

Chairman's Report

Well the new millennium is with us and the predicted problems of the New Year failed to eventuate. I guess on reflection this is understandable as the drama was based on media hype rather than a genuine will of the public to descend on the east coast to see a sun rise that was much the same as the day before. From NZLSAR's point of view it was good to see that our people in the critical areas took the signals seriously and made preparations to cover for most eventualities.

From my point of view, the quiet New Year gave me time to reflect on our progress in many areas and begin the process of assembling material for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that is currently undergoing a consultation process with the Police. The Review Committee had been working on issues relating to the Police Review over the last 12 months and much of this work has now been incorporated in the new document.

At the time of writing, several drafts of the document had been produced and circulated around the Committee. It then went through the Policy Section of Police HQ, where several minor changes were made and it is currently circulating around all areas within NZLSAR and the Police for final comment and approval. There are still a few sticking points which need further discussion before the document will be ready for signing but hopefully this will not hold up the process too long. It would be good to have the document signed at the August AGM but time is running out and we may need to aim for the November meeting.

I see the MoU as critical to the development of NZLSAR as it clearly sets in place the partnership between NZLSAR and the Police. This is important because it gives us certainty in all areas of our operational and non-operational work. Police and members of NZLSAR will now have a clear understanding of their expectations and

responsibilities. The added certainty should be a good boost to moral because all the volunteer work will have a clear purpose and it will be good to know that the work being undertaken is worthwhile and respected.

Of course there are two sides to the coin and the signing of the MoU will set in place some important contractual obligations for the volunteer groups to adhere to. It will set in place performance standards and a range of audit requirements that are aimed at identifying the areas where funding should be directed to improve skills.

The MoU makes a point of ensuring that members and groups at all levels take responsibility for the decisions at their respective levels. This is a fundamental requirement that will ensure ownership of tasks and responsibilities at National, Regional & District levels. Advisers continue to be the key people in the structure of NZLSAR and they will be required to meet regularly with their District Commanders and SAR Co-ordinators to analyse their needs for each year. From this information they will then determine the training required for the coming year and subsequent funding to achieve the standards which are an integral part of the MoU.

It is good to report that the working relationship between NZLSAR and the Police continues to work very well. We are fortunate to have very skilled people throughout both organisations which allows us to apply lateral thinking to our problem solving and come up with some very effective solutions. It was good to welcome Gerard Prins to the position of SAR Co-ordinator in October. Gerry has been very busy sorting out the backlog and getting a feel for the parameters for the job.

Evidence of the strong partnership between us, can be highlighted by the agreement to run two, one week, combined "Managing Search Operations"

(MSO) courses at the Police College in August this year. This is a first for SAR in New Zealand. It will go a long way to help us standardise our systems throughout the country and meet the performance standards set out in the MoU.

Applications to attend the MSO course well exceeded the number of places and it has been a difficult selection process. Selection has been based on a range of criteria but the overriding factor was the need to obtain representation from throughout country on the first courses. It is expected that the courses will be undertaken again next year and this will allow us to reassess the selection process and probably get most of the applicants through the course over a twelve month period. As part of this process the Training Subcommittee will probably seek advice from Regional and District Committees.

As time ticks quietly by, we must not lose sight of the findings in last years Mount Cook Report. This document contained a set of interim agreements that were put in place by the Police and DoC to make sure things didn't fall through the cracks while the status quo remained in place until 2001. This period has been beneficial, in that it has given us the chance to look at the implications of the options highlighted in the report and formulate a new direction that will be based on sound judgement and the needs of Police, DoC and NZLSAR.

Earlier this year we were invited to comment on a policy review by the Lotteries Board and funding for areas like SAR, Coastguard, Water Safety Council, Mountain Safety Council etc. Our concerns related to the need to make best use of the funding dollar and try to ensure that any funding approved was directed to approved projects that furthered the aims and objects of organisations that actually provide the services. It was considered important to direct applications through the National body, to enable the National Office to provide support to the application and

ensure that funding wasn't being wasted on inappropriate projects.

The reply from the Board suggests that they have taken on our concerns and it is likely that the Police SAR Co-ordinator will be part of the decision making process. It is possible that there will be more opportunities for funding from the board and if any areas are contemplating making an application then they should forward it via the NFO to get the support of the National Committee and the SAR Co-ordinator.

The budget submitted to the Police for the coming year includes an impressive range of projects and courses that will require a significant commitment from members throughout the country. At this time we are cautiously optimistic that we will achieve approval for a high proportion of this work so it will be important for Regional and District Representatives to get their planning underway early to make sure we can complete the programme within the financial year.

Funding is an area that continues to draw comment from around the country and the Committee has looked at these issues on several occasions. It is clear that there are a number of problems throughout the country but these appear to due to either a misunderstanding of the process by our members or inadequate funding at District level for normal SAR requirements in accordance with Police General Instructions.

The structure of our funding arrangements are still based on the process and systems developed under the FMC SAR Subcommittee. These were well founded and suited the needs of the organisations that were providing the personnel for SAR activities. Under this process clubs and organisations affiliated to FMC provided the personnel for SAR and it was accepted that they came to SAR fully trained in bushcraft, navigation and the like. Hence there is no need for SAR to provide funding or training in these attributes.

Local areas and Districts would then provide the additional training requirements that enabled people skilled in the outdoors to become effective SAR personnel. With this work being undertaken at District level NZLSAR determined that further funding was required to bring the skill levels up to that detailed in the new standards and international best practice. Funding has therefore been provided for approved courses which are designed to provide for advanced training of our members.

Approved courses and seminars should not be confused with the normal training in SAR skills that should be provided at local level. They are courses that are provided in addition to normal SAR training. Normal funding requirements at District level for local SAR related training and SAREX's etc. should be sorted out by the MoU.

A further aspect that must be born in mind in the current environment is the need to have a clear audit trail showing how we spend public money. This requires us to prepare a business plan to indicate how the funding will be spent and then detailed records are prepared to show that it was spent on the areas for which it was approved. (See comments under the Police Report).

Some criticism has come from the membership from time to time, which suggests that money can be allocated by the Committee at its convenience. This is not strictly true, as there are processes to go through to account for change. As a general rule, if we haven't budgeted for it then it isn't available. Hence, it is essential that Regions and Districts prepare their own budget proposals for their own requirements and include requirements from the National Committee prior to each budget round.

The Committee is also committed to providing further work into research to improve our ability to analyse the way we approach operations. Funds will be set aside in the coming years budget to give us a better chance to obtain funding from

other providers. This is an on going project which will develop over the longer term and will provide insurance that will assist our performance in future years. The standing Subcommittees that form the backbone of the work undertaken within NZLSAR have had another productive year and good progress has been made on all fronts. Workloads continue to be a problem and we will need to pay closer attention to this if we don't want some of our people suffering burnout trying to meet the pressures of the job. Delegation is the name of the game and we must work to involve others around the country who have the skills in the various spheres.

As the uptake for approved courses gains momentum around the country it would appear that we will probably start to run into problems with the number of weekends available to undertake training within a year. Extending the working year doesn't seem to be a viable option but several other options are open to us and we will need to work carefully through these to obtain the best compromise.

As we look at all the good things that have been happening over the year, it is with some real sadness that we had to report on the sudden passing of Brian Ahern, a long time Adviser and Regional Chairman from Queenstown. Brian had been one of those people that had a passion for SAR and was a key figure in the outdoor scene, not only for NZLSAR, but also for DoC and the general public of Queenstown and the surrounding area. Our thoughts and sympathy go to his family at this time.

In an organisation like NZLSAR it is difficult to pay tribute to all those who have contributed to the success of the organisation over the past year and beyond. I come in contact with many people as we move around the country but there are ten times that number who continue to quietly get on with the job and support us with little contact from the National Committee. To all of those people I extend my grateful thanks for a

job well done. Without your support NZLSAR could not continue to operate.

Of course there are some that require special mention and I would like to thank these personally for their assistance during the year:-

- To John Tristram our NFO and Gerry Prins for the work they have done in Police HQ over the past year. They have worked closely together and travelled to many parts of the country over a short period of time getting to grips with the many SAR related issues and problems.
- To the members of the National Committee and standing Subcommittees thanks again for your support of NZLSAR, it's been another busy year requiring a continued effort from all concerned. We have a good

team to work with and some major projects to complete but they are gradually being ticked off the list and hopefully we can settle steady routine in due course.

- To Ross Gordon of EML for his on going commitment to SAR. I know it can be difficult working every weekend and keeping things on track but his positive approach to SAR makes a real difference which helps to puts things in perspective.
- To our owners for their continued support and to all our members, nation-wide who continue to give of their time freely in the service of SAR.

Graham Thorp
Chairman NZLSAR

National Field Officer's Report

Gazing at an empty page and wondering what to write for this Annual Report the first thing that strikes me is where has the last year gone. It certainly seems to have flown by. The explanation is in part the work and the activities I am involved in. Some of my time is spent servicing the administrative needs of the Committee and its Subcommittees. Arranging venues, agendas, meeting papers, catering, transport, billets, attending the meetings and the distribution of the minutes afterwards, all takes time. Then consideration needs to be given to the day to day requirements of the national office. Distributing material such as the Field Guide, Work Book and the display panels, answering the queries on a diverse range of topics, received as both written and telephoned that come in and of course producing six editions of the News also takes time.

And then I have attended meetings of associated organisations such as the National SAR Committee, the Federated Mountain Clubs AGM and Mountain Safety Council. And to add to the mix I have attended and participated in

functions and events such as Award presentations, Regional Seminars, Regional meetings, plus the occasional SAREX. It is these latter events that I think are most important as I get to meet the real people involved with SAR at the "coal face".

Looking back over the year outstanding events have been:-

- Gerard Prins taking up the role of Police SAR Coordinator last October. While the rest of my comments below are in no particular order this one must stand out as the highlight. In any organisation there are things that "can be done differently". Gerry as a new broom has come in and with a cheery "can do" attitude has addressed a number of those areas. I would like it put on record my appreciation for the help and guidance he has given firstly NZLSAR and myself. The working relationship is good and I know I can always get his ear with its attendant advice for any problem I have.

