

President's annual report to the Howick Volunteer Coastguard 21st AGM, dated 24th August 2004.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Members and Guests,

Welcome to the 21st AGM of the HVC. We have just completed our 48th year of operation along with the many challenges we were facing this time last year, so I will briefly highlight some of those events.

Firstly, a warm welcome to everyone, our members, guests, fellow coastguarders and supporters. Friends, I welcome you all.

Over the last year, our achievements have been quite considerable, an absolute tribute to our fantastic team of committed volunteers. Our annual statistics are always interesting, and I highlight a few as follows:

- Nationally, Coastguard has now completed the Regionalisation process with Howick having played an active role in the formation of the Northern Region.
- Regionally, HVC is well represented with VP Colin Small taking much of the responsibility of representing our unit.
- Locally, within our unit, the achievements have been outstanding:
 - Our Active Membership numbers have remained at around 40.
 - The completion, launching and commissioning of the new HR1, has fulfilled or bettered our every expectation. The result is a real credit to the Boat Committee, who under the leadership of Ashley Sim committed a huge number of hours. We are extremely proud of the finished product and my personal thanks to you all for your efforts.
 - The sale of the old HR1 to the RNZCF, who have stationed that craft at Cape Egmont Coastguard. May she serve you well as she served us.
 - The building extensions to house the new Monster Tractor. For those who didn't notice, it hasn't been built yet, but my thanks to Ian Gibson our engineer and the various MCC departments who have secured the various planning changes and consents to allow this project to proceed. Construction will commence next month.
 - CG Certificate of Competency qualifications. HVC was one of the first units nationally to have all their skippers qualified. Congratulations to those skippers and my thanks to the crews who assisted in the qualification process.

- Our annual statistics for this year are mind blowing:
 - 81 call-outs, with over 200 people and almost \$4M of property assisted, consuming 1,446 man-hours.
 - 50 Tuesday evening training sessions, 48 weekend training and duty days, consuming 3,556 man-hours.
 - 1,641 man-hours of Administration.
 - 800 man-hours of Repairs and Maintenance.
 - 179 man-hours fund raising
 - 101 man-hours of education.
 - A total of 7,623 hours volunteered. An absolutely fantastic effort. My thanks to every single one of you.

- These achievements would not have been made to these levels had it not been for the special efforts of the Executive, the Office holders and the Portfolio holders of this Organisation. My special thanks to you all, especially:
 - Colin Small, a Vice President extraordinaire, who has really taken a huge load off my shoulders.
 - Basil Irwin, our Executive Officer and Secretary, ably assisted by David Steward. How any organisation can run without a 'Basil' is beyond me.
 - Jenny Rowsell, our supreme Treasurer, whose ability has some of our burly blokes trembling when they need to spend money.
 - Trevor Taylor, our Operations Officer who spends so much time here, I am always fearful when I meet Linda his wife.
 - Colin Shoebridge, and for the last two months Randal Hart, our MSA Safety Officers ensuring everything craft-wise is up to speed.
 - Ian Gibson, our Training Officer, an essential and well performed duty.
 - Our Portfolio Holders who efficiently manage their specific areas.
 - Our Skippers and Crew. Your dedication, commitment and support are a credit to you all, and the achievements of this Organisation are the result of your efforts. I thank you all for this.
 - Finally, our spouses and families need special mention and thanks, for it is generally family time taken by our activities. I do thank you for this, yet this seems inadequate for the contribution and sacrifices you make.

I would also like to extend my thanks to all our supporters, the Manukau City Council, the ASB Charitable Trust, the Lotteries Grants Board, the

community at large, the Coastguard Federation, the Coastguard Northern Region, fellow Coastguard organisations, and all those individuals, groups and organisations who make our existence possible.

On a sadder note, Basil Irwin is resigning as our Executive Officer and Secretary. Over the years, you have contributed so much to the CG movement, the Howick Unit in particular, with achievements too numerous to mention individually. My special thanks and appreciation for your support and assistance over the years. I know this is endorsed by every member of our organisation, and I trust your future as a crew member will be both rewarding and enjoyable for you.

Every organisation needs timely, well managed changes to ensure a flow of fresh ideas and skills. I also do not seek re-election this year, yet know the Organisation will be in good hands under the Presidency of Colin Small. I thank you all for your help, guidance and support over the years and will continue to offer what I can as Immediate Past President.

Finally, to all our members. You have helped create one of the most impressive CG units in the country. It is constantly confirmed that we are regarded by many Units as the 'Yard-Stick' of CG Units, and that is not because of any one person or group of people, it is because of the input of you all. A finer group of volunteers you would not find anywhere. I am proud to have been your President, and proud of this Organisation. I ask that you be proud of your achievements also, as you have all earned that right.

Again I thank you all for your attendance and support.

Paul Newman.

President.