

# ANNUAL REPORT

2019





63

SAR  
OPERATIONS



207

COASTGUARD  
OPERATIONS



270  
TOTAL  
OPERATIONS



517

PEOPLE  
RETURNED  
HOME  
SAFELY



NUMBER OF  
VOLUNTEERS

280

HOURLY VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT



TRAINING  
14,152

ON WATER RESCUE

1,999



RADIO WATCH  
22,807

ADMIN  
COMPLIANCE/SUPPORT

16,462



TOTAL HOURS

55,420



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# COASTGUARD CENTRAL REGION INC.

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# Chairpersons Report

This will be my final Chairperson Report, after 10 years on this Board including 4 as Chairperson I have decided to step down. I will remain fully engaged with my local Unit and also the National Board which I joined this year.

We now have our Regional Office firmly established in Porirua, just a short drive north of Wellington.

Our Regional Manager Lesley Slieker has set up a small and dedicated team there focused on supporting the Units within our Region.



The income from our membership scheme continues to grow each year and it is reassuring for future funding that 48% of our members are automatically renewing their membership, obviously our boaties appreciate the value of our membership scheme. Our thanks to the Coastguard Northern Region team who not only manage the membership scheme, but create some great campaigns to encourage new members to sign up.

Coastguard Central Region is committed to exploring improved ways to deliver our mission. With this in mind, we are fully supportive of Project Horizon - a recently launched initiative to explore possible integration of Coastguard New Zealand with the four Regional entities. We believe that the time is right to streamline the governance and management of the organisation, to create the conditions for long-term success. Consultation on this important proposal has begun.

While these broader organisational conversations take place the Central Region team will remain focused on supporting the Region's units and volunteers, engaging with our communities and most importantly watching out for those on the water.

It is my pleasure to congratulate all our Regional Award winners last year; volunteers Laurence Pope, Mike Carson and Jan Bisman, along with Nelson and Wanganui Coastguard Units. Thank you all for showing excellence and leadership within your Units.

We were delighted to learn that Jessica Cameron from Marlborough Unit was runner up for the Coastguard Young Volunteer of the Year Award in 2019. This award recognises outstanding volunteers aged 18-27 who have demonstrated commitment to and active engagement in volunteering for Coastguard. I would also like to acknowledge Pete Dixon and Pete Woodward from our Kapiti Unit who both were awarded a Queens Service Medal in recognition of their work for Coastguard.

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We often put our vessels and volunteers to sea in poor conditions, so keeping our volunteers safe is vital. I would like to thank the members of our Regional Health and Safety Committee for their time and input. Their role is very important for safeguarding our entire organisation and the work completed by this committee is highly valued and appreciated.

I must also recognise the work of my fellow Board Members and thank them for their support and commitment this year. In the past we have had to make some tough decisions, so it is great to see some positive results and change happening within our Region and the greater organisation.

After many years of loyal service Bill Greening from Wanganui Unit stepped down from our Board. We welcomed the appointment of Sara Treadgold to our team, also from our Wanganui Coastguard Unit.

I would also like to make a special mention of those volunteers who step up to take on extra roles within their Units: the Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries, Safety Officers and Training Officers. You are the leaders and future leaders of our organisation and every day you do a remarkable job for Coastguard. We know many of our volunteers wear several hats and struggle to cope with the amount of compliance our organisation now faces. Thank you for always doing your best.

My thanks to our Regional Manager Lesley Slieker, our Operations Manager Trevor Farmer and our newest staff member, Administrator Caryl Fantham, for the effort they put in to make our Units and especially our volunteers successful.

Our Coastguard Region success depends on our Board, Staff, Committees and Unit volunteers who gift and commit time, energy and enthusiasm to this great charity, ensuring we achieve our vision of "Saving Lives at Sea". We are fortunate to have you all on board and we value and appreciate everything you do for us.

John Linn  
**Chairman**  
Coastguard Central Region

# Regional Managers Report

It certainly has been a busy year for Coastguard Central Region. Our year started with establishing our new office in Porirua and building our new team focused on supporting the Units and Volunteers in our Region.

In October we were delighted when Mike Carson from our Wanganui Unit won the Coastguard NZ Rescue Vessel Volunteer Award, and Pete Kara from our Nelson Unit won the Coastguard NZ Communications & Incident Management Volunteer of the Year.