- Reading in the paper that Gordon Hasell was the recipient of the honour, “Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM). He received his honour for his SAR and climbing activities. Gordons contributions to those in the outdoors has included two terms as president of the Alpine Club, Vice President of FMC, time on the Mt Cook/Aoraki NP and Conservation Boards as well as currently being the Region Five Canterbury/West Coast NZLSAR Regional Chairman.
 - Attending the NZ Award functions for Ernie Hagger in Levin, Mel Knauf and John Cassidy in Thames, Ray Anstis in Masterton, Noel Herman and Terry Conaghan in Whangarei, Tom Luff in Wanganui and Tom Carter in Wairoa. The appreciation by the recipient and attendees at these functions of the attendance by personnel from NZLSAR makes this not only an extremely worthy but an enjoyable activity of the NFO.
 - Attending the Canterbury, Wellington (which was run as their SAREX) and Taranaki SAR competitions. The Training Subcommittee which was meeting in Christchurch that weekend, attended the Canterbury event and each member went off with a team as an observer while Gerry Prins was given the task as a marker. As mentioned last year I think this type of event has the potential to give a real lift to the performance of any SAR organisation.
 - Attending the Wellington, South Canterbury, Canterbury (part of the weekend Training Subcommittee meeting), Wanganui and Whangarei SAREX’s. As mentioned above I appreciate leaving the Wellington
- bureaucracy behind and getting to work with the real SAR people.
- Seeing in many Districts around the country a real effort to take “down the village walls” and communicate with neighbours. With helicopters providing a ready work horse for rescues, fewer actual operations, the requirement that the searchers be more skilled and less people available has all in part created a need for this. Smaller SAR organisations with better trained personnel but adequate in numbers for the “run of the mill” operations within the District are emerging. Typically, as happened recently when Hamilton had a major operation, trained searchers were brought in from Thames, Auckland and Te Kuiti. The relationships built up through Regional meetings, seminars and courses such as those provided by EML ensured that people from afar were able to relate and work together well.
- Finally a vote of thanks. To Graham Thorp as the person I report to, Phil Rundle for his help with the finances, Gerry Prins, Paul Brennan, Neville Matthews, the rest of Operations Support at the Office of the Commissioner and the NZLSAR members of the Committee. Many thanks for the advice, material assistance or someone to talk to when I needed it. To all the people in the Districts with whom I have been in contact, have been billeted, had transport provided by, or in other ways assisted in my work. Many thanks.

John P Tristram
National Field Officer

Police Report

This is my first annual report. I would like to thank NZLSAR members for making me welcome in my role as the Police Search and Rescue Coordinator.

Since taking the position up in October 1999 I have been impressed by the professionalism and dedication shown by NZLSAR members.

A highlight for me has been able to attend various meetings and exercises throughout the country and seeing the operational status of SAR at District level. I particularly enjoyed attending the Dunedin dog-training weekend. A well-trained search dog has the potential to save lives and shorten searches. Search dogs are the next big area that has the potential to improve the performance of searches.

The annual statistics have been compiled for the 1999/2000 business year. The total number of searches is consistent with previous years. I will be presenting a copy of the statistics at the meeting.

The year has been busy for the Police in their relationship with NZLSAR. Highlights include:-

1. Increase in the amount and approval of the NZLSAR budget. The amount this year is a substantial increase on previous allocations. This is accompanied by expectation from the Police administration that the amount requested will relate to the NZLSAR business plan with measurable outputs and identifiable performance gains.
2. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has completed an extensive validation and vetting process. I am optimistic that we will be able to sign this document off shortly. The MoU is a significant step in the relationship that the police have with NZLSAR.

Once signed the MoU will require additional work in ensuring that the various sections are implemented.

3. The next Police search controller's course in August at the Royal New Zealand Police College, land component will be made up of half Police and half NZLSAR members. This is an important step in the Police/NZLSAR relationship which links the saying 'train together, work together.'
4. Police and NZLSAR have developed a collection of SAR related publications. These are now available for loan by contacting John Tristram or myself. The books have been placed as part of the Police Library collection and are available for a 4-week loan.

One aspect that needs to be finalised this financial year is defining and identifying who is a member of NZLSAR, and the numbers actively involved nationally at search and rescue.

I am also keen to encourage greater training opportunities between the Police SAR squads and NZLSAR. Police SAR squads play a valuable part in search and rescue.

I look forward to working with the Committee over the next 12 months.

Gerard Prins

Coordinator: Search and Rescue

Region One Report

The last year has been a more active period for Region One. Most of the SAR operations have been of short duration. The main emphasis has been on training, especially the development of new search skills and techniques. In some of the smaller areas the numbers of SAR personnel has decreased, especially in Warkworth. On the other hand, there has been a revival in the Northland and Far North SAR groups where there has

been an increase in numbers and the group has been doing significantly more training. The FIRST Group in Auckland continues to operate as a cohesive unit. Several FIRST members are assisting with the training of new members and on the SAR Skills weekends. The group now has 65 members including the transport and communication sections. The caving fraternity in Auckland have formed a specialist Cave Technical

Rescue group for caving and vertical rescue incidents.

There have been a number of changes of SAR personnel within the Region over the last year. Four Land SAR Advisers have resigned – Bruce Wadell, Terry Conaghan (although he remains as a Cave SAR Adviser), Noel Herman and Alan Gamble. Bruce and Alan have moved out of the Region. As a result of these resignations the Region currently has only four Land SAR Advisers and two Cave SAR Advisers. This will need to be addressed in the coming year. There have also been a number of changes in Police personnel within the Region. Inspector Mark Hall has taken over the SAR portfolio in Auckland from Inspector Brent England who has taken up another position within the Police and there are two new SAR Sergeants running the Auckland Police SAR squad. Senior Sergeant David Palmer has recently taken over the Whangarei SAR portfolio from Senior Sergeant Mike Henehan and Cliff Metcalfe has taken over the running of the Whangarei Police SAR squad. Sergeant Jan Chipman, who looked after SAR in Kaikohe has resigned from the Police. I would like to take this

opportunity to thank all of the above for the significant contribution they have all made to SAR within the Region over the years.

SAR Awards

Two long serving Advisers, Noel Herman and Terry Conaghan were presented with NZLSAR Awards at a ceremony in the Whangarei Police Station in June. Both Terry and Noel have been involved in SAR since high school, and between them they have given over 65 years of service to SAR in the Whangarei area. The presentation of these awards is a fitting recognition of the long service that Noel and Terry have given to SAR over the years.

Regional Committee

As the result of the above and the Regional Committee's desire to expand the size of the Committee to make it more representative of the SAR groups in the Region, there have been a number of changes in the membership. The Far North SAR Group, while being part of the Northland Police District, has been invited onto the Regional Committee as a group in their own right. The members of the Committee are:-

Jan Chipman resigned May 2000	Kaikohe	Grant Conaghan	Whangarei
Alan Gamble Resigned June 2000	Kaitaia	Mark Hall	Auckland
Glenn Hawke	Whangarei	Mike Henehan resigned May 2000	Auckland
Dave Palmer from May 2000	Whangarei	Roscoe Tait Secretary/Treasurer and Regional Representative	Auckland
Tony Taylor	Kaikohe	John Walsh Chairman	Auckland

The Committee has met once during the year in October. A meeting planned for March 2000 will now be held in July. The main focus of the Region Committee during the past year has been in getting the SAR groups working together and to build up the skill and knowledge levels of the SAR volunteers.

Training

The emphasis this year has been on training, especially in the teaching of new skills to existing members. The following training was undertaken during the year:

Regional Training

A Field Controller Standards Workshop was held in Whangarei in March for all Advisers and SAR members at Field Controller level who had not had the opportunity to attend one. A total of 30 people attended the one-day course.

Two members of Auckland Land SAR attended the Region Two seminar in Rotorua in June.

Auckland Land SAR

- A SAR Skills weekend was run in February for people interested in participating in SAR. This time the course was combined with a NZ Mountain Safety Bushcraft course. This allowed the best use of instructors, with common elements being taught to the whole group and then breaking out into separate groups for the SAR specific sections. There were 19 participants on the course, which will now be run as an annual event in the early part of each year.
- TCA Stage 2 in July 1999, (16 participants)
- TCA Stage 1 in September (12 participants), paid for from local funds. Virtually all of the FIRST Group have now completed this course.
- Search Methods (22 participants) in March 2000.
- A one-day vertical rescue workshop was held in September at the Waitakere Dam. Thirty-four people representing six Groups participated in this very successful workshop that was facilitated by John Maine and Ian Philpott. Each Group did a lift while being observed by the other Groups. All but one of these Groups attended the North Island Vertical Rescue Workshop at Hinuera in April.
- The annual SAREX was held at the beginning of May in the Waitakere Ranges. This year there were multiple scenarios, which involved quite a lot of night searching. The Field Headquarters staff were rotated on two shifts so the headquarters could operate for most of each 24 hour period.
- The FIRST Group continues to hold regular meetings and training sessions, including evening TCA sessions to keep the skill level up to standard.

- Marcus Frith (Cave SAR) attended the Advisers Standards workshop at Taupo in October.

Warkworth SAR

Warkworth SAR group was originally a combined land and marine SAR organisation. Since the formation of the Kawau Coastguard a few years ago, they have not had any marine work. They have very few land SAR operations (one in the last year) and they are finding it impossible to get and retain new members. They have been unable to interest any members in attending any of the EML type courses or standards workshops that have been offered to them. Currently the organisation has no financial members and only a couple people who would be considered to be active members. The organisation is currently considering its situation and trying to get new members. It is quite likely that they will go into recess within the next few months. It is extremely unfortunate to see this SAR group, which has been going for almost 30 years, reach this situation. However, to remain viable they need to have members who are prepared to reach the minimum level of training and expertise that is required of SAR volunteers today. Any SAR operations in the area will now be handled from Auckland, which is only $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour away by car.

Whangarei SAR and Far North SAR

These two Groups are now working much more closely together. They are doing the majority of their training as a combined activity. In the last year they have run the following courses

- TCA Stage 1 course in November (13 participants).
- Search Methods in May (21 participants).
- Field Controllers Standards workshop was held in March at Whangarei.
- A very successful combined SAREX was held at Rawhiti in June.
- Tony Taylor attended the Advisers Standards Workshop in Taupo in October.

