

LOOP

IN THE



The official newsletter of Coastguard Northern Region



Celebrating Excellence: Volunteer of the Year

It's a great feeling to know that you have saved a life, but in typical kiwi fashion, we prefer to remain humble about it. Our annual awards are a fantastic occasion to celebrate stories of excellence, dedication, effort and achievement from around our Region.

Coastguard Hokianga President Jeff Cramp is the 2010 Coastguard Northern Region Volunteer of the Year and recipient of the Dr John Taylor Memorial Award donated by the Taylor family in Memory of John Taylor Past President and Patron of the Region.

Coastguard's strength as an organisation comes from the incredible commitment made by each and every one of our volunteers. Jeff is a dedicated example of this commitment, he has been an extremely active member of the Opononi based Hokianga Unit on

New Zealand's west coast (our most Northern Unit) since it's formation in 1996.

Serving as the President since 2003, Jeff's passion, leadership and dedication to both his unit, local community and Coastguard around the Region have seen him as the chairman of the Northland Operational Committee. He has established a Junior Coastguard programme, and helped the unit to flourish together as a team to achieve the mission of 'Saving Lives at Sea'.

Devoting his time further as one of two committed skippers of Coastguard

Hokianga's dedicated rescue vessel (a 9.5 metre AMF), Jeff has been instrumental

in keeping boaties safe both inside the harbour, across the often treacherous bar and up and down the coast. Jeff facilitates the Northland Operational Committee as the Chairman; bringing to the table confidence, guidance and a can-do attitude.

Jeff's role of Training Officer within the unit has seen him work closely with the Opononi School to get at-risk students involved with Coastguard. Providing them with the opportunity of learning life skills and receiving both practical and theoretical boating knowledge. They train alongside the Rescue Vessel crew in a Zodiac inflatable and as they progress in age, abilities and confidence, they advance up to the level of Rescue Vessel crew, becoming valued members of the Hokianga team.

Congratulations Jeff, Coastguard gratefully acknowledges your dedication, outstanding leadership, devotion and professionalism.



Jeff Cramp receives the Dr John Taylor Memorial Award from Mrs Marie Taylor at the 2010 CNR AGM, with Northern Region President Joe Davis and CEO Dean Lawrence.



Inside this Issue

- Save a Mate and get a Hutchwilco Lifejacket
- Our exciting new Handbook
- Around the Region
- Rotary Fundraiser
- New Coastguard Patron
- Win an ICOM marine VHF Radio
- Boating Education Courses
- Coastguard Christmas
- Safe Boating Tips

Hutchwilco: Proudly Supporting Coastguard

Coastguard Northern Region welcomes Hutchwilco as a new sponsor of the Region.

Established in 1894, Hutchwilco is a proudly New Zealand owned and operated manufacturer and distributor of quality marine safety equipment, recreational and performance water sports products. They are nationwide agents for industry leading brands Zodiac, Avon and BFA.

Hutchwilco is proudly supporting Coastguard Northern Region by providing their popular Hutchwilco Mariner lifejackets in support of Coastguard membership promotions.

Coastguard is a charity - we simply can't save lives at sea without public support, thank you to Hutchwilco for their generosity and support. Welcome aboard!

Hutchwilco
Quality Lifejackets

Save a Mate

and we'll give YOU a Hutchwilco Lifejacket

Keep your friends and family safe on the water this summer, introduce them to Coastguard and we will give you a Hutchwilco Mariner Lifejacket* valued at over \$100.

As a supporter member of Coastguard you are aware of the many benefits Coastguard provides you with. This is our way of saying thank you - we simply couldn't do it without you.

Save a Mate by signing them up as a member, we'll send you the lifejacket and they won't miss out either. They will be safe in the knowledge that they are supporting Coastguard, so that we will be there when they need us. They will be able

to take advantage of the many safety and information services provided to members including a \$100 discount off our popular Coastguard Day Skipper courses, also a \$40 discount off our VHF Marine Radio Operator course.

To Save a Mate and receive your lifejacket visit www.coastguard.org.nz (key phrase 'Save a mate' promotion), or phone 0508 RESCUE

To receive your Hutchwilco Mariner Lifejacket before Christmas membership must be received before the 20th December 2010. Offer valid until 31st January 2011.

