

### Important updated

**Remember to let Gin know if you are going to be unavailable for any period of time.**

- If you are going away: Contact Gin with the dates you are unavailable.
- If you are unable to attend a training: Contact Matt Hassard
- If you are unable to attend a meeting: Contact Gin

Mark Sellers is not currently available so please just send details to Gin. Email [ninandnim@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ninandnim@xtra.co.nz) or [virginia\\_peck@bnz.co.nz](mailto:virginia_peck@bnz.co.nz) or phone her (numbers to the right).

### This Months Meeting — 21<sup>st</sup> March

We will be visiting the Westpac rescue Helicopter base at Waikato Hospital at 7.45pm. **We will meet at the Hamilton Police Station at 7.30pm**

We will have some photos from Operation West in Christchurch available for those that want to see them or discuss.

### Last Months Meeting

- SAR shirts, New field guide and self inflating pillows were distributed.
- Debrief for the 3 searches over Christmas - New Year period, Matarangi, Raglan & Maungatautari.

### Monthly Training - Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March updated

The venue is yet to be decided. If you would like anything specific covered at one of the trainings please let Matt know.

Please txt or call Matt to let him know whether of not you will be attending the monthly training. It is expected that all members attend these evening sessions.

### SAREX updated

Reminder that the Sarex this weekend is postponed. It will now be held on the 18th and 19th of June.

### Committee Members

Virginia (Gin) Peck (Chairman)

John Twizell (Vice Chairman)

Russell Lamb (Secretary)

Amy McDonald (Treasurer/Funding)

Matt Hassard (Training)

Barry Were (YSAR coordinator)

Ralph Goudswaard

Mark Hassett

Mark Sellers

Refael Whyte - Non-committee (Minutes)

Jake Crosby - Non-committee (Newsletter)

### SAR Hut Update New

Ralph is organising for the large container to be delivered in the next few weeks to the hut along with a picnic table.

### LandSAR Polos Updated

As the supplier of the polo shirts was in the Christchurch CBD an alternative supplier in Petone has been found. Gin is waiting to find out the new price.

## Callouts

- 27 Feb, to assist Civil Defence with the Christchurch earthquake. Traveled to Christchurch 28 Feb, returned 4 March.
- 27 Feb, a person with dementia missing Hamilton, located within a couple of hours.
- In the first week of March: A pager message was not sent out as police were requested to obtain further info first regarding a person with Alzheimer's missing in Cambridge and located before further assistance was required.
- 9th March, Saxby's Road area of Hamilton, an Indian lady missing found near the hospital.

A reminder when a pager message is sent out if request is to respond we should be receiving a response from everyone that has a pager unless you have already advised you were going to be away or not available.

## Social Event - 24 March Updated

Social event at Waveney Parkers on Thursday 24th March for a BBQ & swim.

Her address is 688 Maungakawa Road, Te Miro. 10km from Cambridge, 1.4 km past the Scenic look out at Gudex Park on Sanatorium Hill. It's on the right down a concrete driveway. There is room for about 4 - 6 cars at the bottom the rest can park at the top on the grass area.

The pool is still in the high 20's so bring your togs.

Best way from Hamilton Police station:

- Head towards Cambridge, take the Tamahere / Airport off ramp and turn left towards Matangi / Tauwhare
- Up the rise take the first road on the right – Bruntwood Road to the end by the Whey Factory.
- Cross straight over onto Zig Zag Road follow this around and turn left onto Hogan Road.
- At the T intersection turn right onto Fencourt Road. Follow this to the end with T intersection with Maungakawa Road.
- Head left up the hill – by 'Road narrows no stock trailers' – sign.
- Her house is 1.4 on the right along the metal road.
  
- From B2 road – just head down Fencourt Road all the way past Goodwood School.
  
- From Cambridge – join onto Thornton Road by the Te Ko utu Lake reserve and follow till road turns to right, take left Road (Maungakawa Road) and head on through and up the hill.

## Minute Taker needed

Our minute taker at committee meetings will be leaving later this year around July or August for further study. We are looking for a volunteer to take over this role. Committee meetings are the second Monday of every month at the police station. Please talk to Gin.

## For Sale Updated

### At the moment we do not have any ration packs available

- Backcountry ration packs – with breakfast, lunch, dinner and extras pack (tea, coffee, chocolate etc) they are a bargain at \$17. Remember – these are sold to our Group at this special rate on the understanding that they will only be used during SAREXs or SAR Operations.
- Hamilton designed SAR cloth badge, \$6.00 (contact Russell).
- Whistles – Bright and Loud, \$12 (contact Barry).