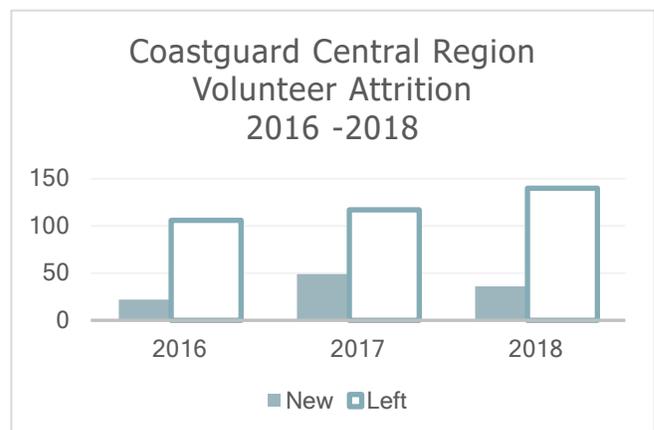


Early in 2019 a Volunteers Study was completed for Coastguard New Zealand. Our thanks to New Zealand Search and Rescue for funding this survey for us and three other SAR Agencies.

This Study highlighted several serious challenges facing Coastguard.

- High volunteer attrition, with 3 volunteers leaving for every volunteer we recruit.
- Current volunteer trends reflect short term episodic volunteering, whereas we need volunteers with long-term regular commitment.
- Our volunteers are aging, with 69% over the age of 50, only 15% are under 40 years of age.
- Our organisation lacks diversity, with 87% Pakeha/NZ European and only 25% female.
- The number of paid staff to support our volunteer's workforce is low in comparison to similar agencies, and we do not have a volunteer strategy in place.

It has been reassuring for our Region that Coastguard NZ have acknowledged the challenges we face and are putting plans into action to help preserve our current volunteer base, and also meet the needs of new volunteers. However, this will require a significant change in how we manage some parts of our business and the actions we are currently focusing on are:



- Project Horizon, an initiative to integrate our four Regions into one entity and streamline the governance and management of Coastguard.
- A review of our Training Matrix, which has been started by Coastguard Boating Education.
- The development of a Volunteer Strategy.

Even though we saw a small fall in our number of volunteers to 280, they still managed to increase the hours they committed Coastguard, and most importantly, increase the number of people they returned home safely to their families and friends. The value they gift to Coastguard in our region every year is around \$1,555,600.

Another issue highlighted by the study was the pressure our volunteers are under to meet compliance, health and safety and training requirements within their Units and the considerable time this is taking. Our on water rescue volunteer hours reduced this year, but the overall hours increased due to training and administration. We are encouraging our Units to promote recruiting on shore volunteers to complete some of these administration tasks to free up our wet crew volunteers to focus on training and on water rescues.

We hosted the “old for new” campaign around our region last summer. This is an innovative program



which continues to promote our safe boating message and encourages recreational boat users to update their life jackets. Special mention must be made of Sue Tucker for her enthusiasm and delivery of this campaign.

In April we hosted our first training weekend for Training and Health and Safety Officers. Although there was a small resistance to a whole weekend programme initially, it was a significant success and our aim is to deliver more opportunities like this for our volunteers in future.

Our Region has been under considerable pressure this year to keep up with the delivery of training and I would like to recognize the dedication of our Training Officers, Coastguard Instructors and Regional Coastguard Instructors who have ensured the delivery and assessments of training are within an acceptable time frame for volunteers.

It was announced during the year that Coastguard will benefit from the America’s Cup boats which are currently under construction by Rayglass. The vessels are being built for Coastguard and loaned to Emirates Team NZ for the America’s Cup Event to assist with their on water operations. At the end of the event and after some refitting in early 2021, the vessels will be integrated into the Coastguard fleet

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around New Zealand. Our thanks to NZ Lottery Grants Board for this fantastic contribution to help us saves lives at sea for many years to come.

There was a special evening for the Wellington Volunteer Coastguard to recognise 50 years of marine rescue services in the Capital. The need for Coastguard in Wellington was instigated following the Wahine Disaster, and it was great to see some of the founding members join together with other past and current volunteers to enjoy this special celebration.

On a very sunny Saturday in June we welcomed the newest vessel to our fleet when Freemasons Rescue was launched at Paraparaumu. This followed years of work by the team at Coastguard Kapiti Coast, especially Rob Berry, Pete Woodward, Pete Dixon and Jerry Bardon. The vessel was named after a very significant donation from local Freemasons and The Freemasons Charity. We continue to work with Nelson, Wellington and Mana Units who all need new vessels.



After some significant expenditure we were able to end our financial year with an operating surplus:

- \$7,500 (total \$52,250) was distributed to every Unit who is part of the National Membership Scheme. This was in addition to their share of membership subscriptions and additional donations.
- Our previous debt to the Membership Funds held was cleared.
- Two new vehicles were purchased to replace leased vehicles. Part of the cost was borrowed from the Membership Funds and by the end of the year we had managed to reduce this to \$35,000.

We also received generous grants from the Thomas George Macarthy Trust, Pelorus Trust and Infinity Trust. NZ Lottery Grants Board made a significant grant towards Freemasons Rescue, these funds were secured by Coastguard NZ and paid to Central Region for distribution to the Kapiti Unit. We also helped this Unit to secure grants from NZCT, Pelorus and Wellington Community Trust for their new Vessel.