*Special Conditions apply, please see our website.



COASTGUARD ON THE JOB

Coastguard received a call at 0839 hours from a land-based informant saying that her husband had struck rocks just south of the Matakana River, Kawau Bay and was in the water.

Coastguard immediately tasked Rescue resources and broadcast Urgency calls on Channels 16, 80 and 82. Being a quiet weekday out on the water these calls did not generate any response; however had there have been vessels on the water they could have responded. The information was passed by cellphone which in this instance resulted in success; however a call from a Marine VHF Radio could have generated a faster further reaching response.

Coastguard rescue vessel Hibiscus Rescue 2 departed Stanmore Bay for the location and was on scene within 30 minutes of being



tasked. The person involved had by this time swam safely to shore and thanks to wearing a lifejacket was able to do so without the fear of having to try and stay afloat. The Coastguard volunteers on scene recovered the man from the rocks and transferred him to a waiting Police car at the Sandspit Wharf. The person sustained minor injuries including shock. A satisfactory outcome to a potentially life threatening situation.

A phone call to the gentleman later in the day revealed that he was a little shaken and tired by the ordeal but incredibly grateful for the critical assistance that Coastguard with its dedicated volunteers provided. The vessel had suffered from a mechanical failure and was blown onshore. As it turns out the vessel was equipped with a Marine VHF Radio but as the gentleman hadn't attended a VHF Radio course was unfamiliar with the use of it, which in a distress situation can mean the difference between life and death. He now intends to seek some boating education enabling him to better enjoy future adventures safely out on the water.

Coastguard Membership Members Handbook



The Official Members Handbook
for Coastguard Northern Region

COASTGUARD
NORTHERN REGION

Indispensable!

The essential 2011 Members Handbook!

Our exciting 'new look' handbook provides you with a go-to resource when out enjoying your time on the water, one of your many members benefits. From tips on what lifejackets to buy and how best to look after them, to tides, VHF channels and safety information. Featuring fishing knots by Geoff Thomas, delicious seafood recipes, extracts from 'Rescue' Magazine and much more!

The handbook publication is made possible by the generosity and support of those businesses that have advertised in it; please support them in return by utilising their services and products where you can. From design services, to building materials, cameras and everything you need for boating, you name it they are in there.

www.coastguard.org.nz

Whangaruru Open Day

The Coastguard Whangaruru bi-annual Rescue Day kicked off again on Labour Weekend in October, hosting Coastguard units from around the region for a day of Search and Rescue training scenarios, team building with games on the beach and a night on the tiles with Johnny Cash and friends.

Training scenarios involved several local residents setting their private vessels adrift, mocking an incident involving persons in the water, simulating a diving trip gone terribly wrong. With Northland Air Patrol putting their skills to the test locating targets from the skies the scenarios involved 6 vessels for over three hours as our dedicated professional volunteers gained valuable learning experiences and put their theoretical and practical training into practise.



Photos courtesy of Coastguard Northland Air Patrol and Coastguard Whangaruru

Raglan and Kawhia improved VHF Nowcasting Services

Channel 21 broadcasting out of Te Uku (a hill behind Raglan) covers the Raglan and Kawhia Harbours.

In the past we were limited to Channel 22 broadcasting from Klondyke (a hill on the southern side of Port Waikato) which covers down to the Raglan and Kawhia areas off the coast but did not provide coverage into the harbours themselves.

The Nowcasting broadcast includes the marine forecast for the Manukau Harbour, Kaipara and Raglan Sea areas with the addition of live wind data from sites including Hokianga, Kaipara, Manukau and Port Taharoa.

Checking the weather forecast is a must, each and every time you plan your boating, and again before you leave the ramp or mooring. Imagine how invaluable it would be to know the actual wind peak, average speed and direction at strategic locations around the Northern Region.

Checking the weather before heading out to sea can be critical especially when using the often dangerous West Coast bars. As a member you receive 50 free Nowcasting texts direct to your mobile phone, to register visit www.coastguard.org.nz

Moehau

Channel 22 broadcasting off the top of the Moehau Range, New Zealand's only solar powered Nowcasting site has been given a birthday with an expansion of it's solar capacity allowing a continuous broadcast through out the day.



