



COASTCOM



From the Helm



It was great to see so many of you at Conference again – it's that one time every year when the Coastguard "family" can get together and celebrate being part of this great organisation. As with most families, sometimes we disagree on important issues, but it was great to see that we were able to have difficult and challenging conversations about the future of Coastguard in a mature way and still have a beer in the bar afterwards. Feedback from those attending the conference suggest that most were happy with the venue and content – it's never easy to please everyone but the general feeling coming through is pretty positive. Thanks to everyone who attended. We will be announcing the venue for next year's conference very soon, after review with our new President, Dean Lawrence and incoming Board.

As Labour Weekend approaches and boaties from around the country head for the water, I should like to take a moment to thank you for your determined work, dedication and generosity. I have no doubt that it will be another busy summer and Coastguard volunteers will,

once again, be called upon to rescue those most in need. Last year, our dedicated volunteers saved the lives of 76 individuals and donated more than 300,000 hours of their time in the service of their local communities.

Without your tireless efforts, many more families would be without their loved ones this summer. So, wherever you are this summer, stay safe on the water and pass on my personal thanks to your families for their continued support of Coastguard.

Ka kite anō

**Patrick Holmes
Chief Executive Officer**

Coastguard 2013 Annual Conference & National Volunteer Awards



Coastguard New Zealand honoured those who put their lives on the line for others at the National Awards Gala Evening, held during the Coastguard Conference in Taupo in September.

Five awards were presented to individual volunteers and a Coastguard Unit for their outstanding efforts, loyal service and dedication.

Southerners were well represented with four awards

going to the South Island. Mark Bolland, a 20 year veteran volunteer on the West Coast, who has become a respected face in his community and Unit, was awarded the Hutchwilco Coastguard Volunteer of the Year. Mark also received a generous gift – a ResQLink Personal Locator Beacon, courtesy of ACR.

Laurie Officer from Coastguard Southland Air Patrol won Coastguard Air Patrol Volunteer of the Year. The Mitre10 Coastguard Rescue of the Year (including a surprise \$1500 gift voucher for the Unit courtesy of Mitre 10) was awarded to Coastguard South Canterbury for a high-stakes rescue, and Tony Smith from Coastguard Clyde was awarded Operational Volunteer of the Year.

Coastguard Raglan's Kevin Dreaver scooped top honours for Coastguard Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year.

A highlight of the conference was keynote speaker, scientist, inventor and philanthropist Sir Ray Avery GNZM. **Thanks go to our key sponsors Century Yuasa, RadioLIVE, Hutchwilco, Mitre 10 and all our exhibitors for their ongoing support.**



Dean Lawrence (CNZ President), Tim Ritchie (Hutchwilco Sales and Marketing Manager), Mark Bolland, Andrew George (Hutchwilco Area Sales Manager).

A great adventure turns perilous...

In each issue of Coastcom we'll highlight a recent rescue story. Please let us know if your Unit has a moving story to share.

"Hurry up, I'm scared. I'm not going to make it." That was the text message Tracey Brown sent police while she waited anxiously for Coastguard to rescue her and husband Glenn during a storm on May 25, 2013.



"It was the scariest thing I have ever had to go through and I've done some pretty scary stuff in my life," Tracey recalls.

Selling up their home to live aboard motor sailor the *Lady Jessie* was Glenn and Tracey's dream. They purchased the vessel in Waikawa and had to sail it home to Thames. The couple researched extensively and had onboard safety gear, including EPIRB, lifeboat, radio and lifejackets for their "great adventure" home.



Glenn and Tracey learnt how quickly Mother Nature can turn when, following a storm, calm weather turned to gale force winds within half an hour. For four hours Glenn battled the seas off the Bay of Plenty coast in the hope of getting close to land and taking shelter. But as they neared Plate Island, Tracey remembers starting to "freak out".

Lady Jessie was being battered by ferocious seas with sharp rocks close. Fearing for their lives, Tracey called her family who contacted the police to report the dire situation.

Shane Beech of Coastguard Maketu described the conditions as a "horrible gnarly night, horizontal rain and big waves."

Coastguard volunteers headed out in some of the most difficult conditions many of the crew had encountered.

"The weather was horrendous and it was pitch black," Shane remembers. "It took us about four times as long as it normally would to get there because of the seas we were battling."

As the crew neared the island they made contact with Glenn and Tracey on the VHF radio. By now the *Lady Jessie* was within 20 metres of sharp rocks. It was not going to be possible for the Coastguard crew to tow the boat to safety.

Glenn and Tracey had to make the decision to abandon ship. It took twenty minutes for the Coastguard crew to get close enough, and longer to lift the couple off the boat safely. By this time, Tracey was hypothermic and possibly in shock. Glenn only has one leg; in

the rough seas the transfer was a real challenge.

In the days following the rescue, Coastguard took Glenn and Tracey back out to the island but there was no sign of *Lady Jessie*. Many weeks later divers discovered the vessel on the sea floor.