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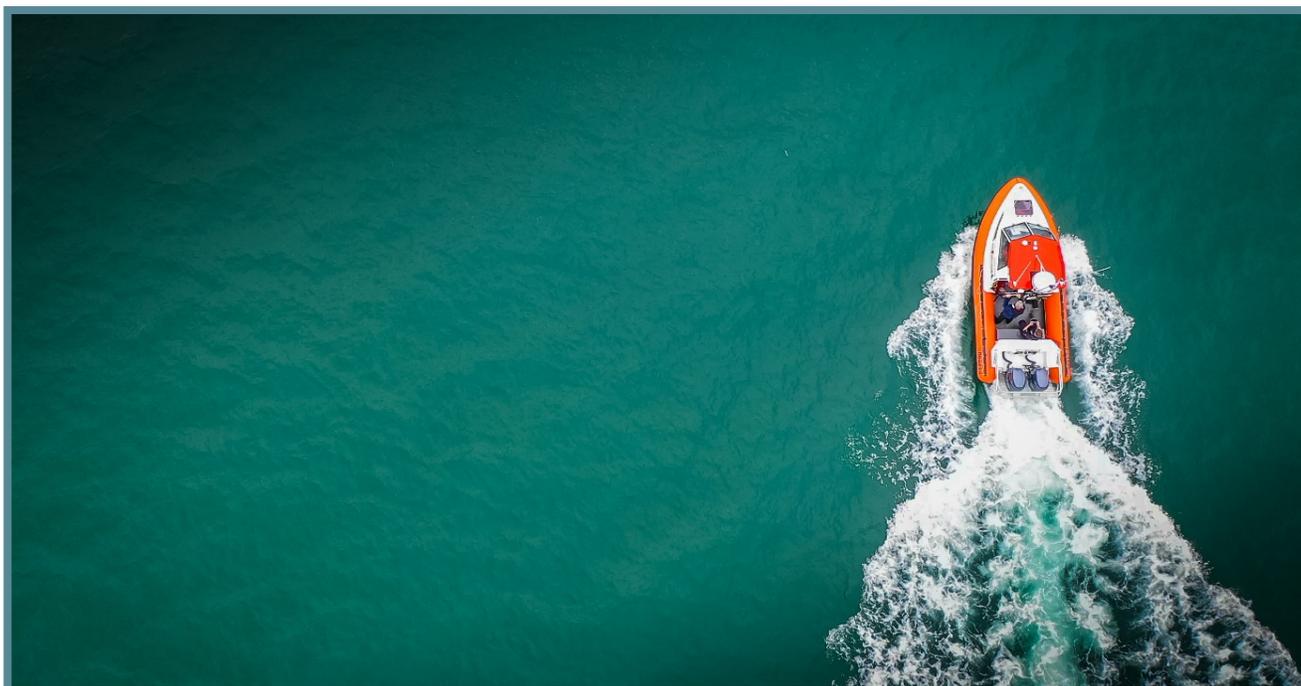
Thanks to the teams at Coastguard National Office and at our other Regional Offices for their ongoing support and advice. It is very reassuring and valuable to have had the benefit of their experience and skills at our fingertips on so many occasions during this year.

To my team, Trevor Farmer our Operations Manager and Caryl Fantham our Administrator, we may be small but thanks to your help and dedication we have been able to give considerable assistance and support to our Units and our Volunteers. Thanks for always stepping up to the task on hand and going that extra mile when needed.

I would also like to thank our Coastguard Central Region Board Members for their governance, leadership, encouragement and support during the year. They are volunteers who step up to this task to strategically support the Region in addition to their roles within their Units. I would also like to make a special mention of John Linn and Pete Kara, who not only give so much of their time to our Region and their Units, but are also our voices on the Coastguard New Zealand Board.

My last words of thanks must go to our amazing volunteers, it is a privilege for Coastguard to still enjoy the delivery of our frontline service by teams of dedicated volunteers. In our region, and across New Zealand, their everyday contribution is invaluable and we simply could not continue to meet our mission of saving lives at sea without their support and enthusiasm for our cause.

