

New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated

Annual Report



For the year ending 30 June 2006

Cover photo

Wellington and Wairarapa SAR members rescue Louise Wilkinson in a Tararua storm, January 2005.

NZLSAR gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the New Zealand Police.

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NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED

**P O BOX 12081
Thorndon
WELLINGTON**

**Phone: 04 470 7247
Fax: 04498 7406**

E Mail: nzlsar.nfo@xtra.co.nz

[http: //www.nzlsar.org.nz](http://www.nzlsar.org.nz)

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Seven Regional Representatives Clubs | N Z Federated Mountain |
| New Zealand Mountain Safety Council Conservation | Department of |
| New Zealand Police Society | New Zealand Speleological |
| Associate Member (Non voting) | |
| Amateur Radio Emergency Communications | |

**New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Committee Personnel
Position and Residence**

Officers of the organisation.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| Roscoe Tait | Chairman | Auckland |
| John Walsh until February 2005 | Deputy Chairman | Auckland |
| Tric Moller from February 2005 | Deputy Chairman | Dunedin |
| Phil Rundle | Treasurer | Lower Hutt |
| Joe Hayes | Secretary | Nelson |

Regional Representatives.

| | | |
|--|--------------|----------|
| John Walsh until February 2005 | Region One | Auckland |
| Roscoe Tait. Acting from February 2005 | Region One | Auckland |
| Bruce Sandford | Region Two | Tauranga |
| Graham Thorp | Region Three | Taradale |
| Warrick Price | Region Four | Levin |
| Joe Hayes | Region Five | Nelson |
| Brian Holland | Region Six | Waikari |
| Tric Moller | Region Seven | Dunedin |

Deputy Regional Representatives.

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Dave Erson | Region One | Auckland |
| Brent Martin | Region Two | Tauranga |
| | Region Three | |
| Ramash Swamy | Region Four | Stratford |
| John Scobie | Region Five | Blenheim |
| Rod Lawrence | Region Six | Christchurch |
| Alan Gillespie | Region Seven | Wanaka |

Subcommittee Chairmen.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Steve Davis | Communications | Christchurch |
| Clair Robertson | Search Dogs | Dunedin |
| Dave Erson | Specialist | Auckland |
| Barry Were | Training | Hamilton |
| Martin Grinsted until November 2004 | NZ Speleological Society | Nelson |
| Colin Daniell from November 2004 | | Christchurch |

Representatives of Organisations.

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Laurie Gallagher | FMC Representative | Raumati South Christchurch |
| Wayne Hutchinson until May 2005 Don Bogie from May 2005 | Dept. of Conservation New Zealand | Christchurch Christchurch Lower Hutt |
| Geoff Logan | Police | |
| Martin Grinsted until November 2004 Colin Daniell from November 2004 | NZ Speleological Society | Nelson Christchurch |

The first object in the NZLSAR Constitution is:-

To provide an effective and efficient land search and rescue capability throughout New Zealand.

Mission Statement

The Mission of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Inc. is:-

- ***To be the provider of Land Search and Rescue expertise to the Police and public of New Zealand.***
- ***To be recognised as a world leader in the provision of land search and rescue services.***
- ***To encourage, support and provide opportunities for the development of search and rescue techniques.***
- ***To provide encouragement and support to our SAR partners.***

Chairmans Report 2006

It is my privilege to present this the twelfth annual report of New Zealand Land Search and Rescue Incorporated.

NZLSAR Committee Membership

There were a few changes in the membership of the national committee during the year. Nigel Boniface joined the Committee as Region Three Regional Representative, replacing Warwick Price who resigned in September 2005. Joe Hays resigned as Region 5 Regional Representative and secretary of NZLSAR at last year's AGM. John Scobie has taken on the role of Region Five Representative. Region One has not, as yet, found a person to take on the Regional Representative role, Roscoe Tait continues as acting Regional Representative with Dave Erson as the Deputy Regional Representative.

At the AGM in August 2005 Barry Were was elected as Deputy Chairman of NZLSAR and Tric Moller as Secretary with Joe Hayes resignation.

While it is sad to see people leave the National Committee, there is also a positive side in that it brings in new people with fresh ideas onto the Committee. To those who have resigned, I would like to formally thank them for their time and contributions while they were on the Committee. The majority are still very active in SAR in their local area and we wish them all the best for the future.

National Field Officer:

Our National Field Officer, John Tristram, retired in April 2006 after 11 years dedicated service with the organisation. John was NZLSAR's first employee. He was appointed not long after NZLSAR was formed. John was responsible for setting up many of the office systems and procedures that are so essential for the efficient and effective running of a national organisation. Over the years John, with assistance from Phil Rundle and members of the NZLSAR Committee, has further developed and refined these systems.

John has always had the best interests of the NZLSAR organisation at heart. He put particular emphasis on what NZLSAR can do for the grassroots LandSAR members. A very noble and worthwhile trait as it is these grassroots LandSAR members who are the real strength of our organisation.

On a personal note, I would like to sincerely thank John for his support and dedication over the years and for all the work that he went about quietly doing behind the scenes. Without John's input and dedication NZLSAR would not be in the strong position that it is in today. Throughout his tenure as NFO, John has worked closely with the Police national emergency management operations group and it is a fitting tribute to John's character and dedication to SAR that he was accepted as a member of their team.

Police Support:

The support of the Police both locally and nationally is a major contribution to the success of NZLSAR. We are grateful for their continued support and encouragement at all levels of SAR across the country. Geoff Logan, the Police National SAR Coordinator, along with Inspector Gerry Prins and

Superintendent Tony McLeod continue support both the aims of our organisation and the Field Officer who is based in the same office. Over the years this has developed into a tremendous working relationship between the two organisations.

Regional Committees and Representatives:

The strength of NZLSAR lies in the local SAR organisations and the regional committees and the relationships they develop with the Police. The Chairmen, Secretaries and Regional representatives, along with the other members of the regional committees, play an important role in the organisation by communicating, co-ordinating training, etc with the Police and the SAR organisations within their region and the adjacent regions. The Regional Representative and the Deputy Regional Representative also play an essential role as they are the conduit between the Regions and the NZLSAR Committee and back to the Regions. The annual Regional Chairmen and Secretaries seminar in August each year is another excellent forum to air the views of the Regions. Having this voice and being able to express the views and thoughts of the regions is one of the strengths of the organisation.

Standing Subcommittees:

The Constitution of NZLSAR established five standing Subcommittees, the Chairmen of which become members of the NZLSAR Committee. These Subcommittees take on the bulk of the workload of NZLSAR and generally each subcommittee meets two or three time a year. The details of the activities of these Subcommittees over the past year are contained in the reports by the respective Chairmen further on in this annual report. Without the dedication of the Chairmen and members of these Subcommittees for the work that they undertake, NZLSAR would not be in such a strong position that it is at present. A summary of the activities of these Subcommittees is as follows:

Communications Subcommittee;

This subcommittee, chaired by Steve Davis, acts as a technology subcommittee as it is involved in areas outside pure radio communications. This year has seen the formation of an Information Management working group whose role is to look at the development of SAR specific software programmes, and their subsequent application and use in an operational environment and to determine the development priorities. The work that this group is doing has a huge potential to significantly enhance the operational management capabilities within SAR.

SAR Search Dogs Subcommittee:

The SAR Search Dogs has been one of the outstanding successes of NZLSAR and is chaired by Clair Robertson. Due to (i) the increasing numbers that are seeking assessment and (ii) a review of the standards that was undertaken there has been a move to a formative assessment process on the assessment courses that has proved to be very successful. The number of assessed and certified SAR Dog teams continues to increase.

Specialist Subcommittee:

This Specialist Subcommittee consists of four working groups: Aviation, Medical, Swift Water Rescue and Vertical Rescue. Dave Erson chairs the Specialist Subcommittee.

Aviation: There has been no activity with this group for a number of years. However, the circulation of the draft Helicopter Rescue Standards has created some discussion which hopefully will lead to a revival of this group.

Medical: The developments the academic standards for the Nominated SAR First Aider/Medic is progressing and when completed will fill a vital role in the response capability of our SAR Groups.

Swift Water: This group is focusing on the development search and rescue capabilities in the swift water environment and the subsequent training of these practitioners in SAR skills in this specialised environment.

