

TEAM PROFILE



Name: Ross Munro
Position: Crew, Rescue Swimmer

Length of Service:
Crew for two years and St John's Paramedic on Rescue Helicopter for 13 years

Best part of role:
Being part of a dedicated team helping others

Fulltime Work:
Advanced Paramedic, Order of St John

Family:
Wife and 4 children

Spare time Activities:
Gym, swimming, dirt motorbikes

My Favourite Quote:
Intellectuals solve problems, geniuses prevent them. Albert Einstein



THANKS TO SALLY HOULISTON

After over ten years involvement with the rescue service, we farewell a valuable member of our team, Sally Houliston. Her dedication to coordinating patient transport across the country for both the fixed wing air ambulance and rescue helicopter service has been outstanding and she will be sadly missed by the team.

Sally enjoyed working in a team providing such an outstanding service for the people of Hawke's Bay, which has now become the busiest in the country. "I miss the regular contact with the great team there but am still available to assist with the patient transport service as a flight nurse and advising on transport matters" says Sally.

Sally has taken up a new challenge as Clinical Nurse Educator with the DHB, working in the medical/surgical wards and as a lecturer at EIT Hawke's Bay in the Bachelor of Nursing programme. We wish her all the best in her new role.

In her place we welcome Steph Boston to the team. Steph was previously nursing in the Intensive Care Unit at the Hawke's Bay District Hospital and has also worked as a casual flight nurse for the service. We are grateful to have someone with her experience joining the team.



Sally Houliston & Steph Boston

THANK YOU TELECOM!

Reliable communication systems are vital for the crew of the rescue helicopter, especially in the case of multiple callouts, and the service is delighted to have been donated ten pagers by Telecom New Zealand.



Time is of the essence for the crew of the helicopter, and with volunteer staff the pagers are essential to ensure a rapid response to callouts. Each mission has a number assigned to the callout to ensure specialist crew members attend missions as required.

Pilot, Brent Williams says "The ten new pagers will be invaluable to the service and help ensure we are completely equipped to handle every situation to ensure safety of the victims."

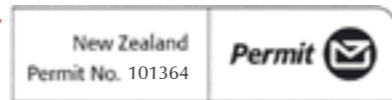
Telecom Account Manager, Leisa Epplert says, "Telecom has a strong focus on community, and so when we were approached to sponsor 10 new pagers into the HB Rescue Helicopter it was seen as an excellent opportunity. The HB Rescue Helicopter trust provides a fantastic service, and Telecom is proud to be a sponsor."

IMPORTANT TRUST NUMBERS

Friends	0800 323 111	Rescue Hangar	06 878 1633
Corporate Friends	0800 111 246	Community Liaison Manager	06 870 8701
Administration	06 870 8709		

NEWSLETTER OF THE LOWE CORPORATION RESCUE HELICOPTER

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



NEWSLETTER OF THE LOWE CORPORATION RESCUE HELICOPTER

friends

JUST BETWEEN...



FEBRUARY 2006

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED!

Another vital link between the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter Trust and its supporters has just been launched.

The new interactive website has gone live and encompasses all aspects of the Trust – from history to crew profiles and recent rescue missions. The site has been designed to increase awareness of the services provided to our community and is a great education tool, especially for children.

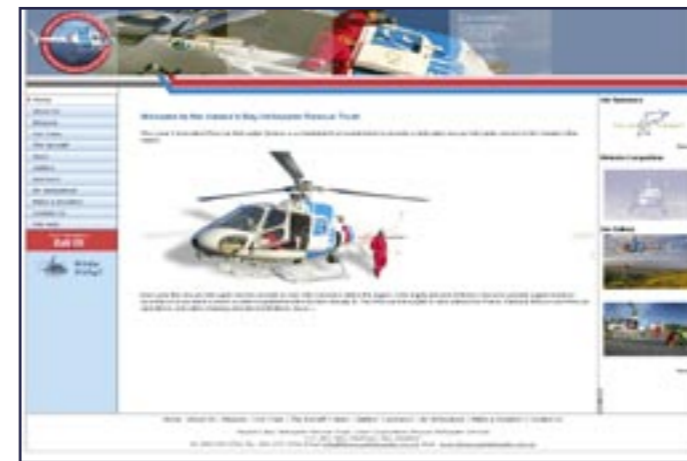
The Trust has been able to increase the profile of its generous sponsors through branding and links to their own sites. Without the support of Friends and sponsors the Trust would be unable to provide such an important service to our community, and promotion on our website is one way supporters can be thanked.