Lesley Sliker  
**Regional Manager**  
Coastguard Central Region



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# Our People

Our Board consists of:

Taranaki/Wanganui Cluster Board Members

John Linn (Chairperson)

Sara Treadgold

Wellington/Mana/Kapiti Coast Cluster Board Members

Rob Faulke

Trevor Burgess

Mark Nicholls

Marlborough/Nelson Cluster Board Members

Jan Bisman

Peter Kara (Vice Chairperson)

Coastguard Central Region Judicial Panel consists of:

John Linn                      Coastguard South Taranaki

Leighton Judd                Coastguard Manawatu

Garry Blue                     Coastguard Wellington

Peter Dixon                    Coastguard Kapiti Coast

Coastguard Central Region Staff consists of:

Lesley Sliker                 Regional Manager

Trevor Farmer                Operations Manager (from June 2018)

Caryl Fantham                Administrator (from February 2019)

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## Our Volunteers

Our sincere appreciation to all our Volunteers who have gifted Coastguard Central Region Units over 54,000 hours of voluntary service, with a value of over \$1,555,000. Without your dedicated support and ongoing commitment we would not have been able to return 480 people home to their loved ones this year.

### Kapiti Coast Coastguard Unit

Jerry Bardon, Rob Berry, Mark Brewer, John Clarke, Steve Cropp, Mark Davidson, Paul Davies, Pete Dixon, Matthew Dixon, Dominic Driver, Sarah Dyer, Rob Faulke, Stuart Granshaw, Sue Harvey, Les Howard, Scott Houston, Brian Kessell, Adam Kluts, Murray Lawrence, Gary McMeekin, Steven Parkin, Andrew Rundle-Keswick, Debby Sellars, Brendyn Shaw, Johannes Snyman, Byron Stock, Ray Trueman, Sharon Trueman, Jeffrey Watts, Gavin Welsh, Peter Woodward.

### Mana Coastguard Unit

Zane Bublitz, Trevor Burgess, Michael Chatterley, Doug Clark, Tara Cooney, Ross Cormack, Neil Cornwell, Glenn Curtis, Christopher Darch, Jago Dellow, Alan Devine, Dean Du Preez, Jacob Evans-Scott, Trevor Farmer, Peter Feely, David Franks, Rod Hall, Jason Hall, Mark Hamilton, Andy Hope, Ana Ioane, Stephen Knowles, Matt Lloyd, Mark Long, Conor Mackay-Freeman, Torrey McDonnell, Carl Nixon, Dean Porter, Mark Presling, Roy Quinn, Christopher Reid, Mark Snelson, Jason Sergent, Lehi Solomon, Kate Stewart, Shane Tindall, Peter Tse, Amelia Vinnell, Bernie Vinnell.

### Manawatu Coastguard Unit

Eddie Bambery, Tristan Brimelow, Rodney Caldow, Jason Conibear, Douglas Griffin, Alex Harris, Michael Hayes, Rod Hayes, Patricia Huisman, Tony Huisman, Edward Iwanica, Chris Janes, Leighton Judd, Jacqui Lewis, Ethan Rigby, Grant Rigby, Jade Rigby, Kyle Russell, Dean Stella, Alan Scott Ward, Reg Yalden.

### Marlborough Coastguard Unit

William Abel, Anna Amos, Gary Askew, John Atkins, Bo Baines, Antony Baker, Jan Bisman, David Brown, Jessica Cameron, Rob Carpenter, Maurice Carter, Dick Chapman, Kim Chapman-Taylor, Anthony Cronin, Lisa Delaveau, Barry Dulieu, Tiana Edwards, Russell Frew, Peter Garnett, Leita Joy, Alison Lamont, Rebecca Lee, Michael emberg, Justin Lewis, Lachlan McCann, Alex Moore, Lawrence Pope, Hans Recter, Garry Spence, David St John, Janette St John, Michael Scott Stevenson, Ellis Wilson.

### Nelson Coastguard Unit

Wayne Ballantyne, Darren Cox, Joseph Crick, Geoffrey Eban, Rosie Furniss, David Gunter, Wayne Harrison, Peter Herrick, Mark Howard, Josephine Kara, Pete Kara, Emmett Mills, Geoffrey Morgan, Andrew Murray, Rosemary Musters, Annette Nistor, Roxanne Oldfield, James Perham, Ross Porter, Graeme Richards, Doug Robinson, Neville Shields, Elisabeth Siegmund, Aaron Smart, Kip Stephenson, Jonathan Tomlinson.

## South Taranaki Coastguard Unit

JJ Atkin, Hugo Bower, Gary Darnell, Daniel Gibb, Jeremy Hart, Malcolm Hurley, Heather Huston, John Linn, Eric Little, Aletta Lovell, John Lovell, Robert Northcott, Ross Patterson, Sabrina-Leigh Pickles, Warren Pickles, Gareth Read, Phillip Smith, Abbie-Leigh Smyth-Pickles, Scott Williams, Christine Windle, Linn Wineera.