Operations

Auckland SAR

There have been a number of short duration operations in the Auckland area during the past year as follows:

- A group of three adults and seven children took a wrong turning on the City Walk track in the Cascades area of the Waitakere's. They spent a night in the bush and were found by the ARC Rangers the next morning.
- A group of children were overdue in the Mt Donald McLean area. The ARC Rangers went up the tracks leading to Mt Donald McLean and found them that evening.
- Darkness and bad weather caught out a group of four people on a late afternoon walk on Farley track. They called for help on a cellphone and an ARC Ranger walked in and guided them out.
- A man left his house with his two dogs late one afternoon to walk a track he had not done before to see if it met up with the Piha Road in the Waitakere's. The track petered out and he was left in thick bush as darkness fell. The Police were informed that evening and the Police SAR squad mounted a search at first light the next morning. However, he "popped" out of the bush onto the road and was picked up by a Police patrol car that was driving along the road.
- Two girls failed to return from a day trip to Rangitoto Island on a Wednesday. One of the girls had done an Army course and was showing her friend the skills she had learnt. The outdoor component of a Police Sergeant's course was being run on the adjoining island, Motutapu, and they were used to search for the missing pair. However, they were unsuccessful. The crew of a Navy inflatable spotted the girls on the northern shore of the island early on Friday morning. The crew put two and two together and wondered why there were people on this part of Rangitoto, especially as the ferry's had not started running for the day. They went to investigate and found that they were the missing pair.
- Rapidly rising water in the Anawhata Stream in the Waitakere's caused problems for an intermediate school group on a day trip. Half of the group had managed to cross the stream when the leader decided it was too risky to take the rest of the group across the stream. He climbed a hill and called for help on his cellphone. Auckland Land SAR were notified just as the evening rush hour was starting so a selective callout was made of FIRST Group members. There was some initial lack of information on the location and number of people in the trapped party. Also the flying conditions were very marginal. However, once the team arrived on site this information was as verified and the weather improved sufficiently to have them lifted out by the Westpac Trust Rescue Helicopter.
- There were a number of small incidents in the Waitakere's during the summer holidays. Many were just notifications of a potential incident (three on New Year's Day) that did not require putting SAR personnel into the field. The ARC Waitakere ranger staff were involved in four small searches and two rescues for people who had broken bones (arm and a leg).
- Two girls went for a walk in the late afternoon in the upper Huia Valley area. They were not carrying a daypack or a map. Fortunately they came across a couple of trampers doing the same trip in the opposite direction who told them which way to go to get back to their car. The couple was so concerned that the girls would not be able to get out

before nightfall that they rang the Police when they got home. Auckland Land SAR Advisers worked out the most likely scenario and an ARC Ranger was sent along the track. The girls were found just before midnight in a distressed state.

- Two hunters in the Hunua's were reported overdue. When they had not walked out the next morning Auckland Land SAR was called to search for them. As the teams were assembling at FHQ the missing hunters were spotted on the side of a lake by an ARC ranger in a boat and brought out. They had no equipment or map (just the clothes they were wearing). They had taken the wrong track late in the afternoon and got lost. They were making their way out by walking (slowly) around the lake to the dam when they were seen by the ranger.
- Auckland Land SAR was asked by Region Two to assist after the first 12 hours of a search for a young boy who was missing in the Hakiramata Ranges at Ngaruawhia. We responded with a turnout of 20 people consisting of a management team and searchers. The boy was found safe and well on the Sunday afternoon after he had been missing for approximately 24 hours. This is the first inter-region operation that we have been involved in and rollover of personnel from different SAR groups worked very well.

Warkworth SAR

It has been a very quiet year for Warkworth with only one operation:

- An elderly Alzheimer's patient went missing from his rest home late one afternoon. An Adviser from Auckland became involved later that evening by phone. Using the lost person profile information and Lost Person Behaviour knowledge he was able to offer advice on where to

concentrate the search as well as suggesting what would be the most appropriate search techniques to use. The missing person was found soon after, approximately half a kilometre from the rest home.

Northland (Whangarei) SAR

There have been relatively few operations this year, all of a minor nature:

- A cliff rescue at Matapouri at night.
- An adviser from Whangarei was flown in to assist with a search for a farmer missing at Donnelly's Crossing. On the second day the farmer was found drowned.
- Mountain bikers were used to search a local forest area for an elderly woman who had not been seen for several days. She was found the next day hiding near the old money factory.

Far North SAR

Most of the operations were of a relatively short duration:

- Six people on a bus trip to Puketi Forest got lost on a walk in the forest. All, apart from the bus driver, managed eventually to find their way back to the bus. Cellphone contact was made with him and a search team went in and retrieved him that night.
- A possum hunter was reported overdue on Mt Misery track (Taita Road). Teams were put on standby ready for a search the next morning. As they were setting up the operation in the morning he walked back into his camp.
- SAR was notified that a lightly clad man was missing at Bland Bay, Ngaiotonga. His body was found the next day.
- A hunter overdue at Ngaiotonga walked out the next morning.
- Far North SAR were called to assist in the search for a German woman tourist who had been reported missing at Cape Reinga.

She was last seen on one of the tracks and by the time SAR was notified she had been missing for four days. They found some of her belongings in a bunker, but no sign of her at all.

- A farmer rolled his farm quad bike in a bush area on his farm. Fire Brigade and Ambulance went into get him out.
- SAR were notified that an IHC

person had gone missing at Kaitaki. While he had wandered off before like this, he was gone for some time and there was concern for his safety. Some

suggestions were made to the local people of possible search areas and he was found shortly afterwards.

Acknowledgements

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers for giving their time so freely, not only for the operations, but more importantly the time and effort they have put in to training and the learning of new skills.

Roscoe Tait

Region One Representative

Region Two Report

The membership of the Regional Committee which has met on three occasions in the last year is as follows.

Phil Alley	Rotorua	Brian Burgess	Gisborne
Kevin Cannell	Opotiki	John Cassidy	Thames
Rochelle Coulson	Rotorua	Ben Foster	Waihi
Karen Henrikson	Hamilton	Janet Hope	Rotorua
Tiena Jordan (Chair)	Whakatane	Lyn Manning	Tauranga
Brent Martin Secretary	Tauranga	Bruce Mossman	Rotorua
Bruce Sandford	Tauranga	Chris Sharp	Gisborne
Barry Shepherd	Taupo	Charlie Smart Regional Representative	Te Kuiti
Barry Were	Hamilton	Dave Withers	Wairoa
Mike Wright	Rotorua	Tony Yeoman	Gisborne

General

Due to pressure of work the Kerry Hickey stood down as Regional Representative late last year. The Committee extends its appreciation for his efforts on its behalf. This year has seen some promising trends within the Region. Firstly the increased co-operation between groups both in training and operational phases has worked well to date and should be encouraged in the future. With the increased pressure on groups for training, funding and equipment, I see I see interaction with other groups both within and outside the Region benefiting all. This is particularly important in areas where Police boundaries cross through low population areas, which tend to have higher probability of searches. It is vital that a good level of liaison is maintained between neighbouring groups in these

areas. Secondly the improved speed at which operations are instigated (and generally completed) particularly with high risk lost persons.

Training

Further EML courses have been held throughout the Region. TCA 1 and 2, MSO and SM courses have continued to be well received and attended. Again inter group co-operation has helped fill course numbers and assist with funding which is often a problem for smaller groups. A regional Advisers Seminar held in June 2000 was well attended by members from throughout the Region.

NZLSAR Awards

Three Awards have been presented to long serving members this last year. The Thames group presented Mel Knauf and

John Cassidy with Awards at the end of 1999. Waitomo presented John Mason with his Award in June 2000. Our congratulations to these three for their Awards and thanks again for the tremendous effort over the years. Further thanks to John Cassidy for effort and time at both Regional and National level.

Reports from Districts

Gisborne

A quiet year with no major field operations. Several Adviser only operations resolved successfully prior to the field operation starting. Several training courses were held during the year including a First Aid, TCA, MSO and orienteering courses which were all well attended. The annual SAREX was held with TCA skills proving there worth. Senior members have attended the Region Two meetings, as did several to the Regional Seminar in Rotorua. Although significant planning work went into possible problems around the millennium, the event passed without any major problems. It would seem that although Gisborne is well trained and equipped, lack of search operations is not enhancing group morale.

Imminent changes to the Regional boundaries mean we lose both Gisborne and Wairoa groups from Region Two. I would like to thank them for their involvement at the Regional level (which has involved considerable travel for them) and wish them well for the future. I hope we maintain some contact.

Hamilton

During its first full year of operation the group has made excellent progress. To date 20 members have met the entry requirements for the FIRST (Fast Initial Response Team) membership. This requirement is met by the successful completion of an overnight series of activities in the bush. These mini SAREX's are run at regular intervals. Most members have received training in TCA and SM. The group responded to nine call outs during the last year with all operations successfully finding the lost

party while still fit and well. Many of these operations involved the support of nearby groups such as Waitomo, Thames, and Auckland. The group's philosophy is to only put trained personnel into the field hence the involvement of other groups. This also helps by providing fresh personnel for FHQ. The group hopes to increase its membership to 30 during the year and continue regular monthly training sessions. During the last year Hamilton SAR also organised and hosted the annual Waikato District SAREX. This concentrated on improving radio procedures and practising search methods and techniques.

Tauranga

Seven searches have been initiated in the area during the last year. This included one co-operating with other groups at Murapara. Regular training has been held including EML courses and evening training sessions. The problem of untrained volunteers turning up at FHQ still exists – deploying the in areas of low probability has been used as an option. A rescue helicopter is now based at Tauranga Hospital and should provide an invaluable local resource in the future. Local TCA trained members were used in a homicide investigation and provided Police with considerable valuable information.

Thames

During the past year five significant searches have been conducted in the area with assistance sent to Hamilton on two occasions. Several rescues have also involved SAR. Personnel assisting Police and Westpac Trust helicopter. Local Police continue to be impressed by the commitment of local SAR volunteers to their organisation, with search's being more professionally run and commencing earlier with "at risk" missing persons. Training continues both locally and in conjunction with other groups. Thames SAR members also attend the Waikato District SAREX in February 2000 and are actively involved at both District and Regional level.

Waitomo

This group has been involved in four field operations over the past 12 months. Three of these involved assisting other groups with personnel and equipment. Three more operations were resolved at or before standby status. Meetings and training has been held regularly throughout the year. The group hosted a TCA course with members from other groups making up the numbers. Other training has ranged from new equipment use (GPS etc) through to basic revision work (map and compass etc) intended for new members (but also removing some of the bad habits from experience

members). The group is currently assisting one of our members in training a specialist search dog (Bloodhound) which is progressing well. Members have attended the District SAREX and are involved in both District and Regional committees. Membership is currently 30 and has remained relatively static, although recent publicity helped raise the groups profile locally and should have positive effects on both personnel and funding.

Charlie Smart

Region Two Representative

Region Three Report

The Region Three, Regional Committee has met on three occasions over the last year. The meetings have been well attended and have proved a valuable vehicle for inter District liaison. A very successful Regional Seminar was held with some 55 persons in attendance. The theme for the day was technology and how it will assist search and rescue in its many facets. We were pleased to welcome a van load of people from Region Four to

the event, a good omen for our working together when the Regional boundaries are altered and we become one Region.

We held our AGM on 25 June and the Officers and Committee members are as below. To those who did not stand again, Guy Te Kahika as Secretary, Dave Barker as Regional Representative, I would extend my sincere thanks. I was appointed the Representative and so stood down as Chairman.

The Committee is as follows

Michael Craig	Taumarunui	Dave Brockway Training Officer	Wanganui
Stewart Davies Regional Representative (pursuant to Clause 9 (b))	Palmerston North	Robbie OKeefe	Taranaki
John Lovatt	Napier	Peter Mann	Levin
Bruce Mitchell	Levin	Bill Nichilson	Palmerston North
Michelle Payne Treasurer	Palmerston North	Phil Pollero	Wanganui
Craig Rookes Secretary	Taranaki	John Thomason	Taranaki
Graham Thorp Regional Representative	Napier	Murray West Chairman	Taumarunui

Training

The Regions has taken advantage of the financial assistance provided by NZLSAR and ran four EML courses over the last year. These were MSO Stage 2, TCA Stage 2, Team Leaders and Suburban Search Methods. Dave Brockway our Training Subcommittee Chairman and his team have worked hard over the year in organising these events and getting people to them. The Region extends to them a vote of thanks. Planning is well advanced for the next year and we await

being told what assistance will be available.