Vertical Rescue: The revised draft of the Helicopter Rescue Standard has been circulated for wider comment. The draft of the rewrite of the Alpine Rescue Techniques manual has been circulated to interested parties for comment.

Training Subcommittee:

This subcommittee, chaired by Barry Were, has had a busy year. SARINZ continues to provide courses to our member through Tai Poutini Polytechnic to NZLSAR and during the year eighty four courses were run. The appointment of Dave Shearer as Business Manager for SARINZ is welcomed. This will hopefully lead to better liaison and development of appropriate courses for NZ LandSAR along with ensuring that the courses continue to be delivered at a high standard. A protocol for development of new courses is being developed.

Recognition of prior learning is an issue that the training sub committee has been attempting to address. Local SAR groups need to have a robust assessment process that allows them to assess, to their satisfaction, the knowledge, skills and abilities of their members to undertake search and rescue operations in their area(s). As part of this process each person's existing skills, ability, etc will be recognised. The Training Subcommittee is developing some guidelines to assist SAR groups to undergo this process. Two publications were issued during the year, these being second edition of the Field Guide and a CIMS Guidelines for LandSAR

Underground Subcommittee

Colin Daniell chairs this subcommittee which this year has been focusing on research and development, and testing of rope systems as used in the underground environment.

Finance:

We have reached the cap with regard to the amount NZLSAR can expect to receive from the Police as our grant each year. The figure has plateaued at \$239,000. Our annual expenses continue to exceed the amount of the police grant (see figure on page 39), the difference being made up by the interest that is earned from funds on fixed deposit during the year.

The significant increase in administration costs this year (\$ 107,160) compared to last year (\$ 37,598) is entirely due to the costs incurred in

undertaking the NZLSAR Review. Other costs are more or less in line with previous years, taking into account normal variations from year to year. The funding proposal paper that was prepared for presentation to the government via the NZSAR Council is still making its way through the system. Unfortunately, despite establishing a sound and arguable case, the paper has not, as yet, progressed beyond the NZSAR Council. However, we are hopeful that the a paper will be presented to Cabinet in the near future and that there will be a positive outcome in the coming year.

NZLSAR Review:

In the twelve years since the formation of NZLSAR in November 1994, the organisation has grown rapidly, matured and achieved a tremendous amount in this relatively short period of time. SAR has changed significantly since the formation of NZLSAR. Some of these changes have been driven by NZLSAR and others have come from external influences. The outdoor recreation industry has undergone a tremendous expansion with a huge range of 'new' activities being undertaken in a variety of different terrains by people with variable skill levels. LandSAR has had to respond to these changes and develop appropriate response capabilities. The level of skills and knowledge that is now expected of our members has also increased enormously. The implementation of the Health and Safety in Employment Amendment Act in May 2002 has put additional requirements on SAR organisations, mainly with the requirement to maintain good records of the training, assessment and experience of their members to ensure that they are capable and competent to undertake SAR operations. This raised the question about what support NZLSAR can or should provide to local, district and regional committees. Funding of the national organisation as well as the local SAR groups to provide the equipment needed for training and SAR operations is also taking up an increasing amount of time. Issues such as retention, recruitment and training of our volunteer, response capabilities, etc need to be addressed. These are all putting a tremendous amount of pressure on our volunteer members who are already under time constraints as they try and balance SAR, family, leisure and work commitments.

NZLSAR is now reached the point where the administrative requirements of the organisation are such that has to it needs to be organised on a more business orientated basis. During the year a review of the organisation was undertaken. David Langman and Murray Wilson of Design Torque were engaged to tour the country and collect the thoughts of our member organisations, associated organisations, Police, etc. This data was collated and presented to a Strategic Plan Working workshop in October 2005. From this a draft Strategic Plan was prepared for presentation to the National Committee at its November meeting. The National Committee endorsed the principle and direction of the draft Strategic Plan.

Over the last six months a small working group has been developing the finer detail of the plan which will be presented at the 2006 AGM for ratification. This plan, when approved and implemented, will change the administrative structure of NZLSAR. Essentially it will create a NZLSAR Council consisting of members form the Regional Committees and the existing stakeholder organisations. This Council will then elect a Board with the responsibility of running the organisation. A Business Manager, who will report to the Board

will be employed to look after the administrative and funding requirements of NZLSAR. This person will be supported by a number of Administration Support Officers who will provide the administrative support required by local SAR organisations, Regional Committee as well as the Standing Subcommittees. This will allow our members to concentrate on what they joined Land SAR for: to learn and train in the SAR skills they need to effectively undertake SAR operations.

A Business Case has been presented to the Police for a significant increase in funding to implement the Strategic Plan. All indications to date are that this funding increase will be approved.

SAR Statistics

Each year the SAR Statistics are published by the Police. As our end of year and the Police reporting period coincide it takes a little while to collate and check the numbers, so only some interim figures are available for this annual report. However, an analysis of those figures that are available for the past year when compared with those of previous years' gives some interesting results. While the number of operations each year has been steadily rising, the number of hours per operation has decreased and has been below the 10-year average for the last five years. When one looks at the trend lines for Hours per Operation and Number of training courses there is a definite correlation between training and the reduction in the number of hours for an operation.

Conference

Planning is well underway for the third NZLSAR conference which will be held in Dunedin in November 2006. A number of overseas speakers have been invited to attend what I am sure will be a very successful conference.

New Zealand Search and Rescue Council

Laurie Gallagher and Roscoe Tait are the NZLSAR representatives on the NZSAR Council Consultative Committee. The Consultative Committee met once during the year and this meeting was called mainly for a presentation by Paul Fitzharris on his review of the search and rescue operation for ZK-HTF. The report was very complimentary of the approach and systems the NZLSAR has, especially in the areas of Intelligence and Planning as well as the management tools that NZLSAR has developed.

Duncan Ferner was appointed as the Manager, SAR Secretariat and we look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with the him and the SAR Council.

NZLSAR Awards:

Twelve nominations were received by the NZLSAR Committee for NZLSAR Awards during the year. These were all passed by the committee and I would like to congratulate the recipients and to thank them for their contribution to SAR. The NZLSAR Awards are important in that they are a way for LandSAR organisations and NZLSAR to acknowledge, in a tangible way, the significant contribution that the recipients have made to LandSAR over many years.

Thanks:

There are numerous people and organisations that deserve thanks for the assistance that they have given to NZLSAR over the past year. While it is impossible to mention them all by name, as they have all made a valuable contribution that is very much appreciated, there are some who deserve special mention.

Firstly, the members of the NZLSAR Committee who not only give their time and input as members of the national Committee but are also active within their local, District and Regional SAR organisations. My sincere thanks to every one of you for your continued dedication and commitment to land search and rescue.

To those who Chair the Subcommittees and Working groups and the members of those groups. These groups are the powerhouses of the organisation. They do a lot of the work for the National Committee in undertaking research, developing standards, training programmes, etc. Without the work that these groups do, the organisation would not function at the level it does. It is through your work and dedication that we have managed to make such a tremendous improvement in the skill and knowledge levels of our members. Thank you for a job well done.

The five organisations that assisted in the formation of NZLSAR: Department of Conservation, Police, Federated Mountain Clubs, New Zealand Speleological Society and the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, are to be commended for their continued support and assistance. The Police, in particular, continue to strongly support NZLSAR. Apart from providing an office and associated facilities for our Field Officer they also provide support for all the SAR organisations around the country.

Thanks also to the Police from the National Operations Group, Tony McLeod, Gerry Prins and Geoff Logan for the support and encouragement they provide to NZLSAR and, in particular, to John Tristram. It is this close working relationship between our two organisations that is one of the major strengths of land search and rescue in New Zealand. In particular, the Police have been extremely supportive of the NZLSAR's development of a strategic plan to taken the organisation forward for the next five to ten year. Without the support and encouragement of Superintendent Tony McLeod and his team at the Office of the Commissioner, we would not have been able to embark on the development of the strategic plan to the point where a proposal can be presented to the August meeting for ratification and acceptance.

The strength of our organisation lies with our volunteers, the many people who give freely of their time and energy for LandSAR. Each person's contribution is different, depending on their ability, skills, other commitments, etc. All contributions, no matter how small, are welcomed and valued. They all go to make up what is an unique organisation that we can all be proud to belong to. To all these people, I wish to record a very special thanks for their efforts and contributions during the past year. Without your input NZLSAR

would be able to provide the high level of service it does to the public of New Zealand.

