

Small School with Big Donation

For the 13 pupils of Putorino School on the Napier-Wairoa Road, the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter is much more than just an aircraft that regularly crosses their sky on its way between the Wairoa and Hawke's Bay Hospital in Hastings.

The pupils last year decided on the Rescue Helicopter Service as their fundraising charity and by the end of the year they had raised an astonishing \$5,500.

Principal Nikki Irwin said the Hawke's Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust was chosen because the school wanted the children to learn the importance of the rescue service to rural communities such as theirs. The school used the Rescue Helicopter resource kit as a learning tool for the pupils.

Their fundraising efforts included selling firewood, inter-school mufti days and four pupils undertaking a sponsored 21km walk in the Taupo Half-Marathon which raised \$1,200 for the Trust and another \$1,200 for their own school.

Then in August they had a real-life experience of the rescue service at work when a 54 year-old board of trustees member, who lived in the school house, collapsed and unfortunately died two days later.

"The children saw the helicopter land in the school grounds and actually take someone away and it became a lot more real for them," said Nikki.

Louise Harvey, Trust Marketing & Fundraising Manager said it was wonderful to see the effort and enthusiasm from the pupils and teachers. Over the year a great rapport was established with everyone at the school. Putorino School's support was outstanding and greatly appreciated by the Trust.



Putorino School pupils with the Helicopter Rescue Trust's BK117 rescue helicopter during a visit to its hanger in Hastings last year.

"The children saw the helicopter land in the school grounds and actually take someone away and it became a lot more real for them," said Nikki.

Website Makeover



When you have a moment... take a look at our website makeover! You can read about our recent missions, check out the crew profiles, make donations online and much more.

Special thanks to the team at Indelible who created a moving patient story video for the Trust. Have a look at their work at www.indelible.co.nz

IMPORTANT TRUST INFO

Friends	0800 323 111
Corporate Friends	0800 111 246
Rescue Hangar	06 878 1633
Administration	06 878 1630



For more information about the Hawke's Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust visit our website:

www.hbrescuehelicopter.org.nz

Return Address: FREEPOST 101385, Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter, PO Box 2500, Stortford Lodge, Hastings

JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS

NEWSLETTER OF THE LOWE CORPORATION RESCUE HELICOPTER



HOW YOU CAN HELP

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE

Making a regular donation to the Rescue Helicopter Service is one way that you can help save lives. Your donation does make a big difference and allows our crew to help those who are in need or who require urgent medical transportation. If you would like to donate to the service, here is a list of ways you can help:

- One-off or regular monthly donations
- Bequest a donation
- Become a Corporate Friend
- Hold a fundraising event, e.g. school mufti day, casual Friday
- Encourage your employer to set up Payroll Giving or if you have staff, offer it within your workplace
- Attend the Cocktail Party Fundraiser on Friday 27th May

JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS

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MARCH 2011



Crash Survivor felt in Safe Hands

Auckland marathoner and personal trainer Gareth "Gaz" Brown has vivid memories of a multiple vehicle crash near Otane late in December that could easily have killed him, his parents and his fiancée.

Auckland marathoner and personal trainer Gareth "Gaz" Brown has vivid memories of a multiple vehicle crash near Otane late in December that could easily have killed him, his parents and his fiancée. The 31 year-old, who is still recovering from operations for internal injuries suffered in the crash, clearly remembers being carried to the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter parked in a nearby paddock and hearing one of his rescuers telling a colleague to be careful because the sloping ground was a bit rough underfoot.

He was the first patient to be placed in the newly-installed No 2 stretcher seat in the aircraft and flown to the Hawke's Bay Hospital in Hastings.

"The ride was vivid with the gentleman who was right there comforting me and letting me know it would be alright," he said.

"I at no point felt in danger and was in great hands."

The crash happened about 5pm on December 27 as Gaz, his fiancée Lucia, his sister Alisa and his parents Judy and Phillip, were returning to Pahiatua after visiting friends in Hastings. His mother was driving, with his father in the front passenger seat. Gaz was sitting behind his father alongside Lucia and Alisa.

As their car approached a sweeping bend, a white car coming toward them drifted across the bend, clipping a grey car in front, putting it into a spin. It then ploughed into the Brown's near-new vehicle, with the side Gaz was on taking much of the impact. For some reason, his side airbag did not deploy in the impact.

Twelve people were injured in the crash which involved four vehicles and a truck and trailer unit. The trailer smashed off the front of the car in front up to the steering column, ripping out its engine. Miraculously, its occupants were not seriously hurt.

The car behind them stopped and its driver, who happened to be an ex-rescue pilot, did what he could to help the injured.