## Taranaki Coastguard Unit

Greig Bosley, Ceri Bosley-Brady, Mark Brady, Adam Butler, Peter Chapman, Dean Clark, John Clark, Kato Dentith, Greg Dowle, Jade Dix, Christopher Downs, Robert Lynn Fitzsimons, Ian Gabites, Mathew Hickey, Adam Jasinski, Donald Johnson, Erin Loveridge, Keegan Marshall, Davoc McArthur, Christopher Musgrave, Erica Musgrave, Michael Smith, Margaret Smith, Matthew Thorburn, Peter Van Der Kroft, Marian Vincent, Nick Weir, Ken Wood, Catherine Wooffindin.

## Wanganui Coastguard Unit

Craig Adam, Genevieve Allan, Gwendoline Annear, Mike Carson, Allan Dowdle, Pam Gilligan, Paul Greenwood, John Hamling, Garry Hawkins, Russell Herd, Garth Hobbs, William Hume, Mark Kerwin, Jim Lees, Saasha Lower, Moira Luff, Rex Luff, Jacob Makara-Moreland, Woody Martin, Kevin McKenna, Christina Muller, James Newell, Gavin Oxtoby, Bruce Peterson, Jonathan Seagers, Suzanne Sinclair, Sara Treadgold.

## Wellington Coastguard Unit

James Baltaxe, Malcolm Barr, Lewis Barron, Warwick Bayne, Alice Biggs, Andrew Blockley, Garry Blue, Ian Burns, Dave Collins, Patricia Collins, Graeme Coutts, Scott Digby-Smith, David Fisher, Janet Foster, Peter Francis, Jim Frost, Matthew Galt, Hilary Gardner, Grant Gilbert, Stephen Graham, Philip Heath, Hannah Hopper, Russell Hockley, Fraser Hoyland, David Hubble, Samuel Keer, Nicholas Koirala, Geoff Layton, Tim Lee, Ray Lindsay, Phillip Lubeck, Jesse McClelland, Carl McCoy, John McGhie, David McGrath, Scott McKay, Slaine McKenzie, Manuel Mendoza, Jason Moore, Mark Nicholls, Christopher Norman, Arne Pallentin, Alex Paterson, Vandy Pollard, Alice Rogan, Vicki Rowland, Liam Sampson, Terry Sampson, Brent Sarten, John Schuyt, Christopher Sims, Darryl Smith, Oliver Speer, Jamie Stevens, Douglas Thomas, Nigel Thomas, Samuel Walker, Amy Warren, Graham Weakley, Howard White, Louise Whooley, Sarah Williams, Scott Wilson, Conor Yardley.

