

LOWE CORPORATION RESCUE HELICOPTER

# OFF THE LANDING PAD



SPRING NEWSLETTER 2017

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Lauren meeting Pilot Charlie and Paramedic Ryan.

## Equestrian rider will compete again

Promising young horse rider, 19 year old Lauren Dolan's aspirations of becoming a top horse rider were unexpectedly interrupted when she was seriously injured at a horse competition. However, thanks to the emergency response from the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter, Lauren's career aspirations will soon be back on track.

Lauren was at a competition near Takapau at the Arran Station Horse Trials. After a thorough warm-up, and as Lauren was about to enter the arena to compete, her horse unexpectedly bucked and dislodged Lauren, and lashing out with its' hind feet and kicked Lauren in the face.

The seriousness of Lauren's injuries was immediately obvious so the helicopter was called through 111. Once airborne Chief Pilot Charlie Beetham took just 18 minutes to fly to Takapua and deliver Intensive Care Paramedic Ryan Sutherland to the scene. Lauren was quickly assessed and treated by Ryan, then immediately flown to Hawke's Bay Hospital's Emergency Department in Hastings for further assessment and initial treatment.

Several hours later the Rescue Helicopter was called once more to transport Lauren from Hawke's Bay Hospital to Hutt Hospital for specialist care of her facial wounds. X-rays revealed that Lauren had 54 bone fractures – 53 of these in her face and one broken collar bone.

Thanks to some amazing work by some very talented maxillofacial surgeons Lauren's face is unmarked, so she bears no lasting scars from her ordeal.

Lauren's recovery has been slow with several surgeries along the way, but her equestrian career will continue, she is not deterred by the incident so will soon be back and riding. As Lauren says "I started horse riding at 3 years old, so I know that this accident was just one of those things along the way" She is determined to pursue her dreams of becoming a top horse rider.

Of her two trips in the helicopter - Lauren says "I don't remember any of this but I am incredibly grateful to the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter for the service I received. I would not have made the recovery that I have without the rescue helicopter".

All of the team at the Rescue helicopter wish Lauren every success as she pursues her equestrian dreams.

# Your Award-Winning Rescue Helicopter Service

The Hawke's Bay Rescue Helicopter Trust, LandSAR Hawke's Bay and NZ Police Search and Rescue have been recognised as 'real-life heroes', receiving a Certificate of Achievement at the New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR) Council Awards.

The honour, presented at Parliament on May 10th 2017, was for their efforts rescuing two trampers caught in deteriorating weather in the Ruahine Ranges on October 5 2016.

Experienced trampers from Tolaga Bay, Clive Cresswell, 59, and his wife Marie, a 53-year-old nurse at Te Puia Springs Hospital, had found themselves in urgent need of local rescue services while on a tramp in the Ruahine Ranges.

While walking along a ridge at 1500m altitude, the pair were suddenly exposed to bitterly cold weather conditions as freezing mist and violent hailstones closed in. At 2pm, with Marie showing signs of hyperthermia, they activated their Personal Locator Beacon (PLB), and waited for help to arrive.

The National Search and Rescue Co-ordination Centre, based in Wellington picked up their PLB signal, and the Rescue Helicopter – piloted by Jeremy Bruce - was responded to their location to recover them. But with high winds, low cloud and deteriorating light affecting visibility, the crew were unable to reach the Cresswells. A LANDSAR ground team was then dispatched from Hawke's Bay Search and Rescue, and managed to locate the stranded couple at 3am.

Later that morning, the group tried to walk out of the ranges, but the terrain proved impossible to traverse and the helicopter was called again - this time Piloted by Charlie Beetham along with volunteer crew member Brett How and Wayne Steed from NZ Police - to fly the Cresswells back to their vehicle.

"The survival of the two trampers would have been significantly compromised without the professional skills, teamwork, perseverance and courage of the rescue teams" the NZSAR Council said.

"When the attempt to walk to safer ground was no longer an option, the skill and courage of the helicopter crew in challenging flying conditions facilitated a safe recovery"

Searching for, and rescuing people is a complex, often difficult task that occurs in all kinds of weather and usually in demanding locations. The people who work or volunteer their time and skills in this area, and those who support them, often receive little public recognition for the feats they achieve and the sustained effort they put in to accomplish these tasks.



The Rescue Helicopter winning patients out of the Ranges.