Gaz's father also escaped with a few scratches and delayed concussion. However his mother had lacerations to her stomach and bowel injuries, spending two weeks in hospital.

His fiancée Lucia, who is still wearing a neckbrace, spent five days in the ICU after suffering a fractured neck and vertebrae. She spent time in traction while the vertebrae was fused. His sister Alisa was hospitalised with a broken rib.

Although Gaz emerged from the wrecked car apparently relatively unharmed and started to try to help other victims, he suddenly collapsed and St John Ambulance and rescue personnel upgraded him to priority 1.

As he was carried to the helicopter, he recalls "a floating feeling of going into a safe capsule".

"It was quite overwhelming. I couldn't speak and was having hot sweats".

Gaz later found his injuries were serious, spending three hours on the operating table and finding that he had somehow lost two litres of blood. At one stage hospital staff took his sister aside and said there were fears he might not make it through the night. Gaz had a double bowel operation, a collapsed lung, lacerations to his liver, a displaced clavicle and fractures to his sternum and ribs.



Gareth 'Gaz' Brown and his fiancée, Lucia Tigri with Kerry Woodman at the charity fundraiser in Auckland. The Rescue Helicopter received a generous donation from the event.

He and his fiancée had been planning their marriage on January 15. Their injuries put an end to those plans but with both slowly on the mend, they are now looking at an April wedding day.

Gaz is still full of admiration and gratitude for the professional care he and his family received after their horrific accident.

"We take it for granted that if anything was to ever happen to us that somebody would be there to pick up the pieces," he says.

"Too often we almost come to expect help and never actually sit back and realise how brilliant and smooth the mechanism of rescue can be.

"To top it off, I remember the morning after surgery one of them coming in to see if I was alright. It was great to see that the team were truly interested to see that I was ok, with such amazing follow-up care."

In recognition of the struggle many smaller districts have to keep medical rescue services operating, Gaz and broadcaster Kerri Woodham are looking at organising an annual fundraising effort to help such districts throughout New Zealand.

"A lot of people go off about our health system but you need to be in a major crash to see how efficiently it works," Gaz says.

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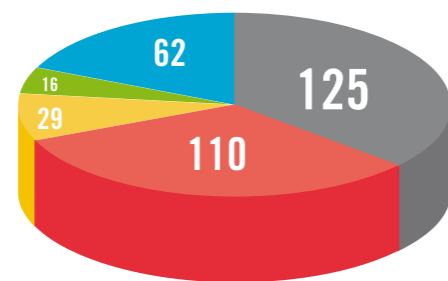
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Busy Year for Rescue Helicopter

The Rescue Helicopter crew had another busy year with over 340 missions undertaken across the Hawke's Bay region.

The majority of missions were ACC emergency flights and inter-hospital transfers with a special emphasis on crew training for the twin engine BK117.



Key:

- ▲ **Accidents** – include motor vehicle accidents, farm and work related accidents, leisure injuries such as tramping, motocross, horse riding, general falls, bone breakages etc.
- ▲ **Inter-hospital** – includes missions from Hawke's Bay Regional Hospital to Tertiary Hospitals, such as Wellington and from Wairoa or Central Hawke's Bay to Hawke's Bay Regional Hospital.
- ▲ **Medical** – includes heart attacks, strokes, seizures, allergic reactions etc.
- ▲ **Search & Rescue and other** – includes missing persons, locator beacon activations, missing aircraft or boat searches, specialist police operations, fire fighting.
- ▲ **Training and Promotion** – includes crew and pilot training for winching, night vision flights, promotional flights.

Photo courtesy of Heard on Sunday

Flying with the General Manager

The Trustees are proud to announce the arrival of Ian Wilmot as the General Manager of the Hawke's Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust. Ian has considerable commercial experience and has a personal interest in rescue and ambulance services.



Two years ago, Ian was on his way to the Tukituki for a quiet spot of fishing when he came across a motorcycle accident. He realised he had a lack of first-aid knowledge, and a feeling of helplessness, and it continued to "nag" him. Ian decided to make a difference by becoming a volunteer ambulance officer - a great advantage in understanding how the emergency services operate.

He is a director of the Hastings Building Society (HBS), where he became the caretaker Chief Executive during the initial merger talks with the Southland Building Society (SBS Bank), and was retained by the HBS Board to manage the entire merger of HBS with SBS Bank, to now become HBS Bank.

Ian and his family moved from Australia to Hawke's Bay in 1997, when he took up the role of Managing Director of McCain Foods (NZ) Limited - a position he held for 9 years. Prior to transferring to New Zealand, Ian worked for McCain Foods in Australia for 12 years, culminating in the position as National Marketing Manager. For the last 4 years Ian has operated his own business consultancy, working with a broad cross section of small to medium sized Hawke's Bay businesses.