Finally while we will miss the Hawkes Bay contingent we look forward to the re organisation of the Regional boundaries, meeting regularly with people from the Wellington District and another good year of SAR management.

Stu Davies

Region Three Representative.

Region Four Report

Move over CER...Roll up Closer District Relations. That is definitely the theme in the lower North Island. The Nelson area has now formed its own Region as part of a stream lined structure, leaving the areas north of the Strait to get on with working together.

These lower North Island District relationships have become stronger with a cross over of teams from Wellington and the Wairarapa continuing and a strong relationship forming with the Horowhenua.

A recent operation on Wellington turf displayed this close relationship by involving teams from all three areas,

ensuring that the most skilled and trained resources were used rather than just what the local area could provide.

Both training and operations continue at a steady rate throughout the area.

The Wellington and Wairarapa people are looking forward to joining the new Region to the north. From a pragmatic viewpoint the Region boundaries have already changed as evidenced by the attendance at the Region 3 Advisers seminar in Palmerston North recently by all the Wellington Advisers.

Mike Sheridan

Region Four Representative

Region Five Tasman Report

The Regional Committee had its first meeting on 7 May 2000 and the Officers elected and those present were.

Peter Adams	Kaikoura	Roger Bint	
Malcolm Brennan Vice Chairman	Blenheim	Bill Dowle	Kaikoura
Maurice Horne		Steve Marshall Regional Representative	Takaka
Gerald Nalder	Murchison	Greg Pickford	Nelson
Paul Rennie Communications Officer	Blenheim	Brian Robinson	
John Scobie	Blenheim	Sherp Tucker Chairman	Nelson
Cathy Worthy Training Officer	Nelson	Eric MacDonald Secretary/Treasurer	Nelson

Progress has been made on using the funds provided by NZLSAR for specific training but a hold-up has been getting a time with EML.

Steve Marshall

Region Five (new) Representative

Region Five Christchurch/West Coast Report

Region Five again has had another busy year holding five EML courses and several Regional courses. This is on top of local SAR events such as SAREX's, fund raising events, inter SAR sectors courses and the successful Harris Trophy.

We certainly look forward to seeing the MoU in place between NZLSAR and the Police and the contents within the document actioned by both sides. Hopefully this paper should be the guiding force of land SAR, and standardise SAR administration procedure throughout New Zealand.

With the new MoU drafted, ready to be signed and put in place, the Committee feels this will create a positive attitude to SAR throughout our Region amongst members.

Our Committee again would like to mention the time put into SAR training by members and the commitment by such Regional Committee Officers and members for the last year were:-

Gary Brehaut	Timaru	Peter Cameron Secretary	Christchurch
Gordon Hasell Chairman	Timaru	Brian Holland	Waikari
Steve Langridge	West Coast	Rod Lawrence Treasurer	Timaru
Ken Lindbom	West Coast	Geoff McCrostie	Timaru

members to NZLSAR. My Committee looks forward to NZLSAR sorting out this year what part our grass root members play within NZLSAR and when will they will be granted membership to our National organisation

It was pleasing to see two members from our Region being appointed to the Chair of the Specialist and Communication Subcommittees.

Few live operations took place during the year, although a larger number smaller callouts happened lasting from a few hours to a full day. Canterbury had the biggest live operation lasting over five days

The Regional Committee met twice during the year and held one phone conference, which worked out very well and is major time saver in travelling. This year did see a number of problems resolved regionally and nationally.

Tony McEnaney	West Coast	David Saunders	Christchurch
Peter Summerfield	Christchurch	Brian Williams	Timaru

Gordon Hasell was appointed as a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to mountaineering and search and rescue.

The first of a series of Regional courses covering the Workbook practical exercises took place in June, with members from throughout the Region

attending and the results were very satisfactory. The next twelve months will see another six EML courses held by the Regional Committee.

Terry Sweetman

Region Five, Christchurch/West Coast Representative

Region Five Otago/Southland Report

The Region was devastated by the sudden illness and unexpected death of Regional Chairman and long serving Queenstown Adviser, Brian Ahern. Brian was held in great esteem by a remarkably wide cross section of the community. He has made a tremendous contribution to SAR over many years. His efforts in Queenstown have produced one of, if not the most effective SAR response to avalanche in New Zealand. He has developed a well-organized SAR team in the Queenstown area, which his leadership has seen coordinated with both Te Anau and Wanaka. His cheerful Chairmanship of the Regional Committee has combined well with a vast depth of knowledge and enthusiasm to produce a forward looking and effective unit. It will be difficult to find someone who can fill his shoes. If we can achieve as much we will be in good heart indeed. All in SAR extend their sympathy to his family on their bereavement.

The Regional Committee is very appreciative of the continued support of Police even if a magnifying glass has sometimes been required to find their contribution to training funds in some areas. The Regional Committee is continuing to encourage all groups to further refine their establishment and databases so that effective training needs can be established to make training even more effective.

The Region has continued to access the services of Emergency Management Ltd for some of its training needs. There has

been an improved performance on operations as a result of this training with a reduction in numbers of searchers, speedier location of missing persons and less operational dollars. These events are slowly being documented, so it is hoped that the dollars will be made available to ensure this wise investment in future productivity continues in the best interests of the victim. The region thanks Ross Gordon for his enthusiasm and assistance.

The Region acknowledges contributions from NZ Land SAR toward avalanche training on the Homer road and for specialist search dog training. There is no doubt of the value of those search dogs, who, with their handlers, have been certified as capable. Equally the necessity of being prepared for what could easily be a major national disaster on the Homer road is self-evident. The Region has received its fair share of the funds distributed by the national body. It has been willing to raise funds for what it sees as essential additional training to achieve a reasonable standard of skill when these were not forthcoming from the national body. At the same time the District Committee has expressed serious concern that the national body has restricted funds to the Regions for what is regarded as essential training, when there were funds which could have been made available, but which were returned to the Police as being unable to be spent. The National Committee will need to look at ways to improve its funds management to ensure it maximizes its potential

resources and applies them in a timely fashion to the regions' needs.

Meetings

The Committee met on three occasions over the last year at the Alexandra Police Station. The dates were 25 July 1999 - Annual General Meeting and Committee meeting, 11 October 1999 - Committee meeting and 27 February 2000 - Committee meeting

Committee Members

Brian Ahern - Chairman (Deceased March)	Wanaka	Roger Barrowclough - Region Representative	Dunedin
Russell Carr	Queenstown	Tony Chittock	South Otago
Blair Fields	Invercargill	Peter Garden	Eastern Southland
Allan Gillespie	Wanaka	Stew Hewitt	North Otago
Phil Jones	Queenstown	Lloyd Matheson	Southland
Trina McDonald - Minutes Secretary		Richard McPhail	Invercargill
Marcus Milne	Dunedin	Glenn Mitchell - Secretary	Dunedin
Tric Moller	Dunedin	Terry Richardson - District Police Rep	
Dave Rowan - St. John Ambulance		Alan Weston	Wanaka
Frank Wielemaker -	Queenstown	Steven Wilkes	

Following restructuring S/Sgt Terry Richardson from Dunedin was appointed to the Committee as Police representative to the Region in lieu of Inspector Phil Jones, who retains his links as the Area Commander in Queenstown. Sgt Peter Wright from Southland is another loss to restructuring as, it appears, is Sgt Benn. Both have made valuable contributions to the Region. It is hoped they will retain their interest and continue to share their experience. The other Committee members are

Nationally Assisted Training Courses

Seven Emergency Management Ltd. courses were held over the year: two in Southland, two in Central Otago and three in Coastal Otago.

Other Activities

In addition to other training courses and SAREX the Region provided standby assistance in case of any Y2k problems arising.

NZLSAR Award

One of the Regions longest standing Advisers, Don Morrison of Alexandra, was presented with a NZLSAR Award. This was a well-deserved recognition of service, which extended back to the days when Alexandra was the dominant supplier of advance parties for alpine rescues. In often traumatic conditions, it was to stalwarts such as Don that victims owed their rescue. For many years the

efficiency of the Central Otago SAR scene was due to his efficiency.

St. Johns

Another Ahern initiative was coordinating discussions between Helicopter Trusts and St. Johns helicopter operations on roles and responsibility areas. To this end the Committee has been helped by St. Johns willingness to send a senior representative to the Committee. The strong lines of communication and networking now established can only improve liaison in the best interests of the victim.

Operations and Support

This year has seen significant search and rescue operations that have illustrated graphically the type of emergency calls that are expected in this Region. They include:

- Several searches on Stewart Island

- Alpine searches, rescues and body recoveries
- Body recovery of German kayaker in Nevis river
- Increasing numbers of searches for young children and those with psychiatric disabilities
- Aviation generated searches

Tourism and international activity is escalating in the Otago - Southland area. This has been well documented in the media. The Milford-Homer Saddle Area Avalanche Control and Hazard Programme requires constant readiness. Increasing aircraft activity and heli-ski operations and the influx of heavy jet passenger aircraft to Queenstown need to be recognised. What is clear is the threat of a major disaster for which the system must be ready. The avalanche risk on the Homer road and the increasing risks from heli-skiing and tourist flights point to a need for a commitment from the Police and NZLSAR to the specialist training need. NZLSAR needs to consider these matters on a national ongoing basis so that action is delivered where the need is. The Regional Committee has stated the need clearly in its Business Plan. The challenge needs to be taken up at a national level. Not least is the concern over ACR depots. For over thirty years

gear replacement and maintenance of equipment has placed an increasing burden on local fund raising efforts with no increase in Government funds. This is another area needing to be addressed by the national committee.

There have been numerous SAR events from the minor to the serious. Dominating concern and highlighting the type of operations in the Region were the major Foveaux Strait plane crash, the Tuatapere plane crash and the Mt. Suter scenic flight float plane crash in the Fiordland Mountains. All have lessons for SAR in both operational and training environments. All were traumatic for those involved, being protracted searches in difficult terrain. At the other end of the spectrum in Dunedin a young teenager with a penchant for driving heavy machinery finally stuck a chord with the community after making his half-century of missing person events with a digger on the Southern Motorway. Attempts to supply his parents with simple tracking gear have initially been thwarted by interference on frequencies from TV stations!

Roger Barrowclough
Region Five Otago/Southland
Representative

Aviation Subcommittee Report

This past year has seen the Subcommittee involved in a number of SAR related aviation issues. These include:-

The conflict in East Timor required the services of a significant RNZAF helicopter resource. RNZAF personnel in Wellington confirmed to me that there would be no adverse effects on SAR from this deployment.