This site services the outer Gulf, Firth of Thames and around the outer Gulf islands such as Great Barrier, Little Barrier and the Mokohinau Islands.



Bar Awareness Days prove popular

Coastguard organised Bar Awareness Days held on the Kaipara, Manukau, Raglan and Kawhia Harbours have proven a hit with boaties recently.

All five events held this year have been fully supported with plans underway to hold further days in 2011.

Coastguard Manukau President Peter Van Rooyen said that "it was an impressive site leading the 22 boats that participated in their event out and over the Manukau Harbour Bar".

Even very experienced boaties have got into trouble while crossing the different harbour bars which is why it is important that boaties are well prepared before they go out on the water.

In the words of one of the participants on the day. *"Thanks for putting on the bar awareness day. I am now better armed to try and tackle the bar on a nice day and catch some West Coast snapper. I hope I never have to call you for assistance but it is piece of mind that you are there just in case. Regards and keep up the good work."*

If you want to get further information about crossing a bar or for when the next Bar Awareness Days will be held, please visit www.coastguard.org.nz

Rotary Fundraiser for Coastguard Top Day Out

Fancy an excuse to go fishing? Every year the Rotary Club of Pakuranga organises a magic day out on the sparkling Waitemata on board 50 to 60 launches of differing sizes and styles, for 400 guests from the business community around Auckland.

This is an opportunity to enjoy the best of the Hauraki Gulf for both you and your guests. You will enjoy a fully catered day's fishing and bountiful fellowship with other equally enthusiastic guests.

Based at Half Moon Bay, Auckland, this "Top Day Out" has raised over \$500,000 through the past 17 years for distribution to a range of community groups, specifically the wider Auckland-based Coastguard units.

After a day's fishing on the Hauraki Gulf, all boats assemble off Motuhie Island where participants will gather on the beach for the official weigh-in of fish, a beach party and the presentation of prizes. More importantly, participants will share in refreshments and a fine dinner.

The great thing about this day is that guests need only bring a rod and sunscreen. Leave your worries back at the office, absolutely everything is provided, from bait, to food and refreshments. Prizes include best dressed team, biggest fish plus a myriad of other prizes.

The 2011 event will be held on 17, March 2011, so make up a team and be part of the fun.

Better still we recognise that without the launches and skippers we do not have an event. In recognition of the generosity of these launch owners we reward them with a diverse range of prizes - yes, every skipper goes home feeling like its Christmas.

Sponsors can choose a vessel to suit their participants or you can share a launch with a client group who also fit your own interest group.

This is a fantastic opportunity to host and reward your most valued business associates, clients, suppliers, staff or friends with a fabulous day of fishing, fun and fellowship.

Can you believe it! Just \$250.00 per guest for all this. Almost too good to miss!!!

Coastguard Northern Region President Joe Davis receives a cheque from Rotary.

For more information, contact the organisers:

Bruce Martin: mobile 021 169 0382

email: brucesue@xtra.co.nz

or Don Roberts: mobile: 0274 428 178

email: don.roberts@xtra.co.nz



New Patron appointed for Coastguard

At our 2010 Annual General Meeting, Coastguard Northern Region proudly appointed Alan Haddock as our new Patron.

In nominating Alan for the position of Patron, Honourary Life Member of the Region Brooke Archbold described Alan as a "man of the sea having served at sea with the Northern Steamship Company, Holm and Company, the Union Steamship Company and the Post Line."

Alan joined the Auckland Volunteer Coastguard Service (the predecessor of Coastguard Northern Region) in the mid 1960's serving on its executive before becoming President in 1974. He was instrumental in the establishment of the national Coastguard New Zealand body - The Royal New Zealand Coastguard Federation and served as the organisations first President.

Instrumental in forming the boating education arm of Coastguard, tutoring Boatmaster and Coastal Skipper courses from 1970 and representing Coastguard on the Safe Boating Council then run by the Ministry of Transport. His efforts resulted in Coastguard taking over the administration of boating education courses and later the VHF radio operator certificate courses including the service of call sign registrations - a key operation of Coastguard today.

To this day, Alan remains a Director of Coastguard Boating Education and a Boatmaster examiner.

