

HOWICK VOLUNTEER COASTGUARD 27TH AGM PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies & Gentlemen, Member & Guests.

I would like to welcome you to the Howick Volunteer Coastguard's 27th AGM.

It has been another busy year on the water. In the last year we have attended 208 incidents ranging from simple tow jobs to more serious incidents. There were three incidents during the year which deserve a mention. The first was a medical where we assisted a vessel with a patient which was seriously injured after crashing into the companionway. The crew assisted the vessel to Half Moon Bay Marina where with the help of ambulance staff they managed to extract her from the cabin. It turned out she had two dislocated shoulders and two fractured arms. The second and third happened on the same night. Howick Rescue One was tasked to Hooks Bay at the bottom of Waiheke. A vessel was crashing against the rocks, with one male in the water and his two daughters on board. The crew retrieved the vessel and then the male from the water. Howick Rescue One was then tasked to another incident around at the mussel farm, where a vessel had founded. There, the crew pulled 3 persons from the water including a 67 year old grandmother. 6 people saved in an adrenaline fill hour and a half, 4 pulled from the water.

Our two vessels have performed well, with the new engine installed in Howick Rescue One in the last year behaving itself. Training has continued throughout the year, both on and off the water. As with all volunteer organisations, we have lost a few members and gained a few. I would like to thank those departing members for all their fine efforts over the years, and welcome the new.

As well as the 208 incidents (equal highest), we have spent 1504 hours on search and rescue operations assisting 492 people (highest since records began), 403 hours fundraising, 2412 hours training, 1332 hours on administration, and 555 hours on maintenance. Another big effort, this year. Thanks to all of you involved.

As always a huge thank you has to go out to the partners and families of the members who have to put up with our frequent absences, often at the most inconvenient times. Without you and your patience, we could not possibly operate this organisation.

Personally I would like to thank the management team which makes Howick Volunteer Coastguard operate, these being

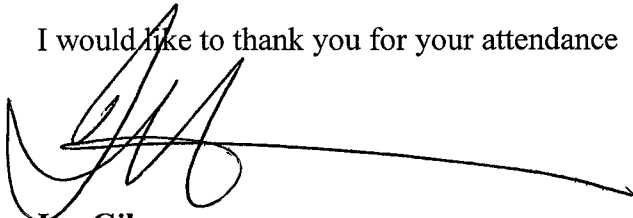
- Bryan Cartelle, Vice President
- Paul Newman, Executive Officer
- David Steward, Secretary
- Todd Forsyth, Treasurer
- Steve Rowlands, Operations Officer
- Colin Small, Immediate Past President
- Cam Hayward and Bryan Cartelle, MSA Safety Officer
- Mike Cole, Education Officer
- Craig Houkamau, Training Officer
- Alan Martin, OSH Safety Officer
- Our skippers, Todd Forsyth, Steve Rowlands, Alan Martin, David Steward, Jenny Rowsell, Bryan Cartelle, Craig Houkamau, Mike Cole, Colin Small.
- Our crews, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta and Echo.

A thank you also needs to go to our numerous sponsors and supporter members. Without your support we would not be able to operate as the highly effective rescue organisation we are. These organisations include.

- The Manukau City Council
- Coastguard New Zealand
- Coastguard Northern Region
- The Warehouse, Pakuranga
- ID Results Signs
- Pub Charity
- The Southern Trust
- Pakuranga Rotary
- Half Moon Bay Marina Trust
- Howick Club
- Howick Lions Club
- Half Moon Bay Rotary

Finally, to all of our members, thank you for your dedication and service to this organisation. Howick Volunteer Coastguard is highly regarded throughout the country and I ask you to work to ensure that the status is maintained. I am looking forward to the next twelve months in which we must continue to train diligently and strive to maintain the high standards of this and our parent organisation.

I would like to thank you for your attendance

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Gibson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Ian Gibson
President
Howick Volunteer Coastguard