



## The challenges we face

Over the Summer fishing season Coastguard Hawke's Bay was quite busy. We spent over 200 hours on the water and although much of that time was training, we carried out 20 assists and undertook 12 taskings for the Police.

The assists ranged from literally a few minutes when we towed a vessel that had broken down at the entrance to the channel into the Hawke's Bay Sports Fishing Club ramp, through to a 6 hour assist job in January which involved a vessel 32 nautical miles (approx 57 km) off shore. What many people do not realise is that our Coastguard vessel is a commercial vessel that has operating limits which means that before we can go beyond the 12 mile offshore limit we need approval from Maritime New Zealand. We manage that process as we are getting ready to go so, that we have the appropriate paperwork before we hit the 12 mile limit.

One of the most challenging assists involved a vessel in March going from Wellington to Auckland that did not initially require a tow, rather they wanted some guidance coming in the channel. We had been monitoring their progress through most of the day, a big thanks to our SAR partners in Central Hawke's Bay, when at about 11pm they radioed that they had run out of fuel about a mile north of Cape Kidnappers. The wind at the time was pushing them down onto Black Reef and with 1 metre waves. When we arrived just after midnight they were literally just 300 metres off the reef.



An image from our tracking software TracPlus showing the situation.

Coastguard Hawke's Bay also assisted the Police in the search for a mother who went missing at Haumoana and again later for a French tourist who went missing in the same area. In both situations we worked with our SAR partners, Surf, Lowe Rescue Helicopter and Police and although both were very tragic events, it was at least possible to recover them and return them to their families. They also underline the risks involved when you are swimming in the sea or rivers.

## WELCOME

Winter is here but that's no excuse for hibernation.

Our crews have been busy training on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday nights. Some of these trainings have included:

- Night time training using radar equipment for navigation
- Advanced helming - improving our skills in navigating the vessel in tight situations
- Search planning and victim recovery
- Theory training and observation techniques

One thing about Coastguard training is the need for flexibility.... in many of these training sessions, we have received requests from yachts and boaties requiring assistance.

Check out our Facebook page and keep up to date with our latest happenings

[www.facebook.com/coastguardhb/](http://www.facebook.com/coastguardhb/)

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## Happenings from the Harbourmaster

During the summer months Maritime New Zealand staff and I were able to spend more time afloat than in previous years, as part of the "No Excuses" campaign. It is very pleasing to note that compliance levels regarding lifejackets and suitable communication equipment were very high and as a consequence no infringements were issued.

Two well reported recent rescues where all those pulled from the sea or off their boat were wearing lifejackets and all survived. They also had waterproof communication gear to raise the alarm.

A question we were regularly asked whilst out on the water concerned drinking and permissible alcohol levels. Drinking and driving a boat can and often will have the same consequences of driving a car whilst impaired. Ask these two guys who had a bad day in Marlborough over the summer.

<https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/public/news/media-releases-2018/20180502a.asp>

They may have gotten away with their lives, but their wallets may have suffered something terminal.

Henry and a select crew on Celia Knowles were recently instrumental in helping to renew the Pania Reef sector light on the tower out at the airport. The old light was a relic from the 1980's and whilst still in working order could not have been repaired if it



had broken down. The new one is a maintenance free nighttime only LED model which whilst not having quite the same range will still be shining a long time into the future.

The School Education programme continues to flourish, we now have a dedicated boat which is gradually being kitted out with educational equipment to give our Tamariki more of an adventure. We have also begun attending facilities which offer holiday child minding for working parents. We are always open to suggestions / requests for attendance at other locations, fetes, carnivals, and other functions. Anywhere we can get the safe boating message out.

The lifejackets which were traded in as part of the "Old for New" campaign were kept here in Hawke's Bay this year, and the ones which passed muster are now in service at a local Waka Ama group.

The 2nd Rocket which left "Space Station Mahia" in January was even more spectacular than the first. Clear blue skies meant it could be seen from miles around the peninsula and almost until it was in orbit. What a noise! Perks of the Harbourmaster job, I got a ringside seat!

The new 2018 Bylaw went before council earlier this year and is now back from Wellington with Maritime New Zealand blessing. Implementation is targeted for the 1st July, with the only significant change concerning the registration of Jet Skis. It has been a long time coming, but this aspect merely brings us on to line with the surrounding regions.

On a similar note I am working closely with the local Jet Ski racing club to bring the annual national championships to Napier next summer to run in conjunction with the Offshore Power Boat Racing.

Martin Moore  
**Harbourmaster**



*Crew training - conducting figure of eights between two life rings in the water. (The purpose of this is to improve our skills in tight situations as we never know what will be required during a job.)*

# TEAM UP WITH TREMAINS

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## President's report

It has been a busy year for Coastguard Hawke's Bay crews, both on and off the water, and I am constantly reminded that we could not provide a service to our community without our volunteers.

Our volunteers are from all occupations, all ages, diverse backgrounds and diverse experiences. Throughout New Zealand, coastguard operates with volunteer crews, we depend on men and women freely giving their time to crew rescue vessel, operate our marine radio service, providing Police support for marine search and rescue incidents, maintain our bases and provide governance for our organisation.