Sadly, Glenn and Tracey lost all their possessions and hadn't had time to insure the boat – the first job on their list when they arrived at Thames. But thanks to Coastguard volunteers they survived what would have been a certain tragedy.

"I feel that here I am starting my life over again," Tracey says. "Before the trip I had told my grown children what I wanted them to do if anything happened to us. Never for one moment did I think it would."

"The Coastguard crew put themselves at risk to save us. It was amazing. We really are very thankful."



Trip of a lifetime

Alex Wakefield from Coastguard Whangaruru and Coastguard South Canterbury's Tony Lister are seasoned Coastguard professionals but a week-long training course in England has further strengthened their knowledge and expertise.

Both men travelled to the South of England earlier in the year to train at the Royal National Lifeboat Institution College in Poole.

"The highlight of the course was the new and very demanding environment, with a mix of classroom learning and on the water training," Tony recalls. "We all left the course ready to command the offshore lifeboats, all weather lifeboats up to 17 metres that are very high tech and powerful vessels capable of 25 knots."



Alex says, "The RNLI has a reputation for being the best in the world when it comes to maritime search and rescue services, and having experienced their professionalism first hand I can now see why."

These once-in-a-lifetime training opportunities were part of Tony and Alex's National Volunteer prizes awarded at the Coastguard Conference in 2012. Tony won the Mitre 10 Coastguard Volunteer of the Year 2012, while Alex won Coastguard Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year 2012.

A wilderness adventure

Each year Coastguard calls for nominations for deserving volunteers to receive scholarships on Outward Bound Courses. Michael Davies was one of six deserving recipients this year...



"I am writing this lying on the ground under a tarp in the rain, so please excuse the handwriting," wrote Michael Davies, one of several volunteers selected from Coastguard for Outward Bound Scholarships in recognition of their volunteer work.

"This course so far has been one of the best things in my life," Michael wrote. "I have been able to push myself harder than I have in years and the mental rewards have been great. It will be sad to finish the course in a few days but I feel ready to attack and enjoy life with a new energy."

"Thank you for your belief in me to give me this scholarship. I would really recommend this course to anyone and everyone. If I can do it, so can you all!"

Michael, who has been actively involved with Coastguard since 1999, spent eight days at Anakiwa, Marlborough Sounds earlier this year on an amazing trip that inspired and challenged him.

"A picture is worth

1000 words!"

Nothing is more powerful and can evoke emotion like a photograph.

Although our primary focus is always first and foremost on saving lives, capturing images and footage which represent our core work is vital if we are to successfully engage the hearts and minds of the public in our mission of saving lives at sea.

This year's winners of the Coastguard photo competition effectively communicated the marine search and rescue work our volunteers do to save lives, through images.

The award winners were congratulated at the Coastguard Conference Welcome Dinner in September.

And the winners were...



Best Rescue Vessel Unit Photo –
Coastguard's Sumner Lifeboat



Best Air Patrol Unit Photo –
Coastguard Canterbury Air Patrol



Most Creative Unit Photo –
Coastguard Manawatu



Best In Action SAR Photo –
Coastguard Hawkes Bay

We urgently need to build a broader image library of actual SAR photos and footage. If we show more compelling pictures, we'll raise more money! If you can help please contact lisa.ramsell@coastguard.co.nz

Marketing and Fundraising Update

Team Rescue



Team Rescue is Coastguard's new fundraising programme, which is encouraging our supporters to donate a regular amount – say \$25 a month – to support the work of those saving lives at sea. Over the coming months we will be trialling a tele-fundraising

campaign to sign people up to Team Rescue.

This will, over time, create a new and significant income stream for Coastguard. Regular giving is a mainstay fundraising product for most successful charities, and we have a substantial base of prospects to provide the basis for our regular giving programme, including donors and those who purchase our lottery tickets. For more information, contact Nick King on 09 973 4981 nick.king@coastguard.co.nz

Coastguard Summer Lottery 2013/2014

The Summer Lottery is a great fundraising opportunity and a chance for everyone in your unit to get fully involved.

The top prize this year is worth a stunning \$140,000: A VW Touareg PLUS a Haines Hunter SF485 with trailer and boating safety pack. There are 20 prizes with something for everyone, including Haines Hunter boats, a P&O cruise for two and the latest consumer electronics from Sony.



**\$7 from each
\$10 ticket sold
here goes
direct to your
local Coastguard**

By getting out into your communities and selling tickets, you are not only raising funds for your own unit but creating a

greater awareness of the important role Coastguard plays in keeping people safe on the water. Being out there also gives you the chance to demonstrate how important support from the public is to enable Coastguard to continue saving lives at sea.

We are again making available three Haines Hunter SF485s as touring boats complete with point of sale material, and you should have already received your boat booking forms and ticket order forms. Please return these as soon as you can! Key dates are listed below.

Last summer, a staggering 42,346 tickets were sold by Coastguard units around the country. With your help we can do even better this year!