Ian and his wife Elizabeth live in Havelock North and have one adult daughter and one grand-daughter. The new part-time role as the Trust's General Manager allows Ian to continue to work as a business consultant and mentor in the region as well as volunteer for St John.

Ian's role with the Helicopter Rescue Trust involves the challenge of continuing to keep funds coming in for the \$2 million annual running costs of the Rescue Service. As well as overseeing relationships with major stakeholders and ensuring the Trust is compliant with regulatory changes and requirements.

Ian commenced in the role on February 7th, 2011.



Cocktail Party Fundraiser

The annual Hastings Karamu Rotary Club cocktail party for the benefit of the Trust will be held on Friday 27th May at the Assembly Rooms, Hawke's Bay Opera House.

The charity fundraiser last year sold out several weeks before the event. Make sure you have your tickets early. During the evening guests will be able to enjoy great Hawke's Bay food by Dish Catering, Craggy Range wine as well as Twin Islands bubbly sponsored by Advintage.

As we go to press the auction and raffle items are being finalised and there is again the promise of great prizes to help raise funds for the Rescue Helicopter Trust.

Louise Harvey, Trust Marketing & Fundraising Manager said the Rotary Club last year raised \$75,000 for the Rescue Helicopter Trust. The amount raised was a huge achievement and we hope that people will again be there to support a wonderful charity event.

Tickets will be on sale from early April from Thomson's Suits, Grieve Diamond Jeweller, House of Travel Havelock North and Amcal Chemist Waipukurau.

Tickets for the event are \$90 per person. For more information go to www.hbrescuehelicopter.org.nz

Special thanks to the people and companies who are helping put together the charity event

Major Event Sponsors
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Craggy Range
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Hastings Boys & Girls
High Schools
Hawke's Bay Opera House
Little Red Robot Design

MORE FM
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Natures Art
Twin Islands

Rescue Helicopter Fit Out

A \$750,000 fit-out has transformed the helicopter used by the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter Service into an all-weather, 24-hour-a-day rescue helicopter that can take patients almost anywhere in New Zealand.

The black BK117 B2 helicopter has become a familiar sight in Hawke's Bay skies during the past 12 months and its fit-out by the Hawke's Bay Helicopter Rescue Trust has given it exceptional capabilities in its rescue and transporting roles.

Its basic commercial configuration has been revamped extensively inside with three fold-down seats installed along one interior wall giving paramedics full access to a patient lying on a stretcher in front of them. Ambulance and Paramedical Standards now require paramedics to have head-to-knees access to the patient, rather than just be seated near their head.

Another important advantage is that the three seats can be used as a stretcher bench for a second patient in extreme emergencies. The fold-down seats for paramedics and their volunteer crew member run along the opposite side.

When the BK117's rear "clamshell" doors are opened, the big advantages of the fit-out become clear. The new configuration of the BK117 allows for a collapsible wheeled stretcher, identical to those used in St John Ambulances, to lock in along the right-hand side of the aircraft's interior.

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On the left side of the BK117's fuselage is a heavy steel bracket which holds the winching gear for the 50 metres of safety rope that can lift a patient and crewman to the hovering aircraft.

The fit-out has also had direct benefits for the pilot who now has a partition between him and the paramedics in the rear of the aircraft. Pilot, Dean Herrick said this reduced the risk of pilot distraction from agitated patients.

One of the advanced technologies now used in the BK117 is night-vision goggles, which are sourced and strictly controlled by the US military. Night flying is essential for the trust's 24-hour operations and Dean said that while the night-vision goggles had some limitations, flying safety is dramatically improved with their use.

The BK117 is equipped to fly through cloud in poor weather and its 450-kilometre range means it can potentially fly direct to Christchurch without refuelling.

Although there are times when the BK117 stands idle in its hanger, the pilots are often called on to do a number of jobs in a single day. Last year they clocked up 320 missions.



Lowe Corporation Helicopter Rescue Service pilot Dean Herrick inside the BK117 helicopter, showing the fold-up stretcher at right and paramedic seats that can be used in an emergency as a stretcher bench for a second patient.

The Trust's decision to move from the Squirrel helicopter previously used to the BK117 stemmed from new Civil Aviation Association rules relating to single-engined helicopters flying over built up areas and the need to include two paramedics on rescue missions. Currently the crew configuration is a pilot, crewmember and advanced life support (ALS) paramedic, who is supplied by St John Ambulance.

The smaller Squirrel does not have the interior space or weight capacity to carry the extra crew.

The \$750,000 fit-out has been done in stages to spread the financial load with only a relatively minor final stage to be completed. It now provides the Hawke's Bay community with a versatile, long-distance rescue aircraft capable of winch-rescue and night-time missions.