Conclusion:

This is the fourth annual report that I have been privileged to write for what believe is an amazing organisation. This is also my last year as Chairman of NZLSAR. NZLSAR is about to embark on another significant structural change as the organisation continues to grow and develop. It is only twelve years since the last significant change occurred in LandSAR in New Zealand with the formation of NZLSAR. Not only is the timing is right for another change to occur, but it is essential if NZLSAR is to continue to grow and develop and thus continue to provide the high standard of service to the police and public of New Zealand. It is also time for a new person to step into the chairman's role and to lead the organisation forward by implementing the proposed changes which will result in a significantly improved administrative structure and thus the ability to improve the level of service¹. Provided the funding application is successful (and there is every indication that it will be) NZLSAR can look forward to growing from strength to strength.

I have been honoured and privileged to have held this position for the last four years. I wish to personally thank everyone who has been associated with Land SAR. I have been fortunate enough to have been able to meet many of you as I have travelled around the country with NZLSAR. I wish you all the best for the future

Roscoe Tait
Chairman

Police Report

2005/2006 has been another busy year for SAR and those involved in SAR. Whilst Disaster Victim Identification support to the Royal Thai Police in the response to the Asian Tsunami continued until March 2006 all our usual activities have also continued. We have seen the retiring of the National Field Officer, the Treasurer, maintenance of current systems, development of new technology and the completion of the NZLSAR Strategic Plan and Business Case.

The SAR Council is presenting a strategic funding paper to Ministers seeking funding to initiate a new SAR model. Whilst proposed changes principally affect Marine SAR some funding was sought for Land SAR also. The outcome from this paper may not be known before this annual report is printed.

We have also seen the largest Class III operation coordinated by Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand in the search for helicopter ZK-HTF occur. The review of that operation has provided recommendations that are being addressed by the SAR Council.

Retirement of National Field Officer and Treasurer

After more than a decade as National Field Officer John Tristram retired in April. His absence is noticed at the Office of the Commissioner and I'm sure his regular visits to places near you are also missed. Thanks John for your work and dedication. Our temporary National Field Officer is Phil Whitelaw who brings with him a wealth of experience from the outdoors and as a past Land SAR Advisor for Wellington. Phil Rundle has also retired from his job as Treasurer although he has kindly kept running the books until a new appointment is made. Thank you Phil for the time and expertise you give.

SAR Statistics Data Collection Form (P130)

1411 SAR incidents have been recorded this year of which 703 are Land SAR Operations. Whilst this number is down slightly from last year significant effort has been invested in achieving the results obtained. Police appreciate the input of so many to the successful completion of these operations. Two thirds of all our operations result in the missing party being found safe and well, giving better than even chances for those who get lost returning home safely!

Search and Rescue Reality Series

Starfish Productions have produced the Search and Rescue reality series that is currently screening. The light in which SAR is portrayed has resulted in Phil Whitelaw being inundated with people wanting to join NZLSAR. This is indicative of the many positive comments that are heard about what our SAR system achieves for the persons who are lost and/or injured in the outdoors. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the filming of the series.

Strategic Plan and Business Case

The Strategic Plan and Business Case presented to Police has been received favorably however Police are awaiting the outcome of the SAR Council's SAR funding bid before a complete response can be given. Implementation of the plan would see administrative burden lifted from volunteers, enabling people who contribute to SAR more time to be spent doing the things they enjoy.

SAR Council/Secretariat

Many of you will be aware that some options in the SAR Council's SAR funding bid include change in coordination of marine SAR. If the transition of Marine (Salt water) SAR from Police to Maritime New Zealand occurs there will be additional work in relation to the transition for both local, District and National SAR coordinators. A change in the SAR Secretariat Management has occurred with Duncan Ferner having settled into the position. Welcome to the SAR sector Duncan!

SAR Controllers Courses

The courses have been set down for 29 January to 9 February 2007 as our usual August booking was unavailable. Please note the dates for your diaries.

SAR Message Forms

1000 books of 50 SAR message forms have just been delivered to Districts for use. They are now in triplicate and should assist in the communication processes you use in SAR activities. Thank you to everyone who contributed to their production.

The Local Scene

Through out the year numerous SAR Activities have been held including operations, debriefs, exercises, training and committee meetings all of which take time to plan and coordinate. Thank you to all those who assisted in all these events from planning, coordination, umpiring and training, through to those who participated. Each of your efforts aids in furthering a professional and timely response to those in need.

The Year Ahead

As we look to another year there will be much work again with the NZLSAR Conference and other initiatives that have been mentioned. Thank you for your continued participation in the service you provide to our communities and may the year be successful in continuing to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of SAR.

Geoff Logan

National Coordinator: Search and Rescue

Region One Annual report

Region One consists of three SAR organizations: Far North SAR based in Kerikeri, Northland SAR based in Whangarei and Auckland Land SAR. Generally the past year has been a moderately busy one for the region with over 30 operations during the year. There were four events of note during the year; these being the Regional SAREX held in September, AKLSAR's participation in organizing and running of the CureKids Great Adventure Race at the end of March and the two week-long searches for Mr Atkin at Thames in April and Mr Yang in the Hunua Ranges in May.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE

The members of the committee are

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Roger Ladd | Chairman, Land SAR Adviser, Far North SAR, Kerikeri |
| Kevin Bell | Secretary, Northland SAR, Whangarei |
| Roscoe Tait | Treasurer and Acting Regional Representative, Land SAR Adviser, Auckland Land SAR |
| Dave Erson | Regional Training Coordinator and Deputy Regional Representative, Auckland Land SAR |
| Grant Conaghan | Land SAR Adviser, Northland SAR, Whangarei |

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Mark Hall | Police SAR Inspector, Auckland |
| Glenn Hawke | Land SAR Advisor Northland, Whangarei |
| Pete McGhee | Far North SAR, Kerikeri |
| Cliff Metcalfe | SAR Sergeant, Whangarei |

The Regional Committee, while maintaining contact via phone and emails, has not had a face to face meeting this year as planned meetings have had to be postponed for a variety of reasons. A meeting is, however, planned for late July.

TRAINING

Training has been reasonably steady over the year and consists of a mixture of locally organized and run training and external courses. A number of Tai Poutini Polytechnic courses, mainly using SARINZ trainers, have been run throughout the region. Over the year the following courses have been run: TCA (2), Tracking, Search Methods, First Aid (2), Suburban Search, CIMS and Ropes (3). Where possible, SAR groups will combine to provide sufficient numbers to make a course viable. This training is in addition to local training exercises and SAREXs.

In September 2005 the first Regional SAREX was held in the Tangihua Ranges, west of Whangarei. The weekend started with a scenario based SAREX starting on Friday afternoon which ran through until early Saturday evening. The aim being to enable as wide a range of skills as possible to be practiced, both in the field as well at base, and to practice the management of shift change-over. On Sunday a SAR competition was held which involved navigation, observation, a First Aid scenario and carrying and lowering a patient in a stretcher. The completion scoring was very close and won by one of the Auckland teams. This was an extremely successful event, both for its learning outcomes as well as strengthening the liaison between the Region One SAR organisations. It is planned that a Regional SAREX will be repeated every two to three years.

OPERATIONS

During the year the three SAR Groups in the Region were involved in over 30 operations. These were mostly short term operations which were accomplished in a matter of hours.

The major operations for the two northern groups (Far North SAR and Northland SAR) were the plane crash just out of Whangarei and the search for Cristal De Vetten who went missing from her home in Kerikeri. Unfortunately, both these operations resulted in the recovery of bodies.

Auckland SAR was little busier than the other two groups, with a number of short duration operations throughout the year. However, there were long two operations during the year. AKLSAR were called to assist with the search for Robert Atkin who had gone missing in the Kauaeranga Valley in April. The initial search was undertaken by Thames and a little later with assistance from

the surrounding LandSAR organisations. AKLSAR were asked to assist on day three of the search and members assisted for the next four days both at headquarters and with teams in the field. Unfortunately, his body was found in a pool at the bottom of a waterfall in a branch of the Rangihau Stream on day 7 of the search.

Mr Yang went for a walk in the Hunua Ranges on a recognized track with his sister and nephew. He was a slower walker than the others and fell behind and he did not turn up at the carpark at the end of the day. After a search of their intended route and the adjacent tracks that night did not find him, the search was scaled up. Despite extensive searching for a week and calling in teams from Whangarei and Region Two to assist, no trace of Mr Yang has been found.

