

## HOWICK VOLUNTEER COASTGUARD 28<sup>TH</sup> AGM PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies Gentlemen, Member & Guests

I would like to welcome you to the Howick Volunteer Coastguard's 28<sup>th</sup> AGM. with a special welcome to Dick Quax, Auckland councillor and Joe Davis from Coastguard Northern Region . I would also like to welcome all the life members who have made the effort to attend. I trust that you will behave and not ask too many awkward questions

It has been relatively quiet year on the water. In the last year we have attended 160 incidents ranging from simple tow jobs to more serious incidents, down from 208 last year. This is a good trend in some ways as the behaviour of boaties out there may be on the improve with the safety message getting across to some at least.

The downside is that it is the incidents that keep us coming along but I guess there will always be the ill-prepared and incompetent as well as the genuine accidents and mechanical problems that we will need to deal with.

Our two vessels have performed well.. 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 160 incidents, we have spent 1296 hours on search and rescue operations assisting 360 people, 564 hours fundraising, 2495 hours training, 1248 hours on administration,91 hours on education and 473 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 put up with our frequent absences, often at the most inconvenient times. Without their patience, we could not possibly operate this organisation. All members, please pass on our thanks

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

- Todd Forsyth, Vice President
- Paul Newman, Executive Officer
- David Steward, Secretary
- Steve Emmett ,Treasurer
- Steve Rowlands, Operations Officer
- Colin Small, Immediate Past President
- Paul Bryson and Jim Follows MSA Safety Officers
- 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 Jim Follows and Bryan Cartelle
- And our crews, Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta..

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 Auckland 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 status is maintained. In the next twelve months which we must continue to train diligently and strive to maintain the high standards of this and our parent organisation.

Thank you for your attendance, and I will now pass you on to our treasurer Steve for his report

**Ian Gibson**

President

Howick Volunteer Coastguard