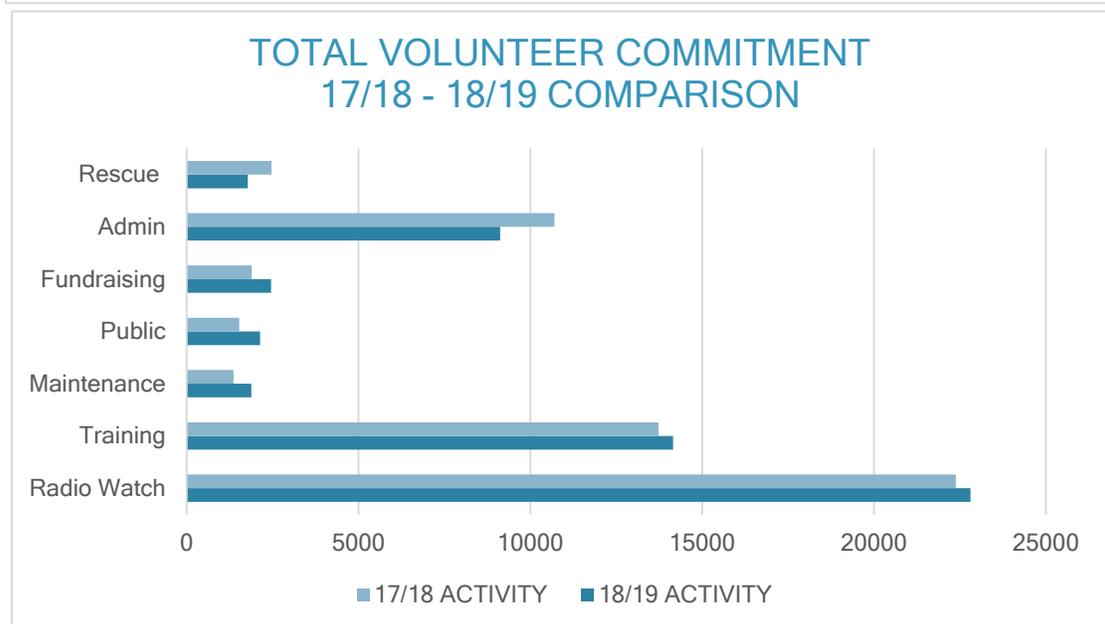
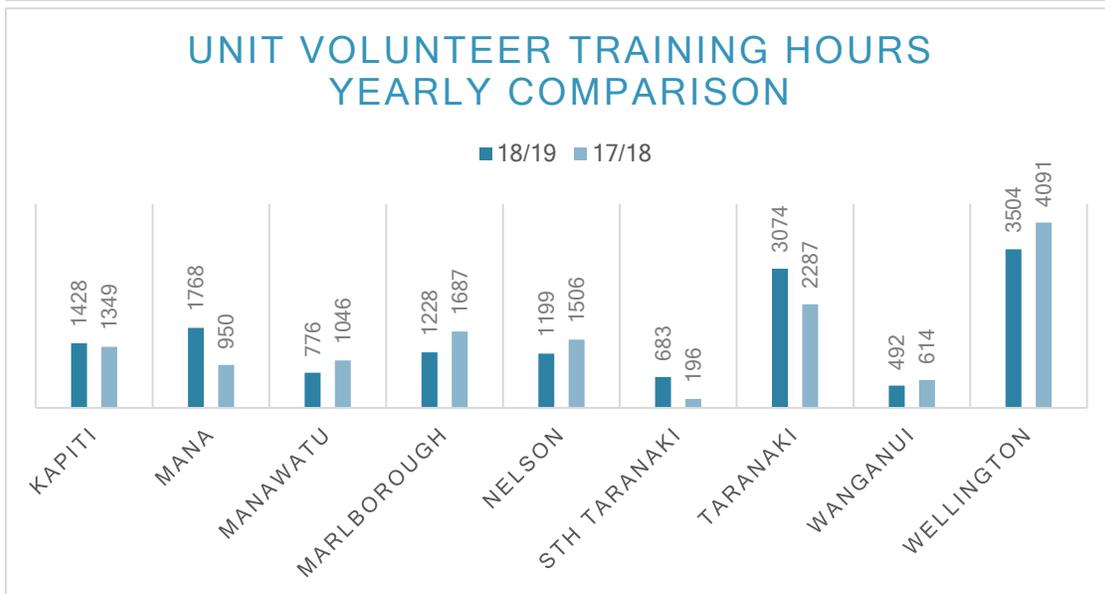
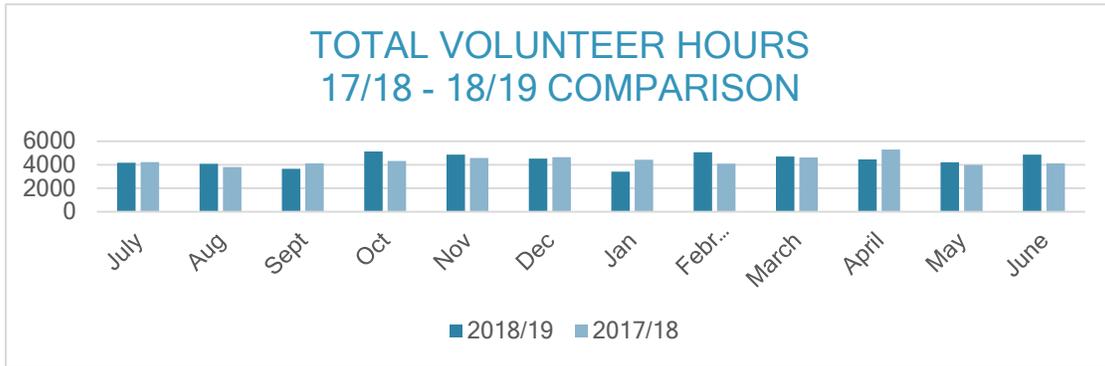
## In Memoriam

*A special recognition of our dedicated volunteers and supporters who passed away this year*

