new vessel has lived up to all our expectations."



Coastguard West Coast's new vessel headed south on Monday 15 December to begin her new lease of life, this time as a Coastguard Rescue Vessel in Greymouth.

The 'delivery crew' from Coastguard West Coast traveled to Onehunga in December 2008 to take delivery of their new CRV a 12.5m Rayglass Protector powered by two 350 Volvo Penta diesels with Volvo Penta stern drives. The vessel is capable of exceeding 37knts in favourable sea conditions.

After the vessel was placed in the harbour along with representatives from Volvo

and Pennington Marine sea trials were conducted to confirm that the new CRV Talley Rescue was ready for the delivery sea voyage back to Greymouth.

The delivery voyage took just under 19 hours and Talley Rescue maintained an average 22knts throughout the voyage, the sea conditions were moderate and the trip down was uneventful but gave the crew a good opportunity to become more familiar with the electronic suite that the vessel has.

The crew is still getting used to the way Talley Rescue handles but so far the vessel

has performed well in a variety of sea conditions and bar crossings.

The next stage in the project is to make a suitable mooring system so that the vessel can be stored in the Talley Marine Rescue Centre in Greymouth.

Delivery Crew:

Skipper	Shorty Crook
Crew	Doug Griffin, Graeme Richards
Engineer	Mike Sara



Tally Rescue begins her journey southward

TRAVELLING OVERSEAS?

REMEMBER TO USE REGENCY DUTY FREE CARD

All of our professional volunteers were sent a Regency Duty Free card last year. They are valid until 31 March 2010 and by using the card

- You save money on your purchases (up to a 15% discount)
- Every purchase made provides a financial rebate (from Regency) back to **your Region**

And to make it more fun – for this quarter, January to March – we're running a competition. Send me a copy of your Regency Duty Free receipts and you will go into the draw to win a Regency gift basket.

Send a copy of your Regency Duty Free receipt to:

Christine Haru
Brand / Relationships Manager
Coastguard New Zealand
PO Box 91322
Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142

or Email: christineh@nzcoastguard.org.nz

Note: Please be sure to include your name, address and name of your Coastguard Unit



XERO



You may have heard some talk around Coastguard about a product called "Xero" and wondered what it is. Well Xero is the world's easiest accounting system. It is an online system designed for small businesses and their advisors making accounting simple, smart and secure. Invoicing, GST, etc are all made easy and fast!

You can take a closer look at Xero through the link - <http://www.xero.com/>

An introductory fact sheet about Xero is available for you to view on the Coastguard website (www.nzcoastguard.org.nz).

For the Treasurers of the Coastguard, Xero will be a fast way to make the financial management easy, you don't even have to back any of your files up. When a new treasurer comes on board they just get a new login and password and Xero is ready for them to use.

Over the coming months you will hear more about Xero as we work with Units that wish to adopt Xero as their accounting system.

Christine Haru
Brand / Relationships Manager



REGIONAL ROUND UPS

Northern Region

A 36% increase in incidents attended within the Waikato, Auckland and Northland areas of New Zealand has kept Coastguard Northern Region Units extremely busy over the holiday period. Between Christmas Eve and 4 January 2009, Coastguard Northern Region professional volunteers attended 201 incidents, compared to 148 incidents for the same period last year.

Over half of the incidents attended were related to either mechanical or electrical problems on boats. This is in line with previous year's statistics. The other main causes of incidents were fuel problems, boats running aground and overdue boats.

There appears to be no single reason for the increase in incidents this summer apart from the fact that generally the weather has been largely favourable for boating in the region, which usually indicates that more people are out on the water.

What was pleasing to see is that kayaks, which featured in a number of incidents prior to Christmas, have not been a problem over the holiday period.



Included in the latest statistics however, are two fatalities that occurred where people on boats appeared to be not wearing lifejackets and having no way to contact authorities when something went wrong, they drowned. In a third incident, a person is also missing, presumed drowned.