The Aviation Industry Association provided us with various documents relating to their Air Rescue Standards.

With the Police, we were asked to comment on their draft standards, and then in May, an updated copy was received. As of 1st May 2000, fifteen Air Rescue/Air Ambulance operators were accredited by the AIA.

Concern was expressed at the RNZAF's long term commitment to SAR in the South Island. We were advised that although all helicopters are now based in the North Island, the machines are still available for South Island SAR operations.

It has been mentioned that there may be a need for rescue helicopter operators to become familiar with the new skills being gained by Land SAR personnel, and how this up skilling effects the role of the air operator. As far as I am aware, this issue has been discussed amongst NZ Land SAR members, and has not been brought to the attention of the Aviation Industry Assn.

It is with some reluctance that I announce my resignation from the NZ Land SAR Committee. During the past eighteen months or so, work commitments have prevented me from taking a very active

role in the Committee. These commitments to my current employer, and the challenges associated with setting up a new business, leave little if any time for Aviation Subcommittee business.

In recent times, concern has also been raised about the growing size of the Committee. I no longer represent one of NZ Land SAR's owners, therefore my resignation will assist with the reduction of Committee expenses.

Ross Berry
Chairman Aviation Subcommittee

Communications Subcommittee Report

I have been in the chair less than a year, and to some extent am still catching up on all the good works of the Subcommittee of the past. Most projects and aspects of the Subcommittee are on

going, and progressing to a greater or lesser extent.

The current Subcommittee members are:

Rex Aubrey Police	Wellington	Steve Davis Chairman	Christchurch
Ian Gardner	Christchurch	Matthew Lloyd DoC	Lower Hutt
Jeff Sayer AREC	Upper Hutt	Ross Thompson FMC	Auckland
John Tristram	Lower Hutt	Graham Thorp	Taradale
Terry Waghorn	Wellington		

Here are some highlights of recent activities, and some indication of where things are headed.

Scope and name of the CSC

There was some discussion about the scope of the CSC and a possible name change, based on the broader definitions that were given to me when I took on the job, when compared to what is in the constitution. It was decided that it was not necessary to change the constitution at this stage, but informally we would be the "Communications and Technology" Subcommittee covering such areas as GPS, EPIRBs, electronic mapping, computer software and other technology that can be applied to Search and Rescue to improve performance.

VHF Radios

The second round of distribution of VHF Handheld radios and base sets was

achieved before the end of last year, however there was a slight glitch with the base sets which has required them to be returned for reprogramming of the mute levels. If this has not been done in your area then it should be arranged as soon as possible. The manufacturer of the Repeater units had some supply and technical difficulties, which delayed the distribution of the second batch of repeaters by some months.

A problem has come to light with the first batch of Repeaters. It is possible that the batteries on some units are not performing as they should. This could be possible due to the instructions on the charger not being followed correctly, or maybe due to the batteries themselves. If you have one of the repeaters from the first batch, which was delivered in 1998, then you should get the battery load tested to confirm that it is still in good

condition, you should be able to get close to 17AH from them. If there are any problems found then the repeater should be sent back through Police Information and Technology to get the battery replaced.

We have submitted a proposal to the Police for the third and final round of the initial VHF Radio Equipment upgrade programme. We believe that the distribution of equipment around the country should cover all requirements. We will be reviewing the distribution and looking to see if there are any gaps, and if there is a need for additional funds in future years. Let me know if you have any concerns about a lack of equipment in any area, there should be equipment within 2 hours travel to all centres. We are also looking at a small number of link repeaters to allow for extended range. We await the results of our current submission to the Police before we finalise the actual placements of the current round of equipment.

There was also some concern about unauthorised repairs of VHF radio equipment, it should be noted that except for extreme emergency repairs, all equipment should be returned to the supplier, or through Police I and T for all repairs.

New Datum and Map Grid

Many of you will be aware that there are changes that have happened or will be happening that affect the topographic maps that we use. There is in place now a new datum, which is the mathematical model, which matches the curvature of the earth. NZ Geodetic 2000 is the new datum and is similar to WGS84, the datum used by the GPS system, so will simplify many aspects where we use GPS in the future. NZ Geodetic 2000 replaces NZ Geodetic 1949, updating the model to make it more accurate, and to allow for minor changes over the years.

Along with this change of datum a change of the mapping projection, or grid, has also been proposed. It would seem that a change in our paper-based maps is

inevitable in the next 9 – 18 months. This change will be similar to that which we went through changing from Inch to the Mile maps to Metric. However the impacts are relatively minimal as long as we can ensure that all parties in an operation are using the same maps.

The change in Projection, or Map Grid is likely to mean that all maps and sea charts will use the same grid.

Release of Copyright on NZ Maps and Map Data

Another major announcement relating to maps is the release of copyright on maps. This means that maps can be freely copied, and has also allowed many organizations to distribute maps in electronic form at a much lower cost than before. The Police also have maps available in electronic form, and I am trying to arrange for the CSC to be a distribution point for SAR groups to be able to get copies for the cost of media and postage. More details on this will follow on the web page and in NZLSAR news in the near future.

There is quite a bit of work going on to apply the practical use of GPS and electronic maps in SAR operations.

Various

Work continues on active aeriels, seeking ideal torches for different SAR uses, the collection of Communications resource information, "selcall" for HF, coming to an agreement with other organizations for use of their repeaters in some circumstances, and generally keeping abreast of developments.

World Wide Web and Email

Although not necessarily a CSC project, with my taking on the chair it has by default fallen into the CSC sphere of activities. I am continuing work on the Web Pages, and would like to be able to have details of NZLSAR activities at the Subcommittee level, and District groups in particular available on the web. Please keep me posted with any material that may be suitable for publication to our wider membership and to the public at

large to raise the profile of NZLSAR and its activities.

We also encourage the use of the **sar@egroups.com** email list as a forum for discussion of SAR topics and dissemination of news and items of interest.

There is plenty of work for us to do, and new developments coming along all the time. Thanks to the team for their on-going efforts.

Steve Davis
Chairman, Communications
Subcommittee

Specialist Subcommittee Report

At the November meeting of NZLSAR, a new concept of managing the Specialist Subcommittee was put into place. The concept is to have the Chairman co-ordinate and pull together Specialist working groups engaged on a project basis to deal with the issues facing each discipline.

Hence, my appointment, whilst not having any particular specialist background, this enables me to work with all of the disciplines involved without any prejudice. The principle objective we have set is to firmly establish NZLSAR at the forefront of Search and Rescue techniques and to establish robust policies and standards for each discipline. The Subcommittee also serves as a vehicle by which NZLSAR can keep up with ever changing international best practice.

To this end working groups are in the process of being established for Alpine/Cliff Rescue, Search Dogs and Medical. One discipline not yet formally included with the Specialist Subcommittee is the caving fraternity, although the Alpine/Cliff rescue working group are drawing on caving specialists for their expertise in determining standards. To have this discipline formally under the auspices of the Subcommittee would make a more consolidated and efficient approach.

Alpine/Cliff Rescue

The two previous Chairmen, Murray Cullen and Don Bogie had made good progress in addressing the issues of standards and the rationalisation of Alpine Cliff Rescue Teams. The National

Committee has ratified Don's strategies and Murray had a set of standards drawn up for discussion. Both of these very experienced SAR personnel have agreed to participate in the new working group. Grant Prattley, Team Leader for the DoC, Mount Cook Alpine Rescue Team has also joined the group.

Barry Were and Roscoe Tait had taken the initiative during 1999 to host a Vertical Lift Workshop in late March 2000. This was attended by over 10 Teams and 60 personnel from all over the North Island. The attendees were from any organisation with an involvement in this type of rescue. These ranged from Civil Defence teams through to a professional Fire Service team. It was an excellent opportunity to observe the range of standards and techniques being practised. During various discussions, both informal and formal, the Working Group was able to determine some priorities for their work. A similar event is planned to be held in the South Island during October this 2000. From these events NZLSAR will have a good overview of the capabilities and standards throughout New Zealand.

The Working Group has made good progress towards establishing standards for Alpine and Cliff Rescue. Grant Prattley has bought back from Canada the latest best practice ideas etc, which have assisted the group with determining and setting standards. The Working Group anticipates having standards published for reference late in 2000. The publication of the standards will also assist with the proposed rationalisation of Alpine Rescue Teams and identify

appropriate Caving and Cliff Rescue resources.

Search Dogs

New Zealand has had a Search Dog resource since the early 1990's, not until 1994, when the Police put in place an assessment policy, have we had any benchmark. However, these assessments are primarily aimed at the dog's performance with little emphasis on the handler's SAR capability.

Markus Milne from Dunedin has been very busy drawing, not only on his SAR experience, but those of several leading civilian handlers, to determine a set of standards for civilian search dog handlers. We are also fortunate to have the good services of Brendan Gibson, the Police National dog trainer to assist Marcus in the determination of the standards. By early August 2000, we will be in a position to promulgate a set of standards for adoption by NZLSAR after consultation with interested parties. Our ambition is to use the Search Dog course to be held in spring this year in Dunedin as a launching opportunity for the new standards.

Over the past 3 years both Avalanche and Wilderness Search dog courses have been run under the auspices of NZ Alpine Search Dogs. NZLSAR has agreed to underwrite this years spring course and also do the same for a similar course in the North Island during the first half of 2001.

The intention is, with the standards in place, we can the start to develop this invaluable resource nation-wide to provide a consistent and effective response in all Regions.

Medical

Although not much progress has been made in this area over the past months since my appointment, planning has taken place to establish a working group for this aspect. Trish Moller and Glen Mitchell have done a lot of good work in establishing the basic Patient Care Standards adopted by NZLSAR last

November. This has caused some concerns at District level because of the costs of implementation, an aspect that will need to be addressed both at National and District level.

There is a perception that a First Aid course which meets the Standards needs to be specific to SAR, however First Aid at this level is First Aid regardless of the environment. At this level a course should also meet the contents of the NZLSAR workbook. One of the issues for future consideration is "where to from here?"

In September this year a Medical Workshop is to be hosted by NZLSAR in Wellington to consider the issues and policies NZLSAR should be pursuing as we strive to ensure that all NZLSAR volunteers are well equipped for the task, both in materials and knowledge. Ideally, I would like to see NZLSAR be able to speak with some expertise on outdoor medical matters. For the immediate future the priority should be to strengthen our organisations capability in this field with the establishment of a project working group or groups.

I believe we have started the ball rolling towards improving our capabilities and capacities to provide world standard SAR resources. However, much work remains. I wish to thank all those who have contributed to our progress to date. The ACR working group Murray, Grant and Don, Search Dogs, Markus and Brendan, Trish and Glenn on matters Medical. There is also much work done in support and my thanks goes to John Tristram for his efficiency in organisation and his patience with wayward Chairmen. Roscoe Tait and Barry Were, both of whom are extremely busy with their own portfolios, for their support and encouragement. I feel, with continued impetus NZLSAR can look forward real progress in the Specialist disciplines during the next year.