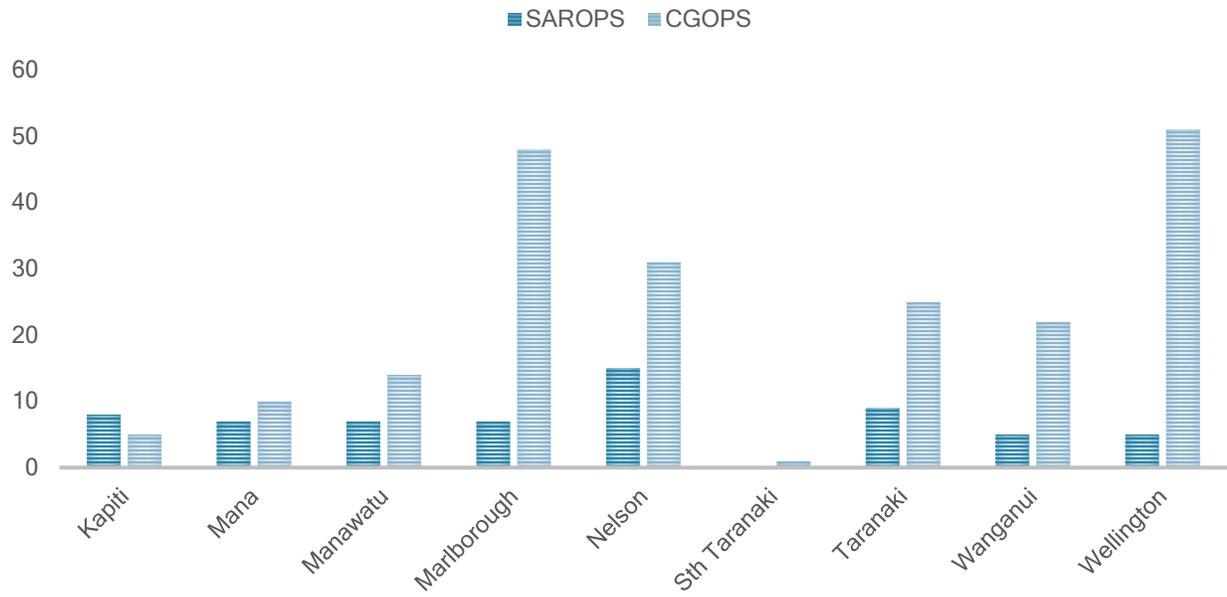
Peter Barnes – Mana Coastguard, Laurie Baker – Taranaki Coastguard.



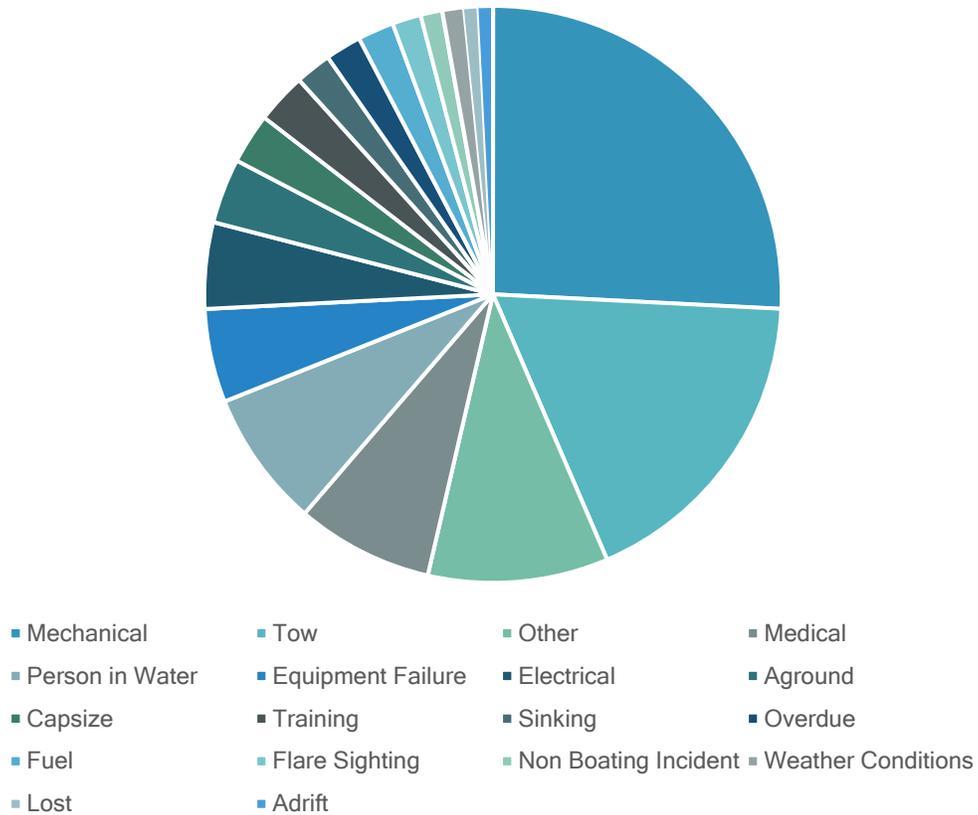
## Our Statistics



## 2018-2019 UNIT OPERATIONS SAROPS (63) CGOPS (195)



## INCIDENT TYPE





## Awards 2018 -2019

The Coastguard Awards of Excellence are an annual celebration of outstanding achievement by Coastguard volunteers across the many roles they undertake in serving both their community and the Coastguard organisation.

The awards are aspirational, providing an opportunity for acknowledgement at a regional level as well as amongst peers. The awards recognise and applaud successful candidates as role models who exemplify the Coastguard values of respect, altruism, integrity, dedication, professionalism and co-operation.