Annabel and Max Harman check out the new website, featuring their Dad, Greg Harman, Chief Crewman

The website is a good opportunity to show how the Rescue Service operates from the Trustees to the crew to the aircraft and equipment used. You will be able to see the rescue missions the crew performs to the flight times across the coverage area. Donations to the Trust can be made through the new site by simply clicking on the home page link and completing the information required.

Kids can have a great time on the site as well – there is a dedicated "Kids Only" section, where they can download word finders, screen savers and colouring-in pictures. The new site is packed full of information about the service – perfect for school projects.



www.hbrescuehelicopter.org.nz

WIN A RIDE IN THE RESCUE HELICOPTER FOR YOU AND FOUR OF YOUR FRIENDS!

Simply answer the question and enter your details on our new website and you will be in the draw.

Log on now to www.hbrescuehelicopter.org.nz



JOIN THE CORPORATE FRIENDS CAMPAIGN

VJ Distributors Managing Director, Peter Geor, believes charity begins at home. The Hastings based company is into its third year as a Silver Corporate Friend, and considers it important for local businesses to support worthy causes here at home, because you never know when you, your family, friends or work mates will need help.

"Everyone will probably know someone who has required emergency assistance from the service. By supporting the campaign we know our staff, friends and families will be in the safe hands of the service if there is ever a need."

The campaign is made up of four tiers:

- Gold • Silver • Bronze • Rotor

All members receiving a certificate or a framed photo and qualifying for "Friends Benefits". All of the funds received from "Corporate Friends" equal valuable flying hours, which is vital when lives are at stake.

CHARITY WITH A TWIST OF THAI

Thank you to Victor Tamee and his team at the Thai Oaks Restaurant for hosting a charity dinner for the Service. The evening was a great success with \$10,000 raised.

The following businesses helped by donating the wine, food and time:

Advantage, Sacred Hill, Star Foods, Friis Distributions, MR Print, Moonsoon Thai Wines, Mr Bean, ChangBeer and the Thai Community. The food was divine, so make sure you pop in soon.



FLYING WITH THE CEO

Our Rescue Helicopter Service has had another busy year and during summer, we typically see an increase in the number of missions, as the roads get busier and we all get out to enjoy our great outdoors.

This newsletter is a good opportunity to remind our 'Friends of the Trust' to be prepared when you are venturing off to enjoy your favorite pastime. Over the summer period we are often responded to accidents involving tramping, shooting, fishing, motocross and horse riding activities.

Remember, if you are confronted with an accident or serious illness situation and emergency assistance is needed, dial 111 and provide the operator with as much useful information as possible about the location and the condition of the patient. This will assist the Ambulance Call Centre determine the best mode of transport and clinical response, which in some cases will be our rescue helicopter.

Remember to 'buckle up' and look after those little ones especially around water.

Over the past few months the Trust has worked hard to create our own Rescue Helicopter website. The launch of the website is an exciting development for the Trust. We have tried to make it interactive and informative about our service. Make sure you log on to www.hbrescuehelicopter.org.nz Special

thanks to our Community Liaison Manager Louise Harvey and Kim at 3D Design for bringing it all together.

Congratulations also to Louise and Damon, on the recent arrival of their first child, Gretaa great new attraction at the office!

You may have read some recent commentary in Hawkes Bay Today, in relation to possible risk to the future of our air ambulance services. It was really encouraging to see the support from our new Hawkes Bay MP's and the Hawkes Bay District Health Board, which resulted in a media statement from the new Minister of Health, providing assurances to our community that our first class services are not under threat!

Thank you again for your support, whether you are an individual, business or one of our major sponsors.

Your generosity is our lifeline which helps ensure we can be there when you need us.

On behalf of the Trust and our crew, have a safe and enjoyable festive season.

Kind regards


Mike Toogood
CEO



VENUE CONFIRMED FOR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

This year's annual Hastings Karamu Rotary Club fundraising event will be held at Craggy Range on Friday 10th March.

Paul Harvey, Hastings Karamu Rotary Club's event committee organiser said the cocktail party was the 15th fundraising event held for the benefit of the Lowe Corporation Rescue Helicopter Service by the Rotary Club.