Thanks for supporting Coastguard's summer lottery; we'll be in touch throughout the campaign.

COASTGUARD SUMMER LOTTERY 2013/14 - KEY DATES

Deadline for boat booking forms and ticket orders	Fri 25 Oct
Lottery opens	Mon 18 Nov
First mailing	Mon 2 Dec
Unit close date	Mon 3 Feb
Lottery draw	Fri 14 Feb
Results published	Thurs 20 Feb

SUMMER LOTTERY

KEY CONTACTS

**Evonne Sims, Lottery Office:
0800 800 946**
Emily Pavey, CNZ Fundraising Coordinator: 09 973 4985 or emily.pavey@coastguard.co.nz

Good in the Hood

Once again Z Energy is calling for applications for Good in the Hood. **Your unit can apply online before 31 October at z.co.nz/GoodintheHood**

National Operations

Update

MOSS

The MOSS rules were signed into law on 3 October 2013. Now that this has occurred we will complete our Maritime Transport Operator Plan and have it reviewed by Maritime NZ (MNZ). MNZ will accept applications to move into MOSS as of 1 April 2014 and operators have to comply with MOSS rules as of 1 July 2014.

A number of Units already have their Safe Operation Plans in place in keeping with that required under MOSS - if you have not seen the SOP templates already, contact your regional Ops Manager.

Senior Master Revalidation

A reminder that as a result of our last Part 35 Audit completed by MNZ, we were advised that, in keeping with Schedule 2 of the MNZ Instrument of Delegation, Coastguard can only issue a Certificate of Competency for a maximum period of five years from the date of issue subject to satisfactory periodic audits to be conducted by MNZ.

This means we cannot issue Senior Master Certificates of Competency which do not have to be revalidated - as a result we have to revalidate all Senior Masters by 1 July 2014.

Your regional Ops Team will be in touch with those Senior Masters yet to be revalidated to assist in working through the revalidation process.

Certificate of Competency (CoC) Document Review

As a result of the same Part 35 Audit, some of our 'older' CoC Master files were found to be lacking some of the documentary detail required under the MNZ Instrument of Delegation.

All files have now been reviewed and we will shortly provide a document to the regional Ops Teams to follow up on missing documents, other than Coastguard Boating Education (CBE) certificates which we will obtain confirmation of direct from CBE.

Local Launch Operator (LLO), In-shore Launch Master (ILM) & Skipper Restricted Limits (SRL)

We intend to prepare a process document to assist those of our CoC Masters who hold LLO's, ILM's in their move to SRL's. The intention is to manage the CoC revalidation process so that it coincides with those Masters move to SRL which should avoid duplication, costs and inconvenience. We should have something circulating on that soon.

Asset Updates

So that RCCNZ have up to date asset records and contact details for when they need to contact or call out your Unit, please complete your asset updates ASAP. Process Paper #0113 SAR Asset Updating refers.

TracPlus2 Upgrade

If you have not done so, a reminder to have your Unit PC updated with TracPlus2 in keeping with the TracPlus

Variant Install Process Paper. As TracPlus have moved to a new server, those who have not obtained the upgrade will only have access to TracPlus1. Please make contact with TracPlus at support@tracplus.com ASAP to have the upgrade completed for your Unit.

IT Corner

iOS 7 Update

With the new software update for iPhone and iPad there are a few new nifty features available:

- **Phone, FaceTime and Messages: block contacts**

Does someone have your number and you wish they didn't? Successfully avoid them with iOS 7's excellent blocking features. Add the number to your Contacts, scroll down to the bottom of the screen and tap Block This Caller to refuse incoming calls, messages (including SMS and MMS) and FaceTime calls.

- **Camera: shoot in burst mode**

The redesigned Camera app has a nifty trick up its sleeve: if you want to shoot in burst mode, taking multiple shots in quick succession, just click and hold the volume-up button.

- **Settings: make iOS 7 easier on the eye**

We like the new interface, but it isn't for everyone. If you have problems with your sight or just want to make iOS more legible, you'll find some useful settings in Settings > General > Accessibility. You can make all system text bold, increase the size of text in apps that support Apple's Dynamic Type, scale down motion effects such as the parallax effect or invert the colours to make iOS 7 look like a 1980s electro-pop album cover.

- **Undelete your emails with a shake**

So you accidentally deleted an email. Don't panic. Just shake your iPhone to bring up the option to undo it.

- **Close multiple apps at a time**

Forget deleting apps individually, now you can shut down three apps at a time. Simply click the Home button to reveal your carousel of open apps > close three apps at a time by using three fingers and dragging the apps upwards.

Keeping your laptop and PC virus free.

If you don't have any antivirus programs installed on your PC or laptop then try out Microsoft's great free antivirus program – Security Essentials

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-NZ/windows/security-essentials-download>

Another great program to check and clean your PC or Laptop is Malwarebytes – this program is also free and can be downloaded from www.malwarebytes.org.

It provides for a very effective scanner and cleaner of Internet based Trojans and viruses.

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