The rewards are few but often the memories and camaraderie will last a lifetime, especially being part of a team that saved a life, helped people who were in danger out at sea or even bringing back a deceased loved one to family, these rewards are the real worth of volunteering for our organisation.

The training is not easy and requires individual commitment and a real sense of 'giving something back' to your community. For a qualified rescue vessel crew member, hundreds of hours are spent on both theory lessons and practical on the water training for every hour on a rescue mission.



The volunteer commitment also extends to other family members as the time volunteered to Coastguard is often at the expense of family time so in a sense the family (and friends) of our volunteers are a large part of what we do.

There are times we do get it wrong and sometimes in hindsight we should have done something different during a search or a rescue operation however we always try to minimise the risks, we always try to learn from our mistakes and we will always try to save lives at sea.

I am humbled by the efforts of our volunteers which often go beyond the call of duty and at times at significant personal risk.

We regularly call out for more volunteers, for our rescue vessel crewing, radio operators, committee members and just general lend-a-hand help. If you have the right stuff and want to be part of a life saving and life changing team, get in contact, we'd love to hear from you. Be safe on the water.

Dick Hilton  
President HBVCG

## Tribute to Tony Young

On the 23rd of January one of Coastguards' key founding members Tony Young, suddenly and unexpectedly died. We would like to share excerpts of the eulogy for Tony at his funeral delivered by Coastguard President Dick Hilton, as it summarises his involvement, dedication and generosity to our unit and the community we serve.

"Tony was one of the founders of our organisation; he was the longest serving active member, Our Patron, Chairman of our Trust, current Management Committee member, and Works Convener for our building.

I might add that the description of Works Convener does not do justice to what he provided to us and our community, he and his team built our fantastic Marine Operations and Education Centre facilities that we have today.

He was also active in rescue operations over all these years, often assisting using his own vessel for coastal searches for survivors or victim recovery. It was not all calm sailing type of work, there was also personal risk involved on rare occasions; one Police rescue operation I recall in particular; was in extreme sea and weather conditions at night, I was in the base control room talking to him by cellphone and he was really worried that they may not get back to port in one piece. Thankfully, on this occasion all the rescue crews involved including Tony made it safely home.



Tony was always approachable; he had very high standards of personal and business ethical behaviour providing to us; measured and well thought out responses and advice to difficult issues facing our unit. His management guidance over the years is testament to the professional organisation that serves our community today

Last year Tony and Janyce donated a magnificent trophy to be awarded each year to an individual for outstanding community work and community relationship building on behalf of our Coastguard unit; it was a very generous and thoughtful gesture and something that will keep the unit focused on positive relationship building into the future.

Tony leaves a huge gap in our organisation, he leaves a larger than life legacy for us and we will always fondly remember him. "Thank you from all of us Tony".

# Annual Summer Raffle

Hello folks and supporters. Since our last newsletter, our Coastguard volunteers have been hard at work on the streets of Napier and Hastings selling raffle tickets to promote fund raising.

Sales spread from late November 2017 and closed in the first week of February 2018.

In that period, about 130 man/woman hours were spent on the streets selling tickets. A total of 1050 tickets were sold in that period and together with online sales, revenue of \$8230.00 benefitted our unit.

Special thanks to all our volunteers for 'their' time selling and a sincere appreciation to the following for allowing us to display one of the prize boats and sell tickets.

- Countdown Napier
- Countdown Hastings
- Countdown Carlyle
- Pak N Save Napier
- Firmans Marine
- Mitre 10 Mega Napier
- HB Sports Fishing Club
- Napier CBD - Corner Market & Emerson Streets



This is certainly a good chance for us to get out there, meet and greet our supporters and promote the Coastguard brand. One day, we are hoping one of the major prizes will come to Hawke's Bay.

Peter Boshier  
**Convenor/Organiser**  
**HB Volunteer Coastguard Inc.**

*Raffle sales in Napier CBD and Pak n Save Napier*

## Good in the Hood

HB Volunteer Coastguard Inc received recent support in the annual "Good in the Hood" Z Service Stations. After each purchase, customers placed tokens in containers, for various fund raising organisations.

Coastguard HB received a cheque for \$985.00 and were presented with a plaque and cheque on the 12th June 2018 at Z Service Station, Lee Road, Taradale.

Many thanks to Hamish and Rachael Waddington for promoting and presenting the cheque.

The support to our volunteer organisation and charity is appreciated.



## Thanks to our sponsors

Our sincere thanks and appreciation for their continued support.

Since our last newsletter we have been very fortunate to receive funding assistance from:

- |                                    |         |                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------|
| • Inner Wheel Club West Napier     | \$400   | • Peter Nordell                    | \$100    |
| • Farmlands                        | \$1,000 | • Waka Ama Long Distance Nationals | \$500    |
| • John Lloyd                       | \$100   | • St Andrews Church Westshore      | \$100    |
| • Lions Club of Napier             | \$100   | • John Boscawen                    | \$2,500  |
| • Z Energy Good in the Hood        | \$985   | • Lion Foundation                  | \$10,000 |
| • Tremains Real Estate – P Boshier | \$500   | • Infinity Trust                   | \$8,000  |
| • Michael Konig                    | \$150   |                                    |          |
| • Allan White                      | \$100   |                                    |          |

Thanks also to the members for their donations.

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