"The fundraising event is a way for the Rotary Club to give back to the Hawke's Bay community by supporting the local rescue helicopter service.

Craggy Range is a premium venue to the host the cocktail party and we hope the Hawke's Bay community will again support the event", says Paul Harvey.

For \$75 per ticket, guests will be able to enjoy Craggy Range food and wine. During the evening a charity auction and raffle will be held with auction items generously donated by local businesses.

Buses will be available from Waipukurau.



Series One BMW up for auction

BMW UP FOR AUCTION

Each year at the function the Rotary Club hold a charity auction and raffle with items generously donated by local businesses. This year's major auction item is a Series One BMW donated by Jeff Gray European.

Auction item details will be available in the HB Today supplement on Saturday 25th February.



Rescue Helicopter arrives at Craggy Range



Last year's fundraiser at Kemblefield Estate Winery

MAKE SURE YOU ARE THERE!

Craggy Range, Friday 10th March

Show your support to the Rescue Helicopter Service! Tickets are on sale from the following outlets:

- Thomson's Suits (Hastings)
- Harvey's Real Estate (Havelock North)
- Bay Ford Mazda (Hastings)
- Grieve Diamond Jeweller's (Hastings)
- Craggy Range (Havelock North)

ASTHMA VICTIM TRANSFERRED TO SAFETY

William Halkett knows well the benefits of having the Air Ambulance Service in Hawke's Bay.

William suffered his first ever asthma attack just before his 48th birthday. He had been out working, mowing lawns around Wairoa. Nothing extraordinary had happened, though on one job he had noticed a lot of pollen floating around. Later on that day, at home, William started to have difficulty breathing. He was rushed to the Wairoa Medical Centre for assessment, where the severity of his condition was recognized by the medical team.

Immediately the Rescue Helicopter was called to transfer him to the Hawke's Bay Regional Hospital for treatment, where he stayed overnight until the doctors could diagnose the cause of his attack.

After being cleared to return home, William was then transferred back to Wairoa using the fixed wing Air Ambulance plane.

William was relieved and thankful for the availability of the Rescue Helicopter Service. William commented

that without the availability of the rescue helicopter the end result may have been a lot different. Many people in our community are unaware of how the fixed wing ambulance service and Rescue Helicopter service operates in the Hawke's Bay region. People often learn about the service when a friend or family member needs to be transported to hospital.

William's case is a good illustration of how the Air Ambulance service works within the Hawke's Bay region.

Hawke's Bay has one of the busiest Air Ambulance Services in New Zealand. Patients are transported to tertiary hospitals around the country and retrieved from the Wairoa Hospital & Health Centre and the Central Hawke's Bay Health Centre.

The patient transfer flights are coordinated from the Hawke's Bay Regional Hospital (HBDH). Steph Boston has the challenging job of organising patients and personnel for the flights.

"It can be hectic to say the least" Steph laughs. "Hawke's Bay has one of the busiest Air Ambulance

Service in the country. I've been lucky in having a well coordinated service and to be able to work alongside a great bunch of skilled flight nurses who are dedicated to the patients and their flight role".

There are 15 specialist flight nurses who make up the flight team. The flight nurses are rostered on from different areas of the hospital which often means a patient condition can be matched with a specific flight nurse. For transfers, the flight is made up of one pilot, one flight nurse and if required a doctor or technician.

Each patient transfer is assessed on a case by case basis. The majority of patient transfers are carried out by fixed wing Air Ambulance, as it is more economical, weather tolerant and more than one patient can be transferred at the same time. The Rescue Helicopter is called in to action when a patient requires urgent medical retrieval, as in William's case, and when reduced transport times are essential for bed to bed care.

Everyone should feel proud of the high standard of air ambulance service available in the Hawke's Bay region.



Patient transferred from helicopter

UP & COMING EVENTS

Charity Horse Treks

During the year, Craig Hammond will be taking charity horse treks around Hawke's Bay. All funds raised will be going to the Rescue Helicopter. If you would like further information, please phone Craig on 836 6235.

Get Involved!

On Sunday 30th April, Simon and Josie Beamish are holding their annual charity fun run, walk and mountain bike event for the rescue helicopter. The event will take in the spectacular views across the Beamish's property in Crownthorpe. There will be easy and advanced courses for the events. A great day out for everyone! For more information please contact Louise on 870 8701.