Peter Cameron

Chairman, Specialist Subcommittee

Training Subcommittee Report

This year the Training Subcommittee has implemented a policy of holding its meeting at locations other than Wellington. The objective of this policy is to give Regional and District SAR committees the opportunity to attend NZLSAR Training Subcommittee meetings and have some input into NZLSAR national training program and philosophies of the Training Subcommittee. Two meetings were held in the past year, both in Christchurch. In both cases the opportunity was taken to combine the meeting with a local SAR activity. At the October meeting it was encouraging to see several members of the Canterbury SAR Training Committee attend the meeting. On Sunday the Training Subcommittee members attended the Canterbury Harris (Search and Rescue) Cup Competition that was held in at Blackford Station in the Rakaia River. In March the Subcommittee held its meeting at Lake Lyndon, which was the location of the Canterbury SAREX. The Subcommittee participated in the various training modules that were held on the Saturday morning and early afternoon.

The membership of the Subcommittee has changed during the year. Unfortunately Don Bogie had to resigned as Chairman of the Specialist Subcommittee and thus as a member of the Training Subcommittee due to pressure of work. Peter Cameron was appointed as Chairman of the Specialist Subcommittee at the November meeting of the NZLSAR Committee and has subsequently filled the vacancy on the Training Subcommittee created by Don's resignation. This was Don's second spell on the committee and I would like to personally thank Don for his support and the contribution he made to the Training Subcommittee over the years, especially the work he did in developing the Alpine Rescue Standards. The training subcommittee was strengthened by the addition of two new members, Laurie Gallagher, who is the FMC representative on the NZLSAR Committee and Gerry Prins when he took up the SAR position at Police National Headquarters. The current membership of the Subcommittee is:-

Peter Cameron	Christchurch	Laurie Gallagher	Paraparaumu
Gerry Prins	Tawa	Dave Saunders	Christchurch
Roscoe Tait	Auckland	Stu Thorne	Wanaka
John Tristram	Lower Hutt	Barry Were	Hamilton

The NZLSAR Committee at its August meeting approved the Training Subcommittee's Vision and Mission Statement. One of the elements of the Mission statement is the development of joint training with the Police. Last year the Police ran the first of their two-week SAR Controllers course. The course consists of one week each on land SAR and marine SAR. Emergency Management Ltd. has been contracted to run the land SAR section of the course using the Emergency Response Institute's five-day Managing Search Operations as the course text. I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend

the second of these courses in March 2000 as the only NZLSAR attendee. After this course, discussions were held with the Police to see if there was a way of increasing the number of NZLSAR members who could attend this course. Agreement was reached with the Police that future courses would be a joint venture between Police and NZLSAR and that NZLSAR members would be entitled to half of the places on each course. With the next two courses scheduled for August 2000, NZLSAR Regional Committees and Advisers were asked to nominate suitable people to attend the course. Almost 40 people

applied for the 18 places available and a selection process was used to determine in a fair and equitable way who should attend the course. It is proposed to hold another two courses on the same basis in August 2001. I believe that this is an extremely exciting development and I am encouraged by the number of NZLSAR members who are prepared to give up a week to improve their SAR knowledge and skills.

The Training Subcommittee is working on resolving a number of items which include The role of the Advisers, affiliation, reviewing the report on the Audit conducted by Dr. Anthony Jones in July 1998 and recognition of SAR instructors. Steady progress is being made on most of these items.

Standards

The number of SAR related Standards that have been written or are in the process of being developed continues to grow. Some have been written by NZ

Land SAR and some by associated organisations. NZ Land SAR has become the repository for these SAR standards with the responsibility to ensure that they are reviewed on a regular basis. The status of the standards is as follows:

- **Adviser Standards**

Adviser Standards are an accepted part of land SAR in New Zealand and the majority of Advisers have now attended an Adviser Standards workshop. One Adviser Standards workshop was held at Taupo during the past year. This was a catch up workshop to give those advisers in the North Island who had not attended a workshop the opportunity to do so. There were 20 attendees from all over the North Island. Very few Advisers have not attended an Adviser Standards Workshop and a breakdown by District of the numbers who have not attended is given in the following table.

SAR REGION	DISTRICT	NUMBER	TOTALS
Northern	Northern	0	
			0
Midland	Gisborne	0	
	Rotorua	2	
	Tauranga	1	
	Waikato	4	
			7
Central	Manawatu/Wanganui	2	
	Taranaki	0	
	Wellington	1	
			3
Total North Island			10
Tasman	Tasman	2	
			2
Southern	Canterbury	2	
	Southland	4	
			6
Total South Island			8
Total			18

Further workshops will be held for new Advisers and potential Advisers as the need arises, at the rate of one

or two per year. The total number of SAR Advisers (land and cave) is now 183. While this is a significant

reduction since the formation of NZ Land SAR Inc. in November 1994, it is a much more manageable number. The introduction of the Adviser Standards and the associated workshop has resulted in the people who now hold the position of Adviser having a much better understanding of the role and the responsibilities associated with the appointment.

- **Field Controller Standards**
The Field Controller Standards follow-on from the Adviser Standards. Only one workshop was held in the last year. This was at Whangarei in March with 30 participants.
- **Rescue Controller Standards**
This standard has been accepted by the Training Subcommittee. It has yet to be endorsed by the NZLSAR Committee
- **Patient Care Standards**
These standards were adopted the NZLSAR Committee at its meeting in March 1998. At the Regional Chairmen and Secretaries meeting in November these Standards were endorsed and a rider added that SAR organisations are to comply with the First Aid Certificate requirement of the Standard within 12 months.
- **Communication Manager Standards**
The third draft of the two Standards (Operational & Non-operational) that make up this standard has been produced and forwarded to the Communications Subcommittee for comment and technical verification. While these standards have been developed by AREC personnel, the standards will be 'owned' by NZ Land SAR Inc.
- **Strop Rescue Standards**
Department of Conservation staff at Mt. Cook are still developing this standard, which will eventually be "owned" by NZ Land SAR Inc.

All standards that have been approved by the NZLSAR committee are posted on the NZLSAR web site.

Training

Emergency Management Ltd. Courses

- Ross Gordon of Emergency Management Ltd. continues to offer a range of courses that teach new skills and techniques to our SAR volunteers. The Training Subcommittee has continued its policy of encouraging Districts and Regions to undertake new training to up-skill their SAR volunteers by sponsoring approved courses. During the 1999/2000 financial year, NZLSAR initially allocated \$42,000 to regions for these courses. However this was increased to \$52,000 later in the year. It is hoped that NZLSAR can continue its policy of looking at its budget each meeting and where possible reallocating funds to training. A total of 33 "two-day" EML courses were run last year. There were some encouraging developments with these courses during the past year
 - a few courses were run mid-week,
 - two courses that were run for District Police personnel
 - the development of weekend up-date courses by Dunedin - these courses consist of one day each on two topics.

A number of Regions and Districts are using their own funds to run additional courses to those funded by NZLSAR to increase the SAR skills of their members. Three booked courses did not run, one due to there being a long search in the week immediately prior to the course.

A summary of the training courses sponsored and/or facilitated by NZ Land SAR during the past year is given in the following table:

Course	No of Courses
Introductory Track & Clue Awareness	12
Stage 2 Track & Clue Awareness	6
Managing Search Operations – Stage 1	3
Managing Search Operations – Stage 2	2
Search Methods	6
Team Leader	1
Suburban Search	3
Adviser Standards Workshops	1
Field Controller Standards Workshops	1
Total	35

All the above courses are in addition to the local and District training (including SAREX's) that is regularly undertaken by SAR volunteers.

The following table shows the number of specialised training courses that have been held since the formation of NZ Land SAR Inc.

Course	Number of Courses						Totals
	94/95	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99	99/00	
EML							
Introductory Track & Clue Awareness	2	5	14	13	7	12	53
Stage 2 Track & Clue Awareness	0	0	0	3	3	6	12
Managing Search Operations – Stage 1	5	0	2	4	4	3	18
Managing Search Operations – Stage 2						2	2
Incident Command System	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Suburban Search Methods	0	0	0	2	0	2	4
Search Methods	0	0	3	1	3	5	12
Search Team Leader	0	0	0	1	3	1	5
Update weekends						2	2
Subtotals	7	5	19	25	20	33	109
NZLSAR							
Introductory Search Management	-	-	-	-	1	0	1
Adviser Standards Workshops	4	11	3	1	2	1	22
Field Controller Standards Workshops	-	-	-	10	4	1	15
Alpine & Cliff Rescue Standards Workshop	-	-	-	1	0	0	1
Risk Management	-	1	1	0	0	0	2
Totals	11	17	23	37	27	35	150

The Training Subcommittee is now looking at developing material for the

next round of workshops as a follow on from the Adviser and Field Controller

standards Workshops. It is proposed that an element of these courses will include some training modules that the participants can take back to their District and run them for their local SAR volunteers.

Resource Material

- **Field Guide**

The Field Guide has proved to be an extremely popular publication and it is proposed that it will be revised and republished next year.

- **SAR Workbook**

The workbook, which was designed as a training program for new entrants to the SAR organisation, has been published. It is proving to be a useful tool as a revision program for current existing SAR members.

- **OHP'S**

A set of overheads of the Field Guide, which can be used as a training aid with the Workbook have been trialed in Canterbury. Once some feedback has been received the comments will be reviewed and the appropriate changes made. A set of OHP on an "Introduction to Searching" are also being developed as a training aid for SAR groups.

- **Certificates**

There has been an increasing demand by participants on the various courses for course certificates etc. These are available from John Tristram

- **Training Modules**

The first modules in a series of training modules are almost ready for publication. The initial modules are Observation Skills, Boot Print Recognition and an Introduction to Managing Search

Operations. It is proposed to have them ready for distribution in the next few months. Further modules are being developed.

Acknowledgements

NZLSAR relies very heavily on the strength of its volunteers. People who quietly get on with improving their skills by giving up their time to attend courses as well as working at maintaining currency in the skills they have learnt. It is very difficult to find a satisfactory way of acknowledging their dedication and contribution to SAR. Without their assistance and enthusiasm the organisation would not function, and certainly not as well as it does. I would also like to thank those who have assisted the Training Subcommittee to do its work. In particular my thanks go to Trevor Burgess for the SAR Workbook and the associated OHP's; the members of the District and Regional Committees for assisting with the organisation of the Workshops and the training courses offered by Emergency Management Ltd.; Ross Gordon of Emergency Management Ltd. for his enthusiasm and encouragement throughout the year; the Committee of N Z Land SAR Inc. for their unfailing support of the aims and objectives of the Training Subcommittee; the members of the Training Subcommittee for their assistance, encouragement and help throughout the year. A very special thanks to John Tristram, as without his behind the scenes input, cajoling and encouragement much of what we have achieved this year would just not have happened.