The other major event that occurred in the AKLSSAR area was the CureKids Great Adventure Race, which was based at Bethells Beach in the northern Waitakere Ranges on Friday 31 March 2006. This is the third time that AKLSAR has played a major part in the race event. As with previous years, AKLSAR developed the race safety plan as well as providing the radio communications, checkpoint marshals and a SAR response for all of the off-road sections of the race. This year's race was extremely successful, with 44 teams from 23 companies participating in this year's event. The forty four members of AKLSAR FIRST Team assisted on race day in a variety of roles, including running race control. Many of them had also spent a number of days assisting with the scoping of the route and in developing the communications plan. The race raised over \$630,000 for CureKids, which uses the money to fund medical research into children's illnesses.

PUBLICITY

AKLSAR were approached by Jeff Cameron of Starfish Pictures in late 2003 about the concept of producing a reality TV series on Land Search and Rescue. As this was considered to be a great opportunity to provide the general public with some awareness of what LandSAR is and the people who are involved. The concept was taken to the NZLSAR Committee and the Police, both of whom endorsed the project and an approach was made to TVNZ by Jeff. The result of two years of chasing SAR operations and filming is a seven episode Television series that commenced on TV1 at the end of June 2006. The ratings have been such that TVNZ has asked Jeff Cameron to look at filming a second series. Hopefully, the second series will be able to have more emphasis on the volunteer aspects of LandSAR.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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

Roscoe Tait

Acting Region One Representative

Region Two Report

Region two held it's AGM on the 2nd July 2006 at the DoC office in Rororua.

The new committee members are:

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| Chairman | Tiena Jordan | threejordans@xtra.co.nz |
| Secretary | Tiena Jordan until November then Donna Bergerson | |
| Treasurer | Brent Martin | bjmartin@mustard.co.nz |
| Training | Russell Lamb | ra-lamb@xtra.co.nz |
| Regional reps | Dave Comber | dave.comber@contact-energy.co.nz |
| | Debbie Robertson | Robertson.nd@xtra.co.nz |

The region has two meetings per year, one in Feb, the other in July, any issues that need to be dealt with are done via e mail. Areas within the region are, Taupo, Turangi, Waitomo, Hamilton, Thames, Kuatuna, Waihi, Tauranga, Rotorua and Whakatane.

Over the last financial year the region has run 20 TTP courses, down by 4 from the 2004 – 2005 year. Till March 2007 the region is looking at running 13 – 14 courses.

Issues over the last year

1. Discussions/ Concerns over affiliation to NZLSAR (Resolved)
2. Turangi is still having problems with Radio's and are still waiting for Steve Davis from National LSAR communications to reply and help.
3. To date a letter from the National LSAR Chairman to Dave Comber and Ray Walker regarding the National NZLSAR review has not been attended to.

Those attending the NZLSAR conference (subsidized by National) from region 2 are the two regional reps and the regional training co ordinator.

Attending the national meeting in August will be the two regional reps and treasurer who is standing in for the chairman.

Searches for the year have been about the same as previous years, one point of interest was raised and that was the two suicide searches where the missing parties had walked a long way, one 23km and the other 10km.

Cheers

Bruce Sandford

Region Two Representative

Region Three Report

How do we approach a year of proposed change? NZLSAR has reached a cross roads in its development. One that was predicted before NZLSAR came into existence at the 'Towards 2000' seminars. The result is one of the

most difficult annual reports I have had to write since the inception of the organisation.

Why is it difficult? Well our early development was easy because it essentially introduced and set in place solid links between the volunteer arm of SAR and the Police who have the responsibility for the co-ordination of SAR. The trend now seems to be aimed at moving away from that model into a sphere that is not altogether clear and somehow we need to find a path to the future that actually provides for an effective operational environment using volunteers.

There are many issues like operational performance, retention of experience, risk, health & safety, insurance and a range of other things confronting SAR in all its forms. There are also many interest groups, organisations and government departments that all want their share of the cake. A cake that isn't really that big, certainly not big enough for all of them to have a major role. Understanding where we sit in the big picture is of paramount importance. The concern is the development of a system that is so **non-operationally** focused that we become divorced from the realities of operational needs.

NZLSAR, by majority decision of the national committee, has decided to restructure but what does this mean? A new structure has been proposed which is different to the present structure. It has been costed and presented as a solution to our needs, but what are our needs? Region 3 spent 6 hours meeting with the review team discussing many issues but the solutions offered by the review team don't address those issues. All the solutions are non operational. None consider operational needs which are the very essence of our involvement. A possible reason for this is the claim that a non operational structure is required before we can move forward but this puts the cart before the horse. Surely we need to know what is required operationally before we can put an appropriate non operational structure in place.

As a region we have put as much thought and effort into restructuring the organisation as any other region. Over and above that we have taken the step to analyse the last 35 years of Land SAR in New Zealand and that research has given us reason to question the logic of the current restructuring proposal. We have spent a significant amount of time working out the detail of where we came from and looked at the important lessons we have learnt on the way. Working at the coalface we also have a good and clear understanding of what is required to move forward operationally at both local and national level. This background has given us a solid framework upon which to analyse the current restructuring proposals and what they mean for SAR. The facts speak for themselves and the conclusions that have been drawn from the information gathered, suggests the National approach is inappropriate and/or wrong.

For more than two years, we have tried to convey the real issues to the National committee. Probably (due to frustration) a little too bluntly at times but for all this work and effort we have been singularly unsuccessful at getting

any recognition from the National Committee. Hence, our Regional committee decided that if we couldn't get some response from the National Committee there was only one course of action left and that was to write to the Minister of Police.

A letter to the Minister was sent out in mid December 2005 and we have only recently received a reply. Where we go from here is still under discussion. In short our Region considers the restructuring proposals to be flawed and we also believe there is no clear understanding of what or where we really want to go. We believe that restructuring can only achieve real gains if they are operationally driven with clearly defined objectives. Non operational restructuring which has no point of focus will not ensure effective results.

We note the comments by the Chairman, Roscoe Tait, which relate to progress in the review of NZLSAR and recorded in the minutes of the November 2005 national committee meeting, I quote:- "**We are trying to make it SAR focused not administration focused.**" Region 3 fully support that approach and would be keen to see a strong commitment in that direction. Remote administration has no real value to the Region because in practical terms it only ends up with double handing and more work for local volunteers. To be effective, paid administration needs to be embedded in the area where it is required.

In regard to Region 3 activities over the last 12 months we can only repeat what has been reported previously and summarise by acknowledging that SAR in our Region continues to be applied, fine tuned and improved with the pragmatic effectiveness that has been a feature of SAR in our area since its formal inception in 1935 give or take a bit for different areas within the region.

Graham Thorp
Region Three Representative.

Region Four Report

Activities

In the past 12 months the region has been generally quiet, Wellington having the greatest number of operations. Most other groups have had only a handful of callouts each. Apart from the Erceg search, which some groups had an involvement with, there have been no long searches.

Administration

A number of groups, Wellington, Palmerston North, Horowhenua, and Wairarapa are in the process of adopting the use of computers, I/Man, G/Man, and TUMONZ, to a greater or lesser extent. Other groups are either still considering this, or are so small as to feel it is not warranted.

Most groups are purchasing Hi Vis vests, and some have obtained SWAZI SAR rain gear.

Attendance at our quarterly Region 4 meetings has been erratic, usually only a little over half the groups being represented at any one meeting, however most show up at least once a year.

Training

Training has continued around the region with 12 SARINZ courses, and regular local training by groups. Two SARINZ courses open to participants from the region were supported by 6 groups.

Since May Wanganui has conducted a successful recruitment campaign, with some 15 new recruits likely. This will result in the need for a number of SARINZ courses. Wellington also has additional training requirements. Region Four would therefore like to apply for an increase in their training budget, from \$9,000 to \$14,000.

The Region would also like the Committee to consider raising the \$30/day/person training allowance to \$40. Most courses are well below this figure, but occasionally venue availability, or course requirements, necessitates more expensive venues, some of which are now over \$30. Following a previous instruction to inform SARINZ if they would have to pay for their instructors accommodation, this was reluctantly agreed to by the SARINZ business manager only after much "persistence" He suggested they could go to a motel, 40km away!

With the lack of callouts most groups report some difficulty keeping all but the keenest members motivated to attend training and refreshers. Quiz nights are popular to get members together.