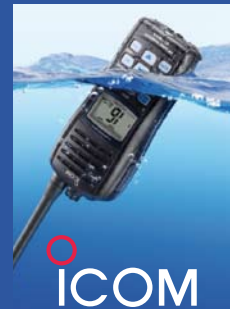
Alan was awarded life membership of Auckland Volunteer Coastguard Service in 1978 and was made a life member of Coastguard New Zealand in 1995. He was further awarded National Honours by being made a Member of the Queens Service Order in 1997.

Alan's contribution to boating safety and the wider Coastguard organisation has been enormous and the Region is extremely honored to have Alan as its Patron.



Win an ICOM Marine VHF Radio

We always say that when you go boating, you must always carry two forms of communication that will work, even when wet. By far the best form of communication is a Marine VHF Radio.



Thanks to ICOM New Zealand, the official radio sponsors of Coastguard Northern Region's Marine VHF Radio Operator Courses. This issue's competition gives you the chance to win an ICOM IC-M33 Marine VHF radio.

Just answer this simple question:

What does VHF stand for?

Put your answer on the back of an envelope and send to:

In the Loop Competition
Coastguard Northern Region
PO Box 2195, Shortland St
Auckland 1140

Or email your answer to:

competition@coastguard.org.nz

From the largest commercial vessels to the smallest weekend runabouts, and everything in-between, Icom provides the world's leading marine communications products to suit you.

Recreational Boating Courses

The holidays are fast approaching so now is the time for you to book one of Coastguards boating courses.

Here is a taste of what we have on around the Northern Region. If you would like a full program please see the Education Section in the Coastguard Members Handbook.

Day Skipper (15 hours)



An introductory course for all members of the family or crew including those new to boating.

Course Fee: \$180.00 per person 2010 (\$185.00 per person 2011)

Start Date	Venue	Day	Time
15-January	Auckland MRC	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
15-January	Kawhia	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
19-January	Auckland MRC	Wednesday x5	1900 - 2200
7-February	Half Moon Bay (BBYC)	Monday x6	1900 - 2200
7-February	Massey, Albany	Mon/Wed x5	1900 - 2200
16-February	Waiuku	Wednesday x5	1900 - 2130
19-February	Auckland MRC	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
26-February	Kerikeri	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
5-March	Hamilton	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
12-March	Clarkes Beach	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
19-March	Auckland MRC	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630
19-March	Whangarei	Sat/Sun x1	0830 - 1630

VHF Radio Operator (6 hours)



Marine VHF Radio Operators Qualification is a legal requirement for all users of Marine VHF Radio.

Course Fee: \$80.00 per person 2010 (\$85.00 per person 2011)

Start Date	Venue	Day	Time
18-January	Auckland MRC	Tuesday x2	1900 - 2200
23-January	Half Moon Bay (BBYC)	Sunday x1	0900 - 1500
1-February	Browns Bay	Tuesday x2	1900 - 2200
20-February	Whangaroa	Sunday x1	0900 - 1500
21-February	Te Atatu Boating Club	Monday x2	1900 - 2200
26-February	Auckland MRC	Saturday x1	0900 - 1500
26-February	Auckland MRC	Saturday x1	0900 - 1500
27-February	Hamilton	Sunday x1	0900 - 1500
27-February	Whangarei	Sunday x1	0900 - 1500
10-March	Auckland MRC	Thursday x2	1900 - 2200
19-March	Kerikeri	Sunday x1	0900 - 1500
19-March	Raglan	Saturday x1	0900 - 1500
21-March	Howick	Monday x2	1900 - 2200

Boatmaster (30 hours)



A comprehensive course for boaties with some existing knowledge experience.

Course Fee: \$295 per person

Start Date	Venue	Day	Time
7-February	Auckland MRC	Monday x 12	1900 - 2200
24-February	Auckland MRC	Thursday x 12	1900 - 2200
26-February	Kerikeri	Sat/Sun x2 + Wed x 2	0830 - 1630
29-March	Waiuku	Wednesday x 14	1900 - 2130

RYA Powerboating (Trailer Boat)

Level 1 (1 day)



A one day course that is ideal for people completely new to boating.