### Rescue of the Year

#### Coastguard Wanganui

for the outstanding coordination and rescue of a surfer. The surfer has been missing for around 2 hours when Wanganui received the call. In very rough conditions it took over 45 mins to find him and they could not actually see him until they were within 30-40m. When they got to him he was extremely cold, tired and cramping, with the wind and tide dragging him further out to sea.

He was one very lucky guy with a very big smile when Wanganui Coastguard found him.



## Unit of the Year Award

### Coastguard Nelson



From management to training, this Unit continues to display excellence at all levels. Financially sound, with good governance strategies in place they continue to maintain high standards of practice in all areas and relationship building which puts this Unit in a good position to face their next challenge of raising the \$1.2m they need to secure a new rescue vessel, ensuring they can continue to supporting Coastguard's vision of 'no boaties' lives lost at sea'.



## Unit Support Volunteer of the Year

### Lawrence Pope

### Marlborough Unit

for his significant commitment as a Committee Member and Treasurer at Marlborough Unit Lawrence exemplifies all the values of Coastguard through his 20 years of service. He always works as part of the team at Marlborough Unit and his positive outlook and professional manner help foster good relationships with everyone he encounters.

## Rescue Vessel Volunteer of the Year

Mike Carson

Wanganui Unit

for his significant contribution to Coastguard Wanganui as a Volunteer, committee member, training instructor, assessor, MOSS compliance and a great mentor and leader to others.

In the last year alone Mike generously donated 480 hours, during these hours he has always demonstrated a positive team atmosphere, he supports and encourages others and is actively involved in all aspects of the Unit.



## Communications & Incident Management Volunteer of the Year

Jan Bisman

Marlborough Unit

for his contribution to maintaining high standards of practice and stewardship within Coastguard Marlborough.

Jan is President of his Unit and a Member on the Coastguard Central Region Board.

Jan worked tirelessly on fundraising for their new vessel and has not stopped since. He continues to provide sound administrative and governance support to his Unit and our Region.





## Community Relations Activity of the Year

### Coastguard Wellington

for significantly engaging in the Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Wahine and to promoting the work of Coastguard to the wider community. It also gave this Unit the opportunity to show the progress made by Coastguard Wellington since its inception following the disaster. A special tribute was Wellington Units opportunity to pay their respects to those who lost their lives in this tragedy.



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## Queens Service Medal for services to the Coastguard

Peter Dixon

Coastguard Kapiti Coast



Pete Dixon has gifted 30 years of volunteer service with the Kapiti Coastguard. Pete originally joined the Kapiti Boating Club in 1986 and later joined the Coastguard in 1987, which was a part of the Boating Club at the time.

He has held several positions with the Club and became Vice Commodore in charge of the Coastguard unit from 1989 until 1992. He continued on as a member of the committee and was made a Life Member of the Boating Club in 2006.

He was an active operational crew member, attending close to every operational search and rescue incident over 30 years, and worked his way up to the role of Senior Master. He was a member of the inaugural Board of Coastguard Central Region from 2003 until 2015.

In 2001 he played a key role in establishing a Coastguard-based air patrol unit on the Kapiti Coast. He negotiated with the local flying club and they outfitted one of their planes for this purpose. He raised funds for the instrumentation involved in outfitting the plane and took air patrol training at the local Police College, later training a number of other Coastguard volunteers.

Still a very active member of his Unit, Pete has recently been significantly involved in sourcing a replacement vessel to be based at Paraparaumu.

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## Queens Service Medal for services to the Coastguard

Peter Woodward

Coastguard Kapiti Coast



Pete Woodward joined Coastguard in 2006 and is a senior member of the regular volunteer crew at the Kapiti Coastguard, acting as Communications Officer he is on call 24/7.

In his other significant role as Fundraising Officer for the Unit, he has overseen the raising of more than \$300,000 for operation and capital expenditure. He was one of the main instigators to promote the replacement of the local Coastguard Rescue Vessel, campaigning for more than four years to raise \$200,000.

The boat was launched in June 2019 and will provide assistance to recreational boat users and also offer support for the increasing tourist traffic to and from Kapiti Island Sanctuary.

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## Coastguard New Zealand - Young Volunteer of the Year

### Runner up

Jessica Cameron

Coastguard Marlborough

This National Award recognises an outstanding volunteers aged 18-27 who has demonstrated commitment to and active engagement in volunteering for Coastguard.

Jessica is part of a core group of volunteers who respond to callouts and medical evacuations. This is a busy unit and Jessica is one of their most regular responders. She displays a high level of professionalism and maturity well beyond her years, as she works well under pressure and takes everything in her stride. Jessica is so committed that she even has a marine VHF radio fitted to her private vehicle so that she is always on hand to help her unit. Jessica is an absolute dynamo - full of energy and enthusiasm who consistently works well in a team, especially under pressure.



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# OUR SUPPORTERS



**Lottery Grants Board**

Te Puna Tahua

LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