Roscoe Tait

Chairman, Training Subcommittee.

Underground Subcommittee Report

During the last 12 months there have been no major rescues. There were several call-outs in both major regions of Nelson and Waitomo, but on each occasion the situation was resolved without the need for rescue teams entering caves.

Training

The training focus at Nelson has remained with the theme of search. Their annual SAREX was search related, putting into practice the skills picked up at the MSO course for cavers. In addition the Nelson cavers have held regular training sessions to increase the skill levels of their management team. Nelson cavers have also been upgrading their rescue equipment having received a sizeable grant for this. Several members of the Nelson and Palmerston North groups have now attended TCA training courses.

At Waitomo no further additions have been made to the rescue equipment. A TCA course may be held at Waitomo for cavers. The Palmerston North cavers have also been active with an annual radio/communications exercise and a team at the District SAREX.

It is good to see cavers playing an active role in their respective land SAR groups, particularly in Nelson, Palmerston North, Waikato and Northland. This involvement benefits both organisations and ensures currency for cavers as well as cementing relationships during "peace-time" which will prove beneficial during an operation. Cavers do appreciate the resources and expertise, which are available through land SAR groups.

Vertical Rescue Workshop

Cavers were well represented at the Vertical Rescue Workshop held at

Hinuera in April. This workshop was of immense benefit to both the participants and the SAR organisation in general. The 60+ participants, who travelled from as far afield as Wellington and Auckland, received expert advice from South Island alpine experts – Grant Prattley, Don Bogie and Murray Cullen plus the other teams. The Saturday was spent on the cliffs with each team rigging first a vertical lower and then a vertical lift. The range of equipment and methodologies was impressive. Most of Sunday was spent in the marquee with presentation from each team. The 3 South Island experts led sessions on modern techniques/concepts and standards. Those present believed that such a weekend should be repeated at least every three years. A similar weekend will be run in the South Island in September.

National Cave SAREX – 2nd to 4th March 2001

Planning for this 3 yearly event is progressing well with Mt Arthur near Motueka being the selected venue. As on previous exercises the majority of available funds will be used to transport participants from the North Island. It is expected that numbers involved will be between 70 and 100 people. The emphasis will again be on deep multi-pitch cave systems and the objective will be to provide training for cavers at all levels of the organisation.

Conclusion

The Cave SAR organisation is well positioned to manage cave rescues and, as a result of training during the last 12 months, is also much better prepared for a search.

Barry Were

Chairman, Underground Subcommittee

NZLSAR Awards

In the last year the NZLSAR Committee was pleased to approve the NZLSAR Award to the following people.

Ernie Hagger	21 August 1999
Mel Knauf	21 August 1999
Don Morrison	21 August 1999
John Cassidy	21 August 1999
Ray Anstis	21 August 1999
Don Bogie	21 August 1999
Noel Herman	14 November 1999
Terry Conaghan	14 November 1999
Tom Luff	17 January 2000
John Mason	25 March 2000
Tom Carter	12 April 2000
Brent Martin	27 April 2000
Dallas Winch	12 June 2000

The Subcommittee members and other recipients who have received the Award are:-

John P Tristram	20 November 1994
Roger Bates	20 November 1994
Roger Barrowclough	20 November 1994
Peter Davis	20 November 1994
Fred Gallas	20 November 1994
Ivan McLachlan	20 November 1994
Ted Robinson	20 November 1994
Roscoe Tait	20 November 1994
Barry Were	20 November 1994
Trevor Plowman	25 March 1995
Ron Kingston	11 November 1995
Ted Withers	11 November 1995
Merv Passau	16 March 1996
Jim Rowe	16 March 1996
Don McKay	24 August 1996
Don Major	24 August 1996
Ken Hayhurst	24 August 1996
Lawrence William Cobb	15 March 1997
Alan Hepburn	15 March 1997
Keith Hepburn	15 March 1997
Neil Harris	15 March 1997
Edward (Ted) Neil Morgan	16 August 1997
Gordon Victor Brett	16 August 1997
Max Curtis	16 August 1997
Leon Bradley	16 August 1997
Alan V Berry	16 August 1997
Ron Boocock	8 November 1997
Derick Mathews	8 November 1997
Anthony Jones	22 August 1998
Jim Farley	22 August 1998
Rod Mills	22 August 1998
Ray Furness	22 August 1998
Kenneth James Burrows	14 November 1998
Gordon Edgar Hasell	14 November 1998

Graham Thorp
Chairman NZLSAR

Treasurer's Report

Our thanks go to Committee and Sub Committee members and others whose efforts cannot be satisfactorily measured in dollars. The Police continue to support us including accommodation and associate services for the National Field Officer.

The 1999/2000 Business Plan totalled \$180,500, compared with the Police Grant of \$126,750, and some \$132,000 was spent against this. The main projects where we were unable to achieve budget hopes were specialist training, training workshops and SAR research. However, money for specialist

training and SAR research has been carried forward as tagged funds.

The Statement of Financial Position shows Accumulated Funds of \$59,237 and these would normally be available for use with the current year's Business Plan or other projects but as the Police grant is not usually received until about 3 months' into the financial year, up to \$10,000 monthly must be held back to cover funding gaps.

Phil Rundle
Treasurer, NZLSAR

Financial Report

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2000

	2000	1999
	\$	\$
Accumulated Funds	59,237	84,199
Publications Fund	23,491	19,484
Redundancy Provision	9,706	9,406
SAR Research Fund	10,000	
ACR Training Fund	10,000	
	-----	-----
Total Equity	112,434	113,089
	-----	-----
Represented by:		
Bank accounts		
Westpac Trust current a/c	4,721	3,371
Westpac Trust call a/c	32,925	16,087
	-----	-----
	37,646	19,458
Term Deposits-Westpac Trust	98,000	103,000
Debtors and prepayments	2,416	2,501
	-----	-----
Total Current Assets	138,062	124,959
Less Current Liabilities		
Creditors	25,628	11,870
	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	112,434	113,089
	-----	-----

The Notes 1 to 9 to the Accounts form part of these Accounts.

-----Treasurer

-----Chairman

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000

	2000		1999
	\$		\$
INCOME			
Police Depart. Contract	126,750		123,000
Interest	7,252		6,947
Donations	150		
	-----		-----
Total income	134,152		129,947
EXPENSES			
Audit Fees	938		900
Committee and Review Meetings	8,271		6,947
National Field Officer			
Salary and ACC Levy	45,583	42,394	
Travel	3,741	4,282	
Other Expenses	1,268	894	
	-----	-----	
	50,592		47,570
National Office			
Administration and Stationery	1312		1,319
Travel			598
Library	329		
Communication Subcommittee	1,037		721
Specialist Subcommittee			
Courses	1,000	(1,051)	
Subcommittee Expenses	1,733	1,786	
	-----	-----	735
2,733			
Training Subcommittee			
Adv. and F C. Workshops	2,593	10,508	
Subcommittee Expenses	2,975	3,428	
	-----	-----	13,936
5,568			
Underground Subcommittee			
Cave SAREX	1,389		
Subcommittee Expenses		378	
	-----	-----	378
1389			
Regional Com. Admin. Support	6,623		1,713
Regional Training Support	48,022		27,851
	-----		-----
Total Expenses	126,814		102,668
Operating Surplus	7,338		27,279
Publication Fund Movements	(7993)		(3,467)
	-----		-----
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(655)		23,812
	-----		-----

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes to these financial statements

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000

ACCUMULATED FUNDS	2000 \$	1999 \$
Opening Balance	84,199	56,920
Surplus (Deficit)for the year	(655)	<u>23,812</u>
Total Recognised Income (deficit)for the year	(655)	23,812
Less Transfers (to) from Reserves	<u>(24,307)</u>	<u>3,467</u>
Closing Balance	<u>59,237</u>	<u>84,199</u>
 RESERVES		
Publications Fund		
Opening Balance	19,484	22,951
Add transfer from Accumulated Funds	12,000	
Less transfers (to) Accumulated Funds	<u>(7,993)</u>	<u>(3,467)</u>
Closing Balance	<u>23,491</u>	<u>19,484</u>
Redundancy Provision		
Opening Balance	9,406	9,406
Add transfer from Accumulated Funds	<u>300</u>	
Closing Balance	<u>9706</u>	<u>9,406</u>
SAR Research Fund		
Add transfer from Accumulated Funds	<u>10,000</u>	
Closing Balance	<u>10,000</u>	
ACR Training Fund		
Add transfer from Accumulated Funds	<u>10,000</u>	
Closing Balance	<u>10,000</u>	
TOTAL RESERVES	<u>53,197</u>	<u>28,890</u>
CLOSING EQUITY	<u>112,434</u>	<u>113,089</u>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the Notes to these financial statements

**NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

1. Reporting Entity:

The financial statements presented here are for the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Inc. There are independent Regional and District land search and rescue organisations and they do not have their results included with these accounts of the New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Inc.

2. Statement of Accounting Policies

These Financial Statements are presented in accordance with the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.

General Principles:

These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost. Accrual accounting has been used to match income and expenses. Amounts are stated exclusive of GST, except for certain Debtor and Creditor balances, where appropriate.

Differential Reporting:

This entity qualifies for differential reporting under the Institute of Chartered Accountants of New Zealand's reporting framework as it not publicly accountable and it is not classified as being large. This entity has taken advantage of all available differential reporting exemptions.

Changes in Accounting Policies:

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in previous years.

Donated Services:

New Zealand Land Search & Rescue Inc. relies on the voluntary service of members. Since these services are not normally purchased and because of the difficulty of determining their value, donated services are not recognised in these financial statements.

3 Taxation:

No provision has been made for income tax as the Society, being a charitable body, has been granted exemption from income tax.

4. Debtors:

These are accrued interest and GST paid on expenses and recoverable from the Inland Revenue Department.

5. Creditors:

These are salary and holiday entitlements earned but not paid, a provision for the cost of auditing these accounts and for other expenses incurred but not paid.

6. Redundancy Provision:

While no redundancy is contemplated, the Committee has resolved to make this provision in case funding difficulties occur in the future.

7. Contingent Liabilities:

There were no known contingent liabilities as at balance date. (1999 nil)

8. Capital Commitments:

There were no known capital commitments as at balance date. (1999 nil)

9. Related Party Transactions:

There were no transactions involving related parties during the year, other than those disclosed elsewhere in these Financial Statements.

Auditors Report

Held in office. Available upon request

Performance Audit Report

The "Performance Audit for the past year is in two parts. The first is a summary of the NZLSAR Committee and its members activities plus an overview of the national SAR operational statistics. The second part has been to consider the 99/00 budget, what items finance was allocated, whether the work was done and if so was it within budget.