In recognition of this, the New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR) Council established an annual national award programme to acknowledge worthy achievements in the field of search and rescue in the New Zealand Search and Rescue Region.

Pilot Charlie Beetham, along with Volunteer Crewman Brett How, accepted the award at the formal awards ceremony on Wednesday 10th May.

"We are amazed and humbled to be accepting this award along with our colleagues in the Police and Land SAR, because to us, we were just doing our job" Charlie said.

We are very proud of this as it is a great example of cooperation between the emergency services of Hawke's Bay, the Fire Service, Police, Rescue Helicopter and LANDSAR.

**Thank you to everyone involved.**







## Dan ditches his Dreds...

Following his 3,000km trek along the length of NZ, and fundraising \$21,000 in aid of the Rescue Helicopter, local legend Dan Lee had one last challenge to overcome – ditching his trademark dreadlocks. Each dreadlock was auctioned at \$200, raising an additional \$5,800 for the Children's Ward at Hawke's Bay Hospital.

## Rescue Rosé!



Five young students from Taradale High School have formed a partnership with Ka Tahi Wines to create the Rescue Rosé. There are 1000 bottles of this brand new summer fruit Rosé for sale, at \$17 a bottle with \$3 going directly to the Hawke's Bay Rescue Helicopter Trust.

If you would like to support these students and help raise funds for the Rescue Chopper, email Paige van Der Meent directly on [14vanpai@ths.school.nz](mailto:14vanpai@ths.school.nz).

## Cocktail Party

The 26th annual Cocktail Party was held on the 12th of May this year.

We are continually blown away by the support of this event. Over 400 guests attended to support the Hawke's Bay Rescue Helicopter Trust this year with \$50,000 raised.

A huge thank you to Hastings Karamu Rotary Club for organising it once again, and to all of those who attended. It was an evening full of entertainment, nibbles, drinks and a fantastic charity auction.



The Grape Debate was back for its third year this August. This year it was held at the beautiful Te Awa winery, where over 200 people attended to support the Rescue Helicopter. Thank you so much to Bex Tacon from Plan It Events for organising an incredible event.



A huge thank you to all Westpac staff and customers for your fantastic support for this year's Chopper Appeal. An impressive \$30,000 was raised for the Hawke's Bay Rescue Heli!

## STAFF PROFILE

### Beth O'Reilly

Welcome to Beth O'Reilly, our new Marketing and Fundraising Manager! She has previously worked at the Breast Cancer Foundation NZ on the Pink Ribbon Campaigns.



"I am so excited to get stuck in to work here at the Hawke's Bay Rescue Helicopter Trust. We have a small team here who work incredibly hard to keep the Helicopter available 24/7, 365 days a year with the generous support of our community. I am proud to be part of the team and to continue all the terrific work they do"

If you have any questions about fundraising for the Rescue Helicopter, please contact Beth directly on 09 878 1630 or [mfm@hbhrt.org.nz](mailto:mfm@hbhrt.org.nz)

### Blair O'Keeffe

We are delighted to announce another addition to our highly competent Board of Trustees. Blair O'Keeffe has a commercial background, working in high risk industry and is passionate about safety.



Blair is currently involved in a variety of governance and executive roles, including working for Maritime New Zealand and Hawke's Bay Regional Investment Company.

"I am delighted to join the efforts of the rest of the team at HBRHT to deliver this vital community service" says Blair.

## REMEMBER in an emergency dial 111

### Winter Missions Snapshot

**Date:** 14th April

**Time:** 13.30

**Rescue from a Ship:** Received a tasking from the Rescue Coordination Centre to winch recover a male in his 60s from a ship that was conducting a seismic survey 50nm off the coast from Cape Kidnappers. The crew winched a St John Intensive Care Paramedic to the bow of the ship to first attend the patient. The patient and paramedic were then winched back into the helicopter and flown to Hawke's Bay.

**Date:** 24th April 2017

**Time:** 7.00

**Rescue of a Trumper:** A call out for a trumper in his 30s who had sustained a knee injury at Mangateinoko Hot Springs at the Mohaka River. He was hoisted into the helicopter on a nearby bend in the river and transported to Hawke's Bay Hospital for further treatment.



**Date:** 26th April 2017

**Time:** 12.00

**Quad Bike Rollover:** The rescue helicopter responded to a farm near Porangahau for a male in his 60s who had an accident with a quad bike while driving down a steep hill.