Regards,
Nigel Boniface
Region Four Representative

Region Five Report

The Members of Region 5 Committee are:-

Keith Morfett Hokitika Chairman
Leanne Edwards Nelson Secretary
John Scobie Blenheim Regional Representative

And a representative from each of the following groups:

The voting members are (in addition to the above office holders)

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Kaikoura | Blenheim | Hokitika | South Westland |
| Nelson | Murchison | Haast | Search Dogs |
| Motueka | Golden Bay | Caving | Alpine Cliff Rescue |
| Karamea | Buller | White Water | |
| Greymouth | Reefton | Police vote for each SAR sergeant (3) | |
| | | Inspector H Flower | Russell Tucker |

The region held 3 face-to-face meetings throughout the year. These meetings were held in Reefton starting at midday Saturday and finishing at midday Sunday, again the socializing between meeting sessions has helped reinforce that Tasman is a region not a collection of disjoint groups.

Members of the groups that make up Tasman travelled throughout the region to assist in searches especially to Greymouth and Franz Joseph where the biggest operations of the year were located. As Murphy's law would have it, these two operations overlapped by a few hours placing a huge strain on both Volunteers and the Police.

We were lucky also, to receive assistance from the NZ Army of personnel from Burnham.

The year 05/06 has seen a small increase in the number of Mental Health related incidents. The number of operations for overseas tourists was 27, which relates to 24% of the total operations.

Some SAR Stats for Tasman 2005-2006 Land Incidents
(With thanks to Sherp Tucker for extracting these figures for me)

Please note this is for the time period 1 July 2005 until 2nd June 2006 - not the full year.

Land SAR Personnel were also utilized on numerous marine searches e.g. Operation Durrant which took 4 days effort and 80 personnel but the stats for that are contained within the Marine SAR Incidents.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Total number of Land SAR Incidents Tasman | 114 |
| Incident Time Frame – SAR activation to incident conclusion | 1099 hours |
| Average Incident Time Frame | 9.6 hours |
| Total number of personnel used | 916 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| <u>Marlborough policing area</u> | |
| No of Land SAR Incidents | 19 |
| Incident Time Frame – SAR activation to incident conclusion | 198 hours |
| Average Incident Time Frame | 10.4 hours |
| Total number of personnel used | 194 |

| West Coast policing Area | |
|---|-------------------|
| No. of Land SAR Incidents | 51 |
| Incident Time Frame – SAR activation to incident conclusion | 601 hours |
| Average Incident Time Frame | 11.8 hours |
| Total number of personnel used | 491 |

| <u>Nelson / Bays policing area</u> | |
|---|------------------|
| No. of Land SAR Incidents | 43 |
| Incident Time Frame – SAR activation to incident conclusion | 300 hours |
| Average Incident Time Frame | 6.9 hours |
| Total number of personnel used | 231 |

Training has continued throughout the region although at a slower pace than in previous years this is due in part to a reasonably heavy operational load and the increased number of “local” training initiatives, and the fact that we are catching up with the TPP courses. The Regional Tasman SAREX was held in Reefton over the weekend 13th and 14th of May 06. This was a combination urban search, which involved the entire town, and a “bush “ search utilizing the Air force helicopter. While the weather was not the best everyone enjoyed themselves and learned plenty.

Thanks go to Sherp Tucker, Inspector Hugh Flower, and the three Police SAR squads for the work they did to make the weekend a success.

To the loyal band of Volunteers and Police that make up Tasman Search and Rescue. You should be proud of the contribution that you have made to the community over the last “wee” while. And for that your community thanks you.

John Scobie
Region Five representative

Region Six report

The members of the region six committee are:

Rod Lawrence, Christchurch. Chairman

Gary Brehaut, Timaru. Deputy Chairman.

Teressa Wright, Timaru. Secretary

Gorden Hassle, Timaru. Treasurer

Allan Pritchard, Christchurch. Regional Representative.

Don Geddes, Methven, Methven. Deputy Regional Representative.

Steve Davis, Christchurch. Regional Training Coordinator

Brian Williams, Tekapo. South Canterbury local Representative

Geoff Olorenshaw, North Canterbury Local Representative.

Geoff McCrostie, Timaru. Police Representative.

Peter Summerfield, Christchurch. Police Representative.

Region.

Region six is comprised of the North Canterbury District centered around Christchurch, stretching north to the Waiau River and Lewis Pass, and South Canterbury, centered around Timaru stretching south as far as the Waitaki River and Lake Ohau. Our region covers both Mount Cook and Arthur's Pass National Park, both of which have a large number of incidents per year.

Meetings

Meetings are held in Ashburton at the Ashburton District council chambers as it is relatively central to the region. Thank you to Don Geddes for continuing to make this venue available to NZLSAR region six. The meetings are alternated between this venue and a telephone conference. There are two meetings and two teleconferences per year.

Once the review of NZLSAR has been complete and any new systems have been put in place, Region Six will conduct a review of its own meetings, especially the timing of both regional and local meetings to better coincide with national meetings. This should allow reports to be produced to national at more appropriate timings.

Training

There has been the usual number of SARINZ courses available for the past year, but many have been canceled due to lack of numbers. We may have reached the inevitable point where the majority of those interested in SARINZ training have attended most of the courses available. As SARINZ at this stage does not have refresher courses available and the rate of new courses is limited by Tai Poutini reviews and approvals, it maybe time for the region to start offering more local run courses such as refreshers.

We all thank Steve Davis for the tremendous amount of work he puts into organizing the regional training and the patients he shows dealing with volunteers. Along with being the Chairman of the communication's sub-committee, he is also involved with AREC, SARINZ and many other facets of SAR both locally and nationally and we all appreciate his efforts and time.

District SARex's have been held, The Canterbury district SAREX continued with the same format as last year and once again was well received, Warren McKie and Tony Wells put together some well run exercises their time and effort was much appreciated by the district.

The south Canterbury SAREX was held in the upper Waitaki area over two days, with the Saturday comprising of a series of activities including TCA, Search Methods and Dog handling, followed on the Sunday by a search for 4 missing people, (and my notes tell me they found five! so well done). A big thank you for all those that gave up there personal time to help put the SAREX together.

Operations

Land Operations **2005-2006 68 and 38 Marine operations**

2004-2005 85

2003-2004 79

2002-2003 60

There have been few fatalities recorded in the area and fewer than normal operations on Mount Cook. This probably accounts for the lower number of operations Most operations in Canterbury are of a small nature and are handled by the strong police SAR squad within Christchurch. There have, however, been a couple of longer searches in Arthur's Pass where NZLSAR volunteers have been use both in the field and in headquarters.

Mount Cook accounts for a good percentage of the Canterbury operations. The Mt Cook team would be one of the most specialized and well run rescue teams in the country and have preformed some life saving rescues in extreme conditions, some of which have been reported on the news and some very high standing awards been given out to those involved.

SAR Review.

With the talk of the restructuring of NZLSAR many people have been left wondering where NZLSAR will end up. And because of the uncertainty many things have been put on hold until more news is uncovered. Almost twelve months ago the the national committee was told that this was of extreme importance and must happen urgently to save members. It has become apparent that with the busy lives of volunteers it doesn't allow organizations to restructure overnight. If things are rushed, all that happens is, those who the restructure is suppose to help, being left in the dark. Everyone wants this to be successful but also everyone wants to be be fully informed.

Regional Representative.

This is my first year as the regional representative for Region Six, I have enjoyed my first year and wish to continue at least to see through the conclusion of the SAR review. I have meet many friendly people both nationally and locally over the past year and put a face to names I have read about.

I would like to personally thank all those in Region Six who have readily given up their time, skills and experience in order to provide a professional service to the community.

Allan Pritchard
Region Six Representative.

Region Seven Report

The members of the Region Seven Committee are:-

Dave Robertson Dunedin. Chairman
Alan Gillespie Wanaka. Dep Chair
Mark Davies Secretary
Tric Moller Regional rep/training
Russell Carr Queenstown
Bruce Calder Dunedin
Adrian Dance Roxburgh/Alexandra
Tony Chittock Balclutha
Barry Hansen Balclutha Police
Jon Von Tunzelman Te Anau

Bill Olsen Regional AREC
Cyril McFadziem Gore
Darrin Low Oamaru Police
Robbie Dobson Maniototo
Andrew Pealing Dunedin
Dave Rowan St John Ambulance
Insp. Terry Richardson Police
Bruce Smart Invercargill/Training
Alan Johnson Police Te Anau
Peter Garden Gore

A slightly less hectic operational year has been completed in the Southern Region with approximately 150 operations being performed. Seventy percent of these have occurred in the Queenstown, Te Anau, Wanaka area with tourists featuring significantly and multiple incidents in one day a consistent feature in the busiest operational period between October and May.