During the same holiday period, Coastguard Northern Region's Operations Room at the Auckland Marine Rescue Centre has received 5,683 trip reports via marine VHF radio, slightly more than the 5,639 calls Coastguard received last year.

The busiest day so far over the summer was on 27 December 2008 when 1,632 trip reports were lodged

in a single 24-hour period. At its peak that meant that the Operations Room was answering one call every 23 seconds.

Currently the Region is trialing a Swedish Rescue Runner. This was kindly loaned and shipped by our friends from the Northern hemisphere. A full report and commentary on the trials will be circulated for all.

Coastguard Waiuku took delivery of their new 7.3m Naiad on Christmas Eve, and the builds of Bay of Island and Kawau new boats progress well. Whangaruru refit has taken a little longer than expected but is due back in early February.

Dean Lawrence
Chief Executive Officer

Eastern Region

Units in the Eastern Region have been active and have assisted with many boating incidents over the holiday period.

Incidents

Waihi Beach, Tauranga and Whangamata were involved in taking people from a stricken yacht in rough conditions off the coast of Waihi. The yacht was later anchored off Karewa Island and the skipper taken to shore. Continued bad weather resulted in the yacht breaking anchor and ending up on the beach of Matakana Island.

At the same time Tauranga, Whakatane, Opotiki and Maketu Sea Rescue were assisting in the search for five people who had sent a text to family advising they were



The sea conditions for rescue at Waihi Beach

lost in big seas after an easterly sea mist engulfed them. The severe conditions resulted in the search being handed over to RCCNZ on dusk and all vessels were returned to shore for the night. The Air Force Orion continued searching during the night before returning to base. The next day vessels continue to search and the family were found alive and well

at midday by the local TECT Rescue Helicopter. The search was a multi agency event and Coastguard personnel contributed over 400 voluntary hours.

Whitianga responded to a fire on a launch moored in Whitianga Harbour as well as a number of smaller incidents. Tairua attended a capsizing on their bar



and two children were rescued from the overturned vessel. Otherwise they have had a quiet time.

East Cape supported a kayaker in trouble. Hawkes Bay has had a very busy holiday period responding to 11 police assists and the Hawkes Bay Air Patrol was activated once. Lake Taupo has been quieter than the same time last year. However they have attended a couple of kayaker incidents. Rotorua Lakes have had an exceptionally busy time responding to over 20 incidents to date, unfortunately amongst these responses there have been two fatalities.

Boats

Boat building is well underway on Hawkes Bay's new vessel being built by AMF and Rotorua's vessel is nearing completion. The East Cape vessel (ex Hawkes Bay) has been successfully refurbished and she was launched in November. Taupo has commissioned a smaller vessel to cover the Waikato River below the Huka Falls.

Tauranga's Rescue One was purchased by AMF Boats and is temporarily being used in Hawkes Bay until its new vessel is completed. Gisborne's boat build has started and Whitianga is well advanced with planning and fundraising. Turangi are at the planning stage for their vessel replacement.

Regional Communications

The installation of equipment to bring voice radio traffic via the internet begins with the Whakatane Radio Room in April as stage one of this project. Equipment

for the Units requiring assistance has been ordered and the install will occur at the same time. That will give East Cape, Gisborne, Hawkes Bay and Taupo backup for when they are either unable to provide scheduled reports and more importantly provide an extended service for those Units.

Stage two will be to replicate the system in Tauranga which ensures 100% redundancy. The hardware will also have provision to divert telephones should that be required.

General

Welcome to Donna Bennett who has joined the team to assist Baz with organising training courses for both COC and the completion of courses that are part of the CIMSAR certificate course. She is also responsible for assisting Units with the SAROP reporting and monthly statistics.

Graeme Murray
Regional Manager

Central Region

Operations Manager begins in CCR

Rebecca Karl joined the Central Region team in early January as Operations Manager. Rebecca comes to us from the Ministry of Social Development where she was a Qualifications Workplace Assessor involved in developing, organising and delivering training and assessments for front line staff.