## Pager Test Message

Reminder for all those members with pagers. The first of every month a test message is sent out to ensure your pager is operational, if you do not receive this message you should contact Matt.

## Personal Details

Contact Russell if there are any changes to your contact details so the callout list is updated. Change of email address also needs to be passed on to Jake for the newsletter.

## Discounts for Members

- Bivouac Outdoor – 25% discount
- Trek 'N Travel – 20% discount
- R&R Sport – 25% discount – Ask for Wayne Addison.
- Torpedo 7 – 10% discount – Email Barry for our discount code.
- Kathmandu - Free summit club membership

We had 23 members of Hamilton SAR go to Christchurch to assist Civil Defence with the emergency after the earthquake. Landsar provided all their own equipment while we were there and we all camped at the Halswell rugby league grounds and had the use of the facilities and the soccer club while there. Not many times when you go to an event and the ladies loos did not have a queue.

A flight was organised for the upper North Island contingent to fly from Whenuapai, Auckland and from Ohakea, initially Monday 28th Feb mid afternoon, then got changed to 8.00am Monday morning. This meant leaving Hamilton about 4.15am to ensure we could get across the city with the early morning traffic.

Of course the call out on the Sunday evening threw a spanner in the works with organising everyone and responding to the land line, mobile, pager and emails all coming in at the same time for both events.

Sorry to all those if you were lucky enough to have been asleep at 11.30 pm-ish with the pager message to say the flight time had changed back to the afternoon.

My phone calls had started at 4.00pm on the Sunday liaising with Ian Newman and I managed to get a piece of chicken for tea at 12.15am Sunday morning and finally got to sleep at 1.00am.

Unfortunately one of the people I was picking up didn't receive the pager message and phoned me at 4.20am to make sure I was still picking them up. I went back to bed but was still awake 1 hour later so got up to finish organising my own things before going to work to sort out the next week before driving to Auckland for our flight.

While in Christchurch we continued with the tasking which was to visit every house in the North, West, South, Port Hills, Lytelton, Prebleton and Banks Peninsula areas and recording the number of houses visited, % occupied, % with minor, moderate or major damage and whether or not they had, power, phone, water or sewerage services. We also recorded specific details of people, places that required further follow up and made sure people were aware of the different emergency services available.

We were not tasked to visit the worst hit Eastern Suburbs.

Everyone visited was very appreciative of the door knock and that we'd come from all over New Zealand to assist them. In September there had been an overwhelming response from Christchurch residents that no one had officially visited them to check on them or their places, even if everything was ok.

The areas to be covered were divided into sectors, with each sector having a leader and they were then in charge of 4 teams of 4 people and it was up to each team how they tackled the task and searching of their area for the day. A radio was able to be provided to each team to talk directly with the sector leader and the leader had 1 back to Base. Local members provided some transport along with Doc allowing use of their vehicles for getting everyone out to their areas. Most of the Hamilton members were working within the same sector but a few others were with different people each day.

Landsar certainly achieved this tasking very efficiently and each day we provided at least 67 pages of documentation evidencing what we had covered that day with all the statistics and areas covered. We visited over 62,000 houses over the 9 days so this has been the largest event SAR has been involved in ever.

In due course we are going to be provided with the full details of what was covered.

I was "lucky" enough to be assigned with 1 other lady the title of "resources team" for the Thursday, this meant actually starting Wed after dinner to try and work out teams for the Thursday, ie who was actually going to be there, who was still out at banks Peninsula overnight and what transport we were or not going to have available and what was left still to do. John Guy went in to assist with taskings and ended up in base for Thursday as well.

We worked until 10.45pm and then were ready to start by 7.00am. Base was located in a mobile trailer unit usually used for art displays - with whiteboards on all the inside walls which was great. While in there first thing Thursday morning we thought there was another largish earthquake starting, the trestle table didn't look too stable and we were about to go for the door but it was only the generator being turned on which caused the shaking, a sigh of relief.