While the majority of operations have been completed within twelve hours a significant number of protracted multi day incidents have been performed.

Advancing technology continues to have an impact in the region – no more so than through the use of Night Vision Flying equipment used by pilots for the Southern Lakes and Otago Lion Foundation Trust Helicopters. Night flying conditions that were previously limited even with the use of the night sun are now safely being undertaken with the use of this technology. The advantages for SAR in terms of enhanced rapid response and potentially reduced expenditure due to reduced flying time are already being realised.

However while 90% of all operations in the region utilise helicopter assistance with the inherent risk to SAR personnel involved NZLSAR has yet to implement a means to provide essential safety training. Currently this is provided through the generosity of other agencies – in particular the Helicopter Rescue Trusts.

The process for response and deployment for beacon activations by RCCNZ has also been an issue of concern particularly for personnel in the Central Lakes area. It is hoped with consultation between LSAR, RCCNZ and the SAR consultancy committee these issues will be addressed.

The Southern Regional Committee has met three times during the year with ten to fifteen members attending. Mark Davies from Balclutha has taken on the Secretarial duties and is rapidly coming to terms with the position. The success of these meetings is in large part due to the continued high level of support from the Police and St John Ambulance.

Between operations a full complement of training initiatives and exercises have been completed. Courses held in the regions include: TCA, Search Methods, Team Leaders, IMAN/GMAN, Personal rope and a Regional 5day MLSO course held at Borland Lodge Southland. In addition, personnel have been involved assisting CAA with remote air crash site investigations and participating in a series of coroner inquests.

An opportunity to join with Region 6 for a seminar weekend in Waimate saw 18 personnel from the region attending. An informative and stimulating weekend was enjoyed by all and full credit must go to Region 6 for their efforts in providing the opportunity for such a successful event.

The NZLSAR Strategic Review process saw a significant number of regional personnel contributing, the outcomes of which are being looked forward to with interest.

During the year two long standing SAR personnel were presented with NZLSAR awards. Richard Hayes (Helicopter Pilot for the Southern Helicopter Rescue Trust) for outstanding service and Lex Perriam for long service to Upper Waitaki and North Otago SAR.

The 2006 NZLSAR Conference is being hosted by the Southern Region in Dunedin November 17-19. A small organising committee chaired by Sen Sgt Brian Benn is meeting regularly and a full diverse programme has been developed including participation by three international speakers.

In conclusion I wish to thank all SAR personnel both police and civilian from throughout the region who have given so readily their time, skills and experience in order to provide a professional, effective SAR service to the community. And to John Tristram who recently retired as the NZLSAR National Field Officer our thanks for all the support you have given to the Region over the years.

Tric Moller
Region Seven Representative.

Department of Conservation Report

Department of Conservation staff in many sites around the country assisted with SAR operations during the year. At Aoraki/Mt Cook the departments alpine rescue team had a very quiet season. Poor access on some of the major climbing routes seemed to have reduced the numbers of climbers doing major peaks with a subsequent drop in high alpine rescues performed. There were no fatalities.

Don Bogie
Department of Conservation

NZLSAR Communications Sub-Committee Annual Report - 2006

The Communications Sub-Committee has continued to review communications equipment and policies for Land SAR and maintains a watch on technologies that could be useful for Search operations. During the year an Information Management Working Group has been established to look at Information Management and associated technologies.

Committee and Working Group Memberships

The current Subcommittee members are:

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Steve Davis | Chairman |
| Ross Thompson | FMC |
| Rex Aubrey | Police |
| Bruce McLachlan | DOC |
| Jeff Sayer | AREC |
| Ian Gardiner | NZLSAR/MRS |
| Terry Waghorn | NZLSAR |
| Graham Thorp | NZLSAR |

Matthew Lloyd left us during the year, and Bruce McLachlan is about to leave DOC and will thus be leaving the Sub-Committee to be replaced by Colin Hopkinson.

Information Management Working Group

During the year a working group was formed to cover Information Management.

The initial group was established and included

Steve Davis
Barry Were
Karen King
John King
Linda Cooke
Karyn Rastrick (Long)
Dave Henderson

All have a variety of backgrounds in SAR and different aspects of IT and IT Business processes. Overall membership of this working group will be reviewed in the near future and it is expected that sub-working groups may be established oriented around specific projects.

We also have had Jill Barclay – Technology Manager: GIS from Police I&T involved as a liaison with the Police for this group.

Meetings

The CSC has held one face-to-face meeting during the past financial year.

The IM Working Group has held three meetings during the short time that it has been active.

Communications Sub-Committee Activities

- The HF Radio replacement program is progressing to replace old and unserviceable units during the 06/07 and 07/08 financial years.
- Have had some initial discussion on Future VHF Radios. It was agreed in principle that the ICF50 should be an interim standard, largely for its waterproof rating and for the data capabilities for GPS Live Tracking. It was also noted, however, there is a likely move toward APCO/P25 digital radios at some stage in the future, but it is likely to be at least 5 years away and is in the 5-10 year planning. Further research and a more detailed plan for movement to APCO/P25 is to be developed.
- After an approach from the IM WG Tethered Balloons were discussed as a possible platform for communications. It was thought that issues with wind, lightning and cost make it impractical, but some further research will be undertaken. Other suggestions were the use of fixed wing aircraft, but again the cost and other practical considerations make it unlikely.
- Discussions regarding Emergency Beacons and Direction Finding equipment. Endorsement and encouragement for portable units to be funded around the country and also support for recommendations regarding mandatory registration of 406MHz beacons, and a strong encouragement for the use of GPS equipped 406MHz beacons.

Information Management Working Group Activities

Some very good initial work has come out of the initial meetings of the working group. Some areas have crossed over from previous work looked at by the CSC

Some aims of the Working Group

To Provide

- Tools & Systems to assist Search Teams
- Tools & Systems to assist Search Management
- Tools & Systems for managing training records

A number of items are in progress

Protocols and Conventions
Addressing Software/System updates
GPS Live Tracking
TUMONZ data sharing
Scanned Maps

Map Symbology
Quickmap evaluation
Research Funding
Erceg Search Report Findings
eTXT

Much of the documentation of projects underway can be found on the website:
<http://imw.sar.org.nz>

Other

Initial correspondence has been made with the SAR Secretariat to look at the deployment of portable DF equipment for tracking PLB/EPIRB/ELT signals in situations where dedicated aircraft based equipment is not available or cannot fly for any reason.

Electronic Maps

There is still no real progress on the new map series from LINZ.

As mentioned above, progress has been made on getting a set of scanned Topo maps available for use in TUMONZ, and this should be available in the Version 3 release of TUMONZ pretty soon after this report is published.

See <http://www.nzlsar.org.nz/comms> on the NZLSAR web site for various communications and technology information relating to SAR.

Steve Davis email: steve@ZL2UCX.gen.nz
Communications Sub Committee Chairman

Specialist Subcommittee Report

Working Groups

Medical

The medical group has not met during the financial year just ended. However, a Medical Advisors Workshop is scheduled for the Friday morning prior to the 2006 NZLSAR Conference in Dunedin. This will be an opportunity to refocus on SAR related medical issues including the Medical Advisor role along with training opportunities. This group will also facilitate a practical first aid session workshop on the Friday afternoon.

Technical/Vertical

Grant Prattley
Don Bogie
Lindsay Main
Andrew Welsh
Murray Cullen
Pete Cleary

The above group met at the end of July 2005 to discuss a variety of things such as NZLSAR helicopter standards, a needs analysis for technical rescue NZLSAR resources in New Zealand, and an objective for the group namely, "To provide a forum to continually improve, encourage and develop the efficiency, effectiveness, knowledge and safer practices of technical rescue for NZLSAR". It was recognized that a great deal of time and effort had gone into creating standards and now maintenance and review were necessary. It was determined that an annual meeting would be desirable to achieve this objective. This group will meet during this current financial year.