Rebecca Karl,
Operations Manager

She has experience in Operational Policy Analysis which involved project work, providing advice on operational impact of new policy as well as operational policy expertise and support in the development and writing of Manual and Procedures documentation.

Rebecca has also been a volunteer ambulance officer, is qualified to Primary Care 2 Level and was a founding member of the South Westland Volunteer Search and Rescue Team based at Fox Glacier.

In the Operations role Rebecca will manage all Unit training that is provided by the Region, that is she will continue the training role which was previously carried out by the Regional Manager. Rebecca will liaise with Unit Training Officers to ensure that together we keep the SAR Training on track.

The Certificate In Marine Search and Rescue, Certificate of Competency applications and revalidations, specialist training including the Helicopter Underwater Training, supplementary rescue vessel training, media training, strategic planning training and 3 Squadron Training will also be managed at region by Rebecca – and no doubt other new training initiatives as they come along!

Rebecca will also look after operational policy development, Unit Standard Operating Procedures, HSE, and regional national operational projects including NowCasting and TracPlus.

Given Rebecca's skills and attitude I am sure she will become a highly valued member of the CCR and greater Coastguard Team.



Coastguard Wanganui's new 7.3m Naiad and South Taranaki's 6.8m Naiad prepare for another winch exercise

3 Squadron Training Opportunities

Over the past year CCR Units have been carrying out winching training with 3 Squadron and their Iroquois helicopters. The training includes winching a medic on and off the rescue vessel followed by rescue vessel crew members being winched as well. The training is a necessity should the rescue vessels operate under the aircraft as, besides getting the person being winched onto and off the vessel, there is also the need to manage the vessel in the noise and rotor wash created by the aircraft – no easy task!

New Rescue Vessels in CCR

Coastguard Wanganui's new 7.3m Naiad; Energy Direct Rescue had its official launch just prior to Christmas and has been kept pretty busy since. Coastguard Kapiti Coast's new 7.5m AMF is currently being built at AMF Wanganui. Lottery Grants Board and New Zealand Community Trust funding is much appreciated in making these builds a reality!

Looking forward we have a number of projected builds for this year including two bigger vessels, one to be based at Mana and one at New Plymouth. Between these two vessels we have about a million dollars to find so two fairly sizable funding projects on the cards for this year!

Builds currently planned for 2010 include Wellington, Marlborough, and Manawatu.

Phil Pollero
Regional Manager



Coastguard Kapiti Coast's new AMF under construction at Wanganui

Southern Region

Coastguard West Coast have taken delivery of their new CRV with four crew members travelling to Auckland and driving the vessel down the west coast of North Island, past Cook Strait and onward to Greymouth. The epic voyage provided an opportunity for the crew to get to know the capabilities of their vessel and despite the lack of a 'bucket of KFC' the skipper and crew did a magnificent job. Thanks to the Grey Valley Lions Club who provided funding for the air travel to Auckland for the crew.

Seventeen people in Canterbury attended a CIMS2 training course in January run by the Emergency Management Training Centre. The New Zealand Coordinated Incident Management System has been adopted by our SAR partners and we are keen to have people throughout the region develop a working understanding of the system.

McConnell Dowell has recognised the huge search and rescue effort undertaken by the Coastguard team in the search for their co-workers the late Jody Campbell and Tony Utteridge in late October 2008.

Roger McRae, General Manager of McConnell Dowell Constructors Ltd said "we cannot speak highly enough of the dedication and professionalism of the Coastguard team who worked such long hours in the search". Coastguard Southern Region acknowledges the generosity of McConnell Dowell as Coastguard could not operate without the continued generous support of New Zealanders. The donation of \$20,000 will assist with providing the four Coastguard Units (Coastguard Canterbury, Sumner Lifeboat, Coastguard Waimakariri-Ashley,

CAP Canterbury) who participated in the search and rescue operation with valuable equipment and training.

Coastguard Dunedin has purchased a second hand four wheel drive vehicle to tow their CRV and also provide a mobile command and communications post. Local crew members led by Kevin Phillips and Dave Rogers have been hard at work refurbishing the vehicle. A 'sandathon' was held recently and it is now ready for repainting.