Course Fee: \$330 per person

Start Date	Venue	Day	Time
17-January	Auckland MRC	Monday x 1	0830 - 1630
29-March	Auckland MRC	Tuesday x 1	0830 - 1630

Level 2 (2 day)



A comprehensive course covering all practical skills and background knowledge enabling you to be a capable powerboat driver.

Course Fee: \$550 per person

Start Date	Venue	Day	Time
15-January	Auckland MRC	Sat/Sun	0830 - 1630
24-January	Auckland MRC	Mon/Tue	0830 - 1630
10-February	Auckland MRC	Thurs/Fri	0830 - 1630
26-February	Auckland MRC	Sat/Sun	0830 - 1630
7-March	Auckland MRC	Mon/Tue	0830 - 1630
24-March	Auckland MRC	Thurs/Fri	0830 - 1630

Super Summer Education Offers

Coastguard is rewarding long-standing members* by offering these fantastic Education Course Discounts!

Coastguard members for over 3 consecutive years

BOATMASTER COURSE (30 hours)

A comprehensive course for boaties with some existing knowledge experience.

Book now for only **\$150.00** (normally \$295.00)

All bookings to be made between 1st December 2010 and 28th February 2011.

*Offer valid for Coastguard members with consecutive years membership only.

Coastguard members for over 7 consecutive years

COASTAL SKIPPER COURSE (55 hours)

An advanced course covering coastal navigation, weather, passage planning and seamanship relevant to those wishing to undertake coastal voyages.

Book now for only **\$300.00** (normally \$535.00)

Coastguard Christmas

The Coastguard Team wishes you a safe and happy summer of boating.

With thanks to you for recognising the vital role that Coastguard has in keeping people safe on the water with your support of our volunteers through your Coastguard membership.

It is only with your help that we are able to achieve our mission of Saving Lives at Sea. Throughout the holiday period our volunteer crews will be taking to the skies in our aircraft, logging your trip reports and launching our rescue vessels to risk their lives and ensure your safe boating. If you see them on the water give them a wave there is no greater feeling than that of saving a life and meeting our members out on the water safely enjoying themselves.



Give a Coastguard gift

Perfect for the person who has everything and loves their boating.

Donation Gift

Donate to Coastguard and we will provide you with a certificate to give as a gift acknowledging the donation.

Coastguard Gift Voucher

These can be used for everything from Membership and Maritime School Education Courses (both theory and practical), to Charts.



Coastguard Pennant

Available only to members, perfect for any vessel.



To purchase your gift: please phone 09 303 4303 or email gift@coastguard.org.nz

Here's to a safe and enjoyable summer of boating!

Check out these safe boating tips to ensure you have no regrets on the water this summer.

1. Check your boat and engine before you leave and don't overload the boat - be prepared for the unexpected.
2. Get a marine weather forecast before you go boating and keep yourself up to date during the day with the Coastguard Nowcasting on VHF - the weather can change quickly at sea.
3. Take at least two waterproof forms of communication - primary method is VHF marine radio. Secondary is a cellphone - (always put your cellphone in a zip-lock bag) - if you can't contact us, we can't rescue you. Other options include flares and epiirbs.
4. Take a correct size and type of lifejacket for the type of activity you are doing for each person on board your boat.
5. Ensure your vessel carries the correct and appropriate safety equipment (i.e flares, EPIRB, VHF radio, First Aid Kit as examples).
6. Tell people of your intentions - lodge a trip report with your local Coastguard VHF Radio station.

Coastguard promotes Skipper Responsibility as the core principle to safe boating. At all times the individual in charge of the boat or craft must take all practical steps to keep their craft and those on board safe.



Thank you to The Southern Trust for making this newsletter possible.

Thank you to our sponsors:



Coastguard Northern Region

POSTAL ADDRESS / PO Box 2195, Shortland Street, Auckland 1140

STREET ADDRESS / Level 1, Auckland Marine Rescue Centre, 3 Solent Street Mechanics Bay

PHONE / 09 303 4303

FREE CALL FROM OUTSIDE AUCKLAND AREA / 0508 Rescue (737 283)

EMAIL / membership@coastguard.org.nz

WEB / www.coastguard.org.nz

THE CHARITY SAVING LIVES AT SEA

COASTGUARD

NORTHERN REGION