Graham Thorp Chairman NZLSAR

John P Tristram NFO NZLSAR

Part 1 NZLSAR Committee and Subcommittees activities during the 1999/00 year.

Committee meetings held	3
Total person days of attendance by Committee members	36
A day meeting, and evening meeting and two teleconferences were held by the Review Group	

Communications Subcommittee meetings held	1
Total person days of attendance	7

Training Subcommittee meetings held	2
Total person days of attendance	9
	9
Advisers Standards two day Workshops held	1
Adviser Workshop attendees	18
Field Controllers one day Standard Workshops held	1
Field Controllers attendees	21

The following operational statistics are an interim assessment take on 20 July 2000

Operational activities of NZLSAR volunteers for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000					
	99/00	98/99	97/98	96/97	95/96
Class II operations	313	332	352	370	398
Operational hours contributed	17,620	14,368	20,146	15,812	22,011
Number of personal involved	2,262	2,108	2,829	3139	3954

Total of NZ Residents as "customers", land and water - 1108
Total Tourists as "customers" - 91
Percentage of Tourists - 8%

Operation information

Problem Type		Activity Type		Injury Type.	
Alcohol	1	Aircraft Accident	8	Abrasion	8
Attempted suicide	2	Camping	7	Bruising	2
Avalanche	4	Caving	1	Coronary	2
Equipment	9	Climbing	25	Dislocate	5
Homicide	1	Cycling	4	Fatal	42
Inexperience	5	Fishing Shore	8	Fracture	23
Medical	91	Gliding	1	Gunshot wound	1
Navigational	96	Hunting	37	Head	6
Other	103	Motor Accident	1	Hypothermia	22

Overdue	14	Orienteering	5	Laceration	7
Rivers	20	Other Land	41	Leg	10
Suicide	16	Running	1	Medical Condition	8
Weather	5	Skiing	5	Multiple	13
		Tramping	119	Spinal	5
		Walking	38	Sprain	13
		Working	10	Torso	1

Part 2 Note. This assessment was done in early July using the Financial Report to the 30 June. The Audit and some expenditure not previously accounted for may mean some small changes in expenditure may need to be made.

No.	Item	Budgeted amount	Actual expenditure	Comments
1a	NZLSAR Committee meetings	\$7,500	\$7,054	Three meetings were held, minutes were kept, action lists generated most of which were done prior to the next meeting. The Committee now has 16 members and consideration should be given to what is the optimum size for decision making efficiency. As well the wider geographical spread of the present membership is going to incur a greater cost for this item which will need to be considered in the budget for next year. \$1,000 was allocated to this item for a presentation to the Committee by Mr R Stoffel an overseas SAR authority. He was at the time in New Zealand as a tutor for EML at the MSO course being run at the Police College.
1b	AGM Meeting	Nil	Nil	This item continues to be noted and it was proposed but subsequently decided against, to hold such an event in August 2000. The Committee needs to be aware that for such an event to be successful a lot of work and forward planning needs to be undertaken and is more than any single person can be expected to achieve.
1c	Review Meeting	\$1,500	\$217	Two meetings have been held by the Review Group including a meeting between Gerard Prins representing Police and some members of the Review Group at which the draft MoU was considered clause by clause. This incurred little cost as the participants were in Wellington for a Committee meeting. As well two "teleconferences" were held.
1d	Chairman's travel and discretion	\$2,000	Nil	Consideration of likely expenditure for this item was made at the November meeting and \$1,000 was reallocated. There has been no subsequent expenditure.
2a	Administration Costs	\$3,000	\$2,250	Necessary purchases such as stationary, envelopes, covers, the Post Box etc have been made. Audit expenses have been identified and will add to the final figure.

2b	NFO Salary + ACC	\$42,000	\$45,583	A National Field Officer continues to be employed. He has received a Personal Performance Report.
2b1	NFO Travel and expenses	\$8,000	\$5,009	Liaison has continued with a number of associated organisations. The NFO has attended a number of Committee, Subcommittee and Regional meetings, Award presentations, District SAREX's, training courses and Regional seminars
2c	Publicity/public relations	\$2,000	Nil	This item was originally allocated \$2,000 which was revised to a \$1,000 at the November meeting. One wonders what was in the mind of the Committee when requesting finances for this item. As noted in our assessment last year, finances should not be requested unless a plan to do the work is in place. As well, the Committee should more vigorously ensure work is done when money is allocated.
2d	Library	\$500	\$329	Books have been purchased and catalogued with the Police Library. Notice of this facility has been placed on the web page and will be featured in the News. Requests to borrow books have been received.
3	Aviation Subcommittee	\$500	Nil	The \$500 was reallocated at the November meeting. A watching brief on aviation for SAR has been held by the Chairman of this Subcommittee. The Subcommittee has no membership structure and has held no meetings. With SAR air support being seen as a commercial relationship between Police or ACC and the provider, the Committee should consider the continuing need for this Subcommittee.
4	Communication Subcommittee	\$1,500	\$1,037	\$500 was reallocated from this item at the November meeting. A new Chairman was appointed to this position at the November 1999 meeting. One meeting has been held. Minutes have been kept with an accompanying Action List to identify work generated. A business plan for \$65,800 for the purchase of VHF equipment has been submitted to the Police

5a	Specialist Subcommittee	\$3,000	\$1733	\$1,000 was reallocated from this item at the November meeting. A new Chairman was appointed to this position at that meeting. This followed the resignation of the previous Chairman at the August 1998 meeting. This is the third Chairman in a little over twelve months for this position and the Committee should consider ways it can help carry what is a diverse and heavy workload. The reappraisal of the ACR Team placement and Standards has continued and progress made.
5b 5c	ACR Training/Standards Workshops ACR Team Review	\$20,500	Nil	\$10,000 was reallocated at the November meeting. With the resignation of the previous Chairman and the taking up of the new, there has been a slowing of progress in this item and it was for these reasons it was felt expedient to join these two items. From the planning to date for future activities this is only a temporary pause.
5d	ACR Exercise	Nil	Nil	No exercises budgeted for or held
5e	ACR Equipment			This is funded separately by the Police directly to the ACR Teams. As part of the ACR Team rationalisation the Committee last year suggested to the Police that the Dunedin and Invercargill allowance be combined and given to the Region Five Otago/Southland Committee for disbursement. This was agreed to and will be done again this year.
5f	Working Groups - Medical	\$500	Nil	With the change in Chairman, the small amount of progress made is understandable. However a working group skilled in outdoor first aid has been formed and planning is well advanced for it to meet. The Patient Care Standards approved previously by the Committee have been seen by some Districts as too restrictive and expensive and these comments will be a large part of the meetings consideration.
5g	Working Groups - Dogs	\$1,000	\$1,000	It is pleasing to see NZLSAR supporting the training of search dogs and handlers. It is our belief that this is an under appreciated tool for searching for missing persons or objects. A person skilled in SAR dogs has been approached to advise the Specialist Chairman and a small working group is being formed. Working with the Police, Standards for dogs and handlers are imminent.

5h	Pilot avalanche course	\$2,000	Nil	Of the funds reallocated at the November meeting, \$2,000 was put to supporting this course. A requirement of the course is a good snow cover so the finances will have to be carried forward into the winter. Planning for the course is proceeding.
6a	Training Subcommittee	\$3,500	\$2,975	The Training Subcommittee has met on two occasions. The circulation of minutes from these two meetings has been very slow with the result that the Action Lists that are generated are slow to completion.
6b	Advisers Standards Workshops	\$4,000	\$1,496	One Workshops was held with 21 attendees including the two instructors and the NFO. It is our opinion that such courses will need to be budgeted for on a regular basis as knowing what the Standards and Job Description is required is seen as a pre requisite to being an Adviser.
6c	Training Workshops	\$8,000	Nil	These Workshops were not run which again brings up the point raised above, that the Committee needs to be more realistic in setting its goals. It can only reflect poorly on the organisation to ask for money for a project, in this case \$8,000, get it and then sit on its hands.
6d	Field Controller Standards Workshops	\$4,000	\$1,097	One Workshops was held. As with the Advisers Standards we believe that an ongoing appraisal should made of the need for these Workshops. Acknowledgement needs to be made of the cost of bring people together from distant places by setting aside adequate finances.
6e	Training Modules for Trainers	\$3,000	Nil	No expenditure has been incurred for this item. Our comments are the same as for item 6c. If a more honest evaluation had been made at the November meeting of the work likely to be done in the rest of the financial year, combined, \$11,000 could have been reallocated to worthy projects.
7a	Underground Subcommittee	\$500	Nil	This Subcommittee seems to have no membership and we can find no evidence of it meeting. Its efforts to produce a Field Guide for underground SAR have been slow. A reappraisal on the need for such a document should be made. If a Field Guide is felt needed then effort should be made to complete it. Otherwise the project should be called off.

7b	National Cave SAREX	\$4,000	\$1,389	A vertical rescue seminar was held with nearly 70 persons in attendance. Several people, very experienced in cliff and alpine/cliff rescue were in attendance and it was their appraisal of the various teams that will give a impetuous to the formulating of Standards for these disciplines
8	SAR Research	\$10,000	Nil	No project has been considered.
9a	Regional Seminars	\$7,000	\$1849	\$1,000 was reallocated at the November meeting. Regions Three held a seminar as did Regions One and Two as a combined event. With 50 to 60 persons at each seminar and with topics covering a wide range of SAR activities, these were judged to have worthwhile benefits. It is noted that not all Regions seem to hold these events and those that do, do so every two years. As well, the original amount allocated against the amount spent, left a large sum unspent even allowing for the mentioned reallocation. Accordingly the Committee should give should more careful consideration to the amount budgeted for this item
9b	Administrative Support for Regional Committees	\$1,750	\$1,250	Regions were offered \$250 each for administrative purposes. Two Regions have limited Regional structures and so did not apply for their grants.
9c	Seminar for Regional Administrators	\$3,500	\$3,524	This seminar attended by the Committee, Regional Chairmen and Secretaries was held at the Police College in conjunction with a Committee meeting which was held on the second day. With both groups setting the agenda, the topics covered were those of concern within the Regions. The weekend was felt to be most worthwhile.
10a	TCA Courses	Note 1		18 courses were held, 12 TCA stage 1 and 6 TCA stage 2.
10b	Urban Search	Note 1		One course was held
10c	MSO Courses	Note 1		Three courses were held, one stage 1 and two stage 2.
10d	Search Techniques Courses	Note 1		Nine courses were held
10e	Team Leader	Note 1		Three courses were held.

Note 1 \$42,000 was initially allocated as a “Contestable Fund” to be used by the Regions for a nominated range of courses, individually selected by them as they saw the Regional training needs. This was added to by \$10,000 when funds were reallocated at the November 1999 Committee meeting.