Coastguard Bluff principle sponsors NZ Aluminium Smelters and Kayes Bakery met with Coastguard representatives recently and agreed to continue their support for the Unit. NZAS are keen on developing a closer relationship with the Unit and Kayes will continue to also supply packets of 'gingernut' biscuits for the Bluff crew members to reward boaties who are wearing their lifejackets.

Coastguard Clyde received \$2,000 from COGS towards the cost of their SSM and training activities. Coastguard Lake Brunner has a new Chairman, Neville Winter, with the resignation of Brian Rowlands who has ably served for a number of years. Along with a growing number of jobs Coastguard Queenstown has come a long way in their first year of operation with their focus on providing



Ivan Tally Rescue on the water at home in Greymouth



Coastguard South Canterbury lends a hand with this unusual rescue

training for crew members. A charity golf tournament is taking place in Kaikoura on 21 February with proceeds for Coastguard Kaikoura. Good progress is being made on the new CRV for Sumner Lifeboat and Coastguard Canterbury have made a decision on their new CRV and are moving into the fundraising phase of the project.

The summer season has brought with it the usual increase in workload for our crews. Coastguard Waimakariri-Ashley brought to shore the luckiest jet-skier in

New Zealand after he spent 30 hours adrift off the Canterbury coast and was picked up by a Russian trawler 17km out to sea. A lack of communications equipment meant that he had not been reported missing. Coastguard South Canterbury had the unenviable task of rescuing a cow that jumped off the wharf while being unloaded and ended up paddling out to sea, as well they searched for a missing diver. Coastguard Air Patrol Southland and Canterbury have also been utilized. It's good that the newer Unit in Canterbury is

starting to have the opportunity to show its value for our community.

Southern Region is fortunate in the level of commitment from our people. We are currently building capacity on a number of fronts including the development of a region wide operations strategy looking at our coastline and waterways and how we are to best meet our mandate to save lives in these areas.

Cheryl Moffat
Regional Manager

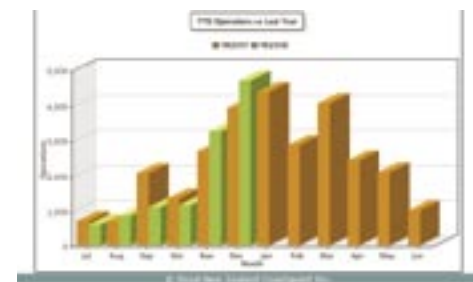
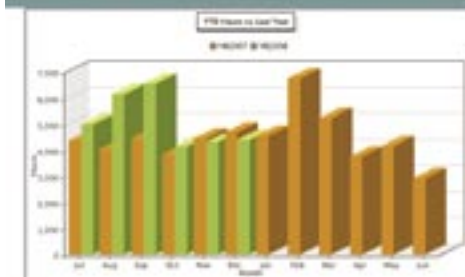
LIES, DAMNED LIES AND STATISTICS

To quote Mark Twain - that's possibly how some Units have felt about the need to enter monthly and SAROP statistics into the system. However nothing could be further from the truth. Statistics/Reports are a huge part of our life blood. The more up to date and accurate our facts and figures are, the more it helps us provide up to the minute information on Coastguard activity to the media and, as those who attended the media session at conference know, the media love the numbers! It all helps to keep Coastguard top of mind around the country, raising our profile and collectively reminding New Zealanders about the great work you all do at the sharp end.

- Each Unit has its own login into CORS (Coastguard online reporting system)
- Your Unit login allows you to enter the monthly statistics for your Unit, but you can also see the activity taking place around the rest of the country at the click of a button
- All reports entered are available to view and review once you are logged in. The summary reports have been designed to provide information on activity that can be used with supporters, sponsors

or when presenting to local community groups. We are building a range of management reports to help with decision making locally regionally and nationally

So what you might ask, does this mean in real terms? As an example, prior to Christmas Coastguard issued a national press release to the media about expecting a busy summer, reminding kiwis about the need to stay safe on the water (and how to do it). We had a number of newspapers and media contacting us for "local" statistics to accompany that press release. This year, for the first time, we

were able to give them up-to-date and accurate information – the media loved it and we were "news".