A big thank you to the following organisations who gave grants to help fund the fit out project:

Chambers Trust	Infinity Foundation
Eastern & Central Community Trust	Lotteries Grants Board
Endeavour Foundation	Springhill Charitable Trust
Gwen Mulden Charitable Trust	Trust House Charitable Trust
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Rescue Helicopter donations

Crew Profile

Name: Ryan Sutherland

Position: Volunteer Crewman

Length of Service: November 2010

Best part of role: The adventure and challenge of the role as well as working with a great team and knowing you are helping people who need the service

Fulltime Work: St John Paramedic

Family: Married to Karena with two boys, Charlie and Ben

Spare time activities: Hunting, diving, playing squash and spending time with his family



Ryan with son's Charlie and Ben

Fern Ridge Produce to the Rescue

Fern Ridge Produce is supporting the Helicopter Rescue Trust by matching apple grower contributions.

Fern Ridge Produce have organised a voluntary giving scheme to enable their apple growers to donate two cents per carton to the Helicopter Rescue Trust. Fern Ridge Produce will then match the grower's contribution to the Trust up to a maximum of \$10,000 from the company.

Sam Newbigin, Fern Ridge Produce Director said it is the first time Fern Ridge Produce had looked to involve growers in giving to a charity. We felt it was a really positive way for Fern Ridge Produce and the growers to collectively give back to a local and vital community service.

Louise Harvey, Trust Marketing & Fundraising Manager said it is really exciting to see companies, like Fern Ridge Produce thinking outside the square on how to help charities. It can be a positive and rewarding experience for the people who are involved.

If you would like to make a difference and support the Rescue Helicopter Trust please contact Louise Harvey on 0800 111 246 or email louise@hbhrt.org.nz

FERN RIDGE
PROUD TO BE NEW ZEALAND

Hawke's Bay Businesses Support the Trust

Thank you to all the businesses that have come on board as 'Corporate Friends' of the Trust.

Platinum Friends

Brownrigg Agriculture
Centralines Ltd
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
Port of Napier

Gold Friends

Advanced Plumbing
Atkin Construction Ltd
BDO Spicers
Cavalier Spinners Ltd
Conroy Removals Ltd
Crombie Lockwood NZ Ltd
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Profuit 2006 Ltd
Puketapu Tractors Ltd
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Transfield Worley
Twin City 4-Wheel Drive Club
VJ Distributors Ltd
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Diahann Boutique Havelock Nth Ltd
Freeman Decorators Ltd
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J Day Transport
Kiwi Transport Co
Motorworks HB Ltd
Onga Tiko Rugby Club
Patton Engineering Ltd
Philippa Wright Ltd
Powell Logging
Prime Trading
RJ & LD Creighton Partnership
Rocky Hawkins Livestock
The Physio
Topaz Paints
Urban Food Distributors Ltd
Water Force
Wilsigns
Watt Insurance Brokers Ltd

If you would like information on how your business can support the service, please call Louise Harvey, Trust Marketing & Fundraising Manager on 0800 111 246 or email louise@hbhrt.org.nz

Thank You!

A special thank you to the following groups and organisations that have gone the extra mile to help the service:

Age Concern
Ahuriri Women's Fellowship
Aurum Espresso & Coffee Roasters -
HBHRT 2010 Open Day
City of Hastings Pipe Band Inc -
Lindisfarne Concert 2010
Dannevirke Hunt Club Inc
Endeavour Community Trust
Eskdale Memorial Church
Flaxmere Primary School
Friends of Charity
Fruitfed Supplies Punters Club -
2010 Race Day
Hastings Anglers Club
Hastings Bowling Club Inc
Hastings Karamu Rotary Club
Hastings Sequence Dance Circle
Hastings Windsor Probus Club
Hastings Womens Community Club Inc
Havelock North Library
HB Orienteering Club Inc
Heretaunga Kindergarten Association

Heretaunga Seniors
Kairakau Marine Club Inc
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Lighthouse Lions Club of Wairoa
Lioness Club of Havelock North
Lions Club of Taradale
Lions Club of Wairoa Inc
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Skeltons - 2010 Golf Day
St Andrews Anglican Community Church
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Tamatea Womens Institute
Taradale RSA - Over 60's Club
Taradale RSA Concert Party
The RD9 Flower Show
The Spirit of Napier Lions Club
The Village Friends Group
Tikokino Young Farmers Club
Twin City Riding Club
Twyford Womens Institute
Village Social Club
Waipawa Co-operating Parish
Opportunity Shop
Waipukurau Lions Pakeke Club Inc
Wairoa Riding Club
Wairoa RSA - Womens Section
Westmount School - HB Campus
Woodford House