Other Groups

Aviation

The proposed NZLSAR helo standards created a flurry of activity and an opportunity to rekindle a relationship between NZLSAR and the aviation industry. However, a number of unresolved issues have meant we have not **yet** been able to achieve a suitable working relationship.

Swift Water

In the absence of any pressing matters no attempt has been made to develop strategies or relationships at a national level leaving local or regional SAR groups to quantify the resource and utilize appropriately.

Dave Erson, Chair NZLSAR Specialist Subcommittee

Training Subcommittee Report

Meetings

During the last year the committee met three times. Once again a wide range of issues have been worked on. Although some of these topics are not specifically training, this committee seems to pick up those that do not fit the other committee's responsibilities. The annual review of the forms is one such item.

Membership

The committee membership at the end of the year.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Laurie Gallagher | FMC Rep on NZLSAR | Wellington |
| Brian Holland | Region 6 | Canterbury |
| Dave Erson | Chairman Specialist subcommittee | Dunedin |
| Geoff Logan | Police Rep | Wellington |
| Roscoe Tait | Chairman NZLSAR | Auckland |
| Russell Tucker | Tasman | Nelson |
| Barry Were | Chairman | Hamilton |

There have been two changes to the committee membership

- **Dave Saunders resigned after many good years of service**
- **John Tristram is no longer available. We miss his minute taking skills.**

We are grateful for the contribution made to the training subcommittee by Dave and John.

SARINZ

The last twelve months has seen a consolidation of the SARINZ resources and significant changes in the management. We are pleased with the appointment of Dave Shearer as the SARINZ business manager and look forward to many years improvement with Dave in control.

There have been no new courses developed during the last year twelve months.

A review of the MLSO course by the PAC committee proposed the modularisation of the course. The changes required to deliver the course in the new modular format are still being worked on by SARINZ. Meanwhile the course is still available as a standard five day course.

During the last twelve months a total of 84 SARINZ courses have been run compared to 100 last year.

Once again there has been a fantastic effort by most of the regional training coordinators to ensure that the courses get off the ground with a suitable number of participants. There is no doubt that managing these courses is one of the most onerous tasks for the volunteers. Thus it is understandable that occasionally a course is cancelled due to insufficient numbers. It is hoped that at some stage in the not too distant future there will be people paid to ensure the appropriate number of volunteers attend each course.

Just as people are starting to get used to the concept of reflective practice TPP and SARINZ produce an alternative system. A pilot has been conducted of a system known as reflective discussion. This pilot was successful. Consequently it is possible that on many of the existing courses the reflective practice component will be replaced with a telephone based process.

In general SAR personnel have done well in meeting the enrolment requirements of TPP and SARINZ.

The laptop computers purchased by SARINZ have seen some use outside of training courses. They were put to excellent use on the Erceg search last November.

Once again we are grateful for the tremendous efforts of the SARINZ Ltd management team of Trevor Burgess (Acting Business Manager) plus Grant Prattley and Peter Corbett (Programme Managers). Special thanks also to Margaret Burgess who does so much behind the scenes for SARINZ to ensure that the courses happen and the certificates get issued.

Qualifications

Our congratulations to the three people who have qualified for the Certificate in Search and Rescue. They are Jane Houghton, Nick Coyne and Ian Newman.

There are many more people who are very close. Most of them only need to complete their reflective practice.

Other Courses

The four wheel drive courses run by Malcolm Langley through TPP are proving popular with six courses held during the year. The feedback from these courses is always complementary.

The Search Assistants course from Merit Consultants is still available. There has been some progress towards making the course available through SARINZ.

Course Quality

The training committee has put two strategies in place to monitor the quality of NZLSAR subsidised courses.

- 1 Independent assessment of new or revised courses will be undertaken by a Land SAR representative selected by the subcommittee. The feedback will be provided to the subcommittee.
- 2 A separate feedback form has been developed that Land SAR members can use to send complaints or compliments directly to the subcommittee. This is available from the Land SAR website.

PAC

The Tai Poutini Program Advisory Committee for Search and Rescue met once during the last year. The most important topic considered at that meeting was the review of the MLSO standard.

The members are: Joe Hayes (Tai Poutini), Geoff Logan (NZ Police), Roscoe Tait (NZLSAR), Laurie Gallagher (NZLSAR), Barry Were (NZLSAR) plus representatives from TPP and SARINZ.

Tai Poutini Polytechnic

Once again Joe Hayes of TPP has worked tirelessly to ensure the courses keep running. One of Joe's responsibilities is to make sure the processes and systems are in place for the SAR courses to survive future audits from within the education system.

Joe has been promoted within TPP to Head of Department, Emergency Services. Stewart Drake has been appointed to fill the role formally held by Joe as Programme Coordinator Search and Rescue.

The booklet with the details of all the SAR related courses available via TPP has been printed in limited numbers and distributed to Regional reps and Regional Training Coordinators. This helps SAR members to understand the content and prerequisites of each course.

Courses

The only new course added during the year is Clue Processing.

Number of Courses by Year

| | 94/96 | 96/97 | 97/98 | 98/99 | 99/00 | 00/01 | 01/02 | 02/03 | 03/04 | 04/05 | 05/06 | |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| TCA | 7 | 14 | 13 | 7 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 10 | 19 | 16 | 10 | 129 |
| Tracking | | | 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 65 |
| Clue Proc | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | 5 |
| MLSO 2 day | 5 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 21 |
| MLSO 5 day | | | | | | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 25 |
| Suburban | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 3 | |
| Search | | | 2 | | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | | | 14 |
| Search | | | | | | | | | | 15 | 6 | |
| Methods | | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 11 | | | 58 |
| Team Leaders | | | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 25 |
| Refresher | | | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 5 |
| Alzheimers | | | | | | | | | 7 | 0 | | 7 |
| Lost Person | | | | | | | | | | 0 | | |
| Behaviour | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| TUMONZ | | | | | | | | | 3 | 8 | 6 | 17 |
| IMan/GMan | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| CIMS | | | | | | | | | | 3 | 6 | 9 |
| First Aid | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Intermediate | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | |
| Ropes | | | | | | | | 5 | 9 | | | 16 |
| Personal | | | | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | |
| Ropes | | | | | | | | | 3 | | | 8 |
| Foundation | | | | | | | | | | 9 | 12 | |
| Rope | | | | | | | | | 3 | | | 23 |
| Slope Rescue | | | | | | | | | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| Helicopter | | | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 6 |
| Avalanche | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 |
| Vertical Rope | | | | | | | | | 1 | 4 | 6 | 11 |
| 4Wheel | | | | | | | | | | 14 | 6 | |
| Drive | | | | | | | | | | | | 80 |
| Subtotal | 12 | 19 | 24 | 20 | 31 | 38 | 33 | 32 | 75 | 114 | 90 | 478 |
| NZLSAR | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Adviser | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standards | 15 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 23 |
| Field | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Controller | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Standards | | | 10 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | | 15 |
| Search Dogs | | | | | | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 12 |
| CIMS | | | | | | | 5 | | | | | 5 |
| Vertical | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rescue | | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | | | 6 |
| Subtotal | 15 | 3 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 2 | | | 61 |
| Total | 27 | 22 | 36 | 26 | 34 | 43 | 43 | 34 | 77 | 117 | 93 | 539 |

Number of Courses by Region for 2005/2006

| | Region | | | | | | | Total |
|------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | |
| TCA | 2 | 2 | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 12 |
| Tracking | 1 | 5 | | 1 | | 2 | 1 | 10 |
| Clue Processing | | 4 | | | | 1 | | 5 |
| SM | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| MLSO | | 1 | | 3 | | | | 4 |
| CIMS | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Team Leader | | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | 3 |
| 1st Aid | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 3 |
| TUMONZ | | 2 | | 2 | | 2 | | 6 |
| Suburban Search | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 3 |
| Alzheimers | | | | | | | | |
| Iman/GMan | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Personal Rope | | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Foundation Rope | 2 | 4 | | | 2 | 3 | 1 | 12 |
| Vertical Rope | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 6 |
| Slope Lowering | | | | | | | | |
| Helicopter | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Avalanche | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 9 | 29 | 0 | 14 | 7 | 15 | 10 | 84 |
| Last Year | 9 | 22 | 5 | 22 | 10 | 22 | 8 | 100 |

The total number of course participants was 1123 resulting in an average course attendance of 13.4. This is a significant improvement on last years average of 12.3 per course from 1400 participants.