**Date:** 25th May

**Time:** 11.00

**Medical Transfer:** A baby boy was transported to Wellington's Hutt Hospital suffering from burns.

**Date:** 4th June 2017

**Time:** 15.30

**PLB activation:** A group of jet boats were located on a river bed after one of the boats had flipped in shallow water injuring two males. A 26 year old sustained back injuries. Both were transported by the Rescue Helicopter to Hawke's Bay Hospital for further treatment.

See all our latest missions at [www.hbhrt.org.nz/news-and-media/mission-log](http://www.hbhrt.org.nz/news-and-media/mission-log)





# JOIN OUR FESTIVE APPEAL



The Rescue Crew is on call 24/7, 365 days a year, including over public holidays such as Christmas and New Years' eve, but we are only able to do this with your help. Support our Festive Appeal this year, and help us to save lives in Hawke's Bay, this Christmas and all year round.

## MAKE A DONATION

Call us on 06 878 1630, or go online at [www.hbhrt.org.nz](http://www.hbhrt.org.nz) and make a lifesaving gift today. Every dollar helps, and keeps our helicopter free of charge and available for all of Hawke's Bay.

## VOLUNTEER

If you have a few hours spare and are free to help at our Street Collection on Friday 8th or Saturday 9th December we'd love hear from you! We have collection sites in Napier, Hastings and Havelock, and we'll provide you with a Team Rescue Helicopter t-shirt to wear (and keep). Email Beth on [mfm@hbhrt.org.nz](mailto:mfm@hbhrt.org.nz) if you are interested.

## WEAR RED FOR RESCUE!

Organise a 'Red for Rescue' mufti day at your school or workplace and support your local rescue helicopter service this Christmas. You could also bake red cakes, or organise a colouring competition. We can provide posters, balloons and a collection bucket for your event. Just get in touch and we will send it to you! Upload your pictures to our Facebook page with the hashtag #redforrescue.

## Hawke's Bay Rescue Helicopter Our Christmas Opening Hours

Christmas Eve	open 24 hours
Christmas Day	open 24 hours
Boxing Day	open 24 Hours
27 December	open 24 hours
28 December	open 24 hours
29 December	open 24 hours
New Year's Eve	open 24 hours
New Year's Day	open 24 hours
2 January	open 24 hours

Contact us for more information on 06 878 1630 or email [mfm@hbhrt.org.nz](mailto:mfm@hbhrt.org.nz)



## MAKING A BEQUEST WILL HELP US TO SAVE LIVES WELL INTO THE FUTURE.

A gift in your will, no matter how big or small, will help us secure our future and enable us to continue to help those who are in urgent need of medical transport free of charge. Our emergency Rescue Helicopter team ensure that expert and often lifesaving, medical transport is available in the shortest time possible to people in need.

If you would like to leave a bequest in your will, please contact Beth at [mfm@hbhrt.org.nz](mailto:mfm@hbhrt.org.nz) or call 06 878 1630.





# Upcoming Events: Dates for your Diary

## 4-10 December (all week) Festive Appeal Week

Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for everything to do with our Festive Appeal Week. [www.facebook.org.nz/hbrescuehelicopter](http://www.facebook.org.nz/hbrescuehelicopter)  
**March 2018**

Our annual golf tournament will be back in March! We will be confirming details in the coming months. If you would like to be notified with all of that information, please email Beth on [mfm@hbhrt.org.nz](mailto:mfm@hbhrt.org.nz)

## 12th May 2018

The Hawke's Bay Marathon will be back in 2018! Join 'Team Rescue Heli' and help raise funds to keep the chopper free and available at all times for the Hawke's Bay Community. If a whole marathon isn't quite what you are after, there are other lengths available too! A half marathon, 10km and even a kids run.

**Details of all our events can be found online at [www.hbhrt.org.nz/get-involved/events-calendar/](http://www.hbhrt.org.nz/get-involved/events-calendar/) Organising an event for the Rescue Helicopter? Get in touch and we will add it to our calendar!**

## Thank you to our Platinum, Gold and Silver Corporate Sponsors

Who help to keep our services free of charge and available 24/7 to everyone in our Community.

### PLATINUM

Brownrigg Agriculture  
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- Hastings  
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Port Of Napier  
Vet Services (HB) Ltd  
Centralines Ltd  
Bernard Chambers Charitable Trust

### GOLD

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## KEEP IN CONTACT

**Fundraising and Administration** (06) 878 1630  
**Rescue Hangar** (06) 878 1633

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