So a huge thanks for the sterling efforts of all of you who are involved in recording and entering this information each month. We appreciate the information and hope it is valuable to you as well.

LOTTERY UPDATE

Lottery sales have been going well and Units are making fantastic efforts to get those tickets sold. With the decision of the CNZ Board to increase the direct sales commission to Units to \$7 per ticket the Summer Lottery has been a great opportunity to generate untagged funding.

Remember that the last date for the sale of tickets is **20 February** and also on that date, all tickets, stubs, credit card deposits must be returned to the Lottery Office immediately in the courier envelopes provided.

WIN AND SAVE – SAVE AND WIN - WITH CALTEX STARCARD

Every application for a Coastguard Caltex StarCard received by **31 March 2009** will go into the draw to win a **\$200 Coastguard Caltex Starcard**. We'll also give the Unit that the winner belongs to a **\$100 Coastguard Caltex StarCard** too.

What's in it for you?

- You receive a discount of \$0.04c off the pump price for every litre of petrol or diesel purchased. No messy supermarket docket – just hand over your card
- Over 500 Caltex and Challenge Service Stations nationwide to fuel up at
- No fees on the card
- 50 days interest free credit



➔ Call (09) 489 4400 for an application form or visit www.nzcoastguard.org.nz and download the application form

THE FINAL WORD



So my second summer with Coastguard is well underway and I am finding it hard to play the “new guy” at Coastguard card.

Having visited 40 Units now there is a greater understanding of how we need to drive Coastguard and not much has changed in my thinking from day one but those thoughts have been reinforced by listening to you, our professional volunteers.

We need to keep improving the support in the right areas, need to ensure that the time given to Coastguard is of value to you, keep in touch on areas that interest you, listen and most of all keep doing positive things - **“Action not words”**.

It has been pretty full on since we last communicated. One of the key areas we have been working on is improving the Operational support. After much discussion with CNZ Board and Regions we have invested into each Region an additional grant to assist with co-ordination of national initiatives and projects while providing more resource when needed in the Region.

I welcome on board the new Operations Managers:

CSR Mark Whitehouse
CCR Rebecca Karl
and Operations Assistant at CER Donna Bennett

We unfortunately failed to deliver on the promise I made at conference that all Units would have TracPlus in place by Christmas. There is no excuse I got it wrong but all will be installed by the end of February and Ops Managers skilled to deliver Unit specific training in the Regions. Again I apologise for missing the deadline. It is essential that when we commit to a time frame we deliver. The upside is that the system has been working well and we are meeting with Daestra (TracPlus) to look at future enhancements to assist with search and rescue.

So what are the National Office priorities right now:

- Streamline our training to ensure it is relevant. That we train to provide the skills and competencies needed to keep ourselves and others safe and to know how best to respond in search and rescue situations
- Evolve the relationship with Government and our SAR partners
- Keep improving the National profile of Coastguard to make more New

Zealanders aware of the great work you do on the water

- Continue to grow the base funding available to Units and Regions so more time can be spent on the water or in the air preparing for when the call comes
- Continue to build consistency in all areas of our operations to ensure we use best practice to keep the boats of New Zealand safe
- Ensure all our people are provided with the best tools and equipment we can afford to do job when tasked - vessels, aircraft, communications equipment
- Finish the National Database
- Make absolutely certain the decisions and activities of your National Office remain focused on providing the required support to the professional volunteers who deliver Coastguards community promise of saving lives at sea

There are of course a whole lot of other boxes to be ticked, but I will save those until next time.

As always thank you all for the time and dedication you provide to Coastguard and your communities. Our waterways are safer because you are there.

Bruce Reid
Chief Executive Officer

Together - Saving lives at sea