Hamilton SAR members can be very proud of our skills as they would certainly not have been able to provide this level of reporting without our specialist MSU (Computer) people knowing what to do. They all worked extremely long hours and everyone had disturbed nights sleep due to the aftershocks. The first night I didn't feel any at all due to the lack of sleep the previous night and helping with typing IMAN details the first night, my eyes were rather tired by 9pm. During the time we were there we also provided base management members, Barry, Gin

## Operation West - Christchurch Continued

and John Guy, At least 4wd capable drivers, Lynette being a roving medic for the days we had to go to Lytelton and Banks Peninsula and our back up with our other 2 St Johns people. Mark Hassett was able to organise for his company to have delivered a photocopier for use at base and even though Dave Henderson had tendered his resignation he came from Fiordland to help the MSU team. Anyone who could type was given a quick lesson on what was required and assisted getting all the logs loaded each night.

A thank you of course to the other members that were here on standby and nearly had to go out for a call out during the week as well.

While at base on the Thursday many members of the public bought in yummy baking to say "Thank you" for the job we were doing.

I also got delegated to do a couple of media interviews on the Thursday, one with the NZ press Association and a radio station. I never heard if they used any of it on the radio but these are the links below to the newspaper ones.

I even had a teacher from when I was at High school (so not that long ago really the early 1980's) that sent me a message on facebook to say he'd just been reading the article in the Otago Daily Times - Dunedin.

John Twizell also had a couple of phone interviews with the Waikato times when down there.

This Sunday at lunch time John T and I have been invited to do an interview of approx 40 mins with the community radio station in Hamilton. The frequencies are AM 1206 or FM 106.7

- Gin

## Chch Photos Wanted new

Landsar were wanting collection of our photos from christchurch so if you have some can you please contact Gin so can arrange collation.

## Chch Expense Claims new

If there are any further claims to be made for transport to Christchurch, please get the claim form into Gin before the end of March as we can only do one summarised claim.

## Chch: YSAR Graduates new

Shailer Hart, The Incident Controller for Operation West has written a letter acknowledging the role of YSAR Graduates in Operation West.

<http://bit.ly/gfalzW>

HISTORY

Then Joan of Ark met her end.  
She was burned as a steak.

HISTORY

SOMETIMES IN THE WAR THEY TAKE PRISONERS  
AND KEEP THEM AS OSTRIGES UNTIL THE WAR  
IS OVER. SOME PRISONERS END UP IN  
CONSTERPATION CAMPS.

GEOGRAPHY

In geography we learned that countries  
with sea round them are islands and  
ones without sea are incontinents.

NATURAL HISTORY

Crabs and creatures like them all belong to a  
family of crushed asians.

## For a laugh

MATHS

I would like to be an accountant  
but you have to know a lot  
about maths.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

A mosque is a sort of church. The main  
difference is that its roof is doomed.

March				
<del>18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup></del>	<del>Event</del>	<del>District SAREX</del>	<del>Pirongia</del>	<del>Postponed</del>
24 <sup>th</sup>	Social	BBQ at Waveney's place	Hamilton	
30 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Wednesday)	Hamilton	
April				
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Track & Clue Awareness	Thames	
28 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Thursday)	Hamilton	
May				
7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup>	Training	First Aid (MSC)	Tauranga	Updated
<del>7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup></del>	<del>Training</del>	<del>Suburban Search</del>	<del>Tauranga</del>	<del>Canceled</del>
21 <sup>st</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Training	Search Methods	Ohakune	New
25 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Wednesday)	Hamilton	
June				
18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	Event	District SAREX	Pirongia	New
18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Search Methods	New Plymouth	
25 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Suburban Search	Hamilton	
30 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Thursday)	Hamilton	
July				
2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup>	Training	Track & Clue Awareness	Tauranga	
<del>2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup></del>	<del>Training</del>	<del>Clue Processing</del>	<del>Tauranga</del>	<del>Canceled</del>
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Track & Clue Awareness	Hamilton	
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Tracking	Hamilton	
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Clue Processing	Hamilton	
9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Search Methods	Taranaki	
27 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Wednesday)	Hamilton	
August				
<del>13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup></del>	<del>Training</del>	<del>Tracking</del>	<del>Tauranga</del>	<del>Canceled</del>
20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Training	Search Methods	Hamilton	Updated
19 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Training	Team Leader	Hamilton	Updated
20 <sup>th</sup> -21 <sup>st</sup>	Training	First Aid (SARINZ)	Hamilton	Updated
25 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Thursday)	Hamilton	
September				
3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup>	Training	MLSO Refresher	Hamilton	New
28 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Wednesday)	Hamilton	
October				
27 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Thursday)	Hamilton	
November				
30 <sup>th</sup>	Training	Monthly Training (Wednesday)	Hamilton	