The \$30 per person per day subsidy from NZLSAR for food and accommodation has continued to assist in making the training very close to zero cost for participants and Groups.

The efforts of the Regional Training Coordinators are again reflected in the regional course numbers. Those regions with significant numbers of courses have worked hard to make them happen. Also the average number on each course has increased slightly this year – again largely due to the efforts of the training coordinators.

Other Matters

Operational Reviews

The committee still believes that there is a place for formal Operational Reviews for certain operations which meet pre-determined criteria. The Police are still considering our

request to investigate the merits of making the option available in exceptional circumstances.

New Course Development

A protocol for the development of new courses is still to be adopted. This is intended to ensure that both NZLSAR and SARINZ representatives have appropriate input during each stage of the development from concept through to delivery and assessment.

Standards

There have been no reviews of existing Land SAR standards during this period.

CIMS Guidelines

The guidelines were distributed in February 2006. Although the print size is rather small the feedback related to the content has been favourable. This is a useful document which those involved in SAR management should consult periodically.

Field Guide

The updated Field Guide was also distributed in February 2006. This has also been favourably received.

A working group is being formed to review the content of the latest version in preparation for a reprint in a couple of years. The TSC is seeking expressions of interest from people willing to assist with this task.

SAR Workbook

The workbook content is being revised and it is planned to have it published before the conference.

ToolMan – Forms and Checklists

Last year there were no forms submitted for review. However it is understood that there are several that will be submitted this year. ToolMan remains the accepted means of getting hold of the set of forms and is available for download from the NZLSAR website. The date for the next annual review of the forms has been set as 20th September 2006.

We remain grateful for the hard work of Karen King of Merit Consulting especially with ToolMan. This is a particularly tidy way of packaging and distributing the forms. We wish Karen all the best with her impending birth and a joyous period of motherhood.

P130 in Word Format

The production of a Word formatted version of the P130 is still being done. There is a possibility that this task will become part of a research project during the next 12 months.

Search Assistants

Search Assistants are still considered to be a valued resource for use during SAR operations. Tasman continues to lead the way with their recruiting and training programs specifically for Search Assistants.

Karen King and Linda Cook are still the key drivers of the Search Assistants initiative.

NZLSAR Conference

The third NZLSAR conference is to be hosted by Region 7 on November 17th to 19th October 2004. The venue is the Otago University in Dunedin.

The planning is progressing well with an excellent line-up of presenters already in place.

International Conferences

This year the funds in the Training subcommittee budget for sending NZLSAR representatives to overseas conferences has not been utilised. No applications were received.

Competitions

Again competitions were held in the Waikato, Taranaki and Canterbury Unfortunately there were no applications for funding for a team to travel between the islands to attend a competition. The funds remain in the budget for future use.

Recognition of Prior Learning

During the NZLSAR review it was recorded that some people were upset by the lack of recognition for prior learning. As no further information has been supplied the committee is unable to take any action.

The committee believes that a real issue relates to the **Current Competency** of members. The committee is looking at several options for the regular assessments of members skills.

Refresher Courses

The committee continues to negotiate options with SARINZ for the provision of refresher courses. As this training falls outside the current TPP funding model alternative funding options must be considered.

Core Competency Guidelines

The committee is developing a set of guidelines to assist with measuring the skills of prospective and existing SAR Group members. This relates primarily to core skills such as Bushcraft, Navigation, Survival etc.

YSAR

A pilot Youth SAR program for 14 to 18 year olds started in February this year in Hamilton. This is proving to be extremely successful with a high retention rate and a really high level of commitment by the members to the program. The membership now stands at 15 with only 3 people dropping out since the start of the year.

The concepts are based on the successful American eSAR program.

Conclusion

Another busy year for NZLSAR and the members of the various committees.

The committee remains focussed on strategies to help Land SAR members to “lift their game” whenever they front up for an operation.

Over the years there has been a significant improvement in the average skill levels of search team members and management. The lost parties are the ultimate beneficiaries of all this hard work.

I am really grateful for the contribution of all the committee members.

Barry Were

Training Subcommittee Chairman

National Search Dog Subcommittee report

National Search Dog Assessors

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Brain Heward, | Lyttleton | Avalanche |
| Brent MacDonald, | Arrowtown | Avalanche, Tracking |
| Petra Specht | Turangi | Avalanche |
| Larry Charles | Murchison | Tracking |
| Iain Watson, | Palmerston North | Tracking |
| Grant Cooper | Waiouru | Tracking, Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Matt Dodd, | Nelson | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Ian Lambie | Tapawera | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Andrew Pealing | Dunedin | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Linda Pike | Christchurch | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Brenda Wooley | Christchurch | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Dermot Mayock | Central Otago | Wilderness/Air-scenting |
| Malcolm York | Auckland | Wilderness/Air-scenting |

Our thanks to all our assessors for their tremendous contribution over the past 12 months, particularly those who have also taken on additional workloads organising and coordinating training weekends and assessment courses.

Website

An updated list of operational teams and assessors is maintained on our website <http://www.nzlsar-dogs.org.nz>

Bereavements

This year has seen some losses to our operational list, with the untimely deaths of operational dogs Wolf and Awhi. Our condolences to the handlers who have lost a teammate in the last year.

Assessment Courses

With the addition of an avalanche assessment course in the North Island this year, we now run four assessment events per annum, comprising a course per island for both avalanche and wilderness teams. Congratulations to those who have certified as operational this year. We currently have 20 operational teams, with some strong teams coming through at the novice and trainee level. We have also had excellent support from the police, with Al McRae and Chris Best attending both South Island and North Island Assessment Courses. Their depth of experience in training and assessing police dogs has

been of tremendous value to our LSAR teams, and the attendance of one of our assessors at the Police Dog Assessment Course this year has furthered this relationship.

This year we were able to run an avalanche assessment course in the North Island, as well as our South Island assessment at Cardrona, Thanks to Petra and Brent for their work in running these courses – we are pleased to have appointed Petra as an avalanche assessor this year, and were very impressed with the amount of snow she managed to provide prior to the NI course!

The Wilderness assessment courses for our air-scenting and tracking dogs were held in November at Blenheim and at Waiouru in April. Many thanks to all those who pitched in to help, particularly the co-ordinators, Kim, Ian and Grant, and the willing subjects who spent many hours in the bush, riverbeds, gorse patches and snow to enable us to run such varied scenarios.

Operational Standards

Our new assessors have been put to work, and we have now implemented the formative assessment system for our air-scenting dogs, whereby the teams are assessed over the four days of the course, by both NZLSAR and police assessors. This follows a review of the standards adopted five years ago and, while we still have some fine-tuning to do for the next courses, we are on track to ensure that we have a robust system of assessment for our teams that certifies a high standard of operational team for use throughout the country.

It is important that advisors and search managers are aware of our assessment process and that they continue to support us by choosing to call out operational dogs in the early stages of a search, and refraining from deploying non-operational teams. As with any search team members, there is a minimum standard at which a dog team is considered operational, and teams train very hard to be able to attain that standard. Once operational they are able to be deployed in any region, and we would encourage IMT managers to get to know not only their local dog team but also those in neighbouring areas and to preplan for rapid deployment of those teams.

Training

A major focus for the past year has been to provide a greater number of training opportunities for search dog handlers to get together throughout the year.

We have now increased our training events to provide three training weekends per island per year. This allows opportunities for handlers to get together and train, and to take advantage of their collective experience,. I believe they are an essential investment for search dogs, as many teams are geographically isolated and may need to drive for hours to meet another handler for training. I am in awe of the time and distances that people will commit to in order to attend these events, and thank all those who have volunteered or been coerced into running a training weekend this year. The provision of training and assessment to our current level involves a high workload for a relatively small group of people, many of whom also do duty as assessors and instructors as well as attending callouts. We look forward to the appointment of a Field Support Officer at a national level to assist with the smooth running of these events.

Training events are posted on the website and we welcome SAR members to these events as subjects and observers.

The eventual Police grant was \$239,000 and a revised budget of \$375,000 was agreed upon and which provided for all the usual activities plus \$55,000, later increased to \$80,000, for the consultant's review of NZLSAR organization and operations and subsequent sub committee meetings to consider their report and its implementation.

Although total expenses are up 9% on last year, \$247,079 against \$225,931, most categories are less than 2005, particularly claims from regions for training courses. The total expenses of \$247,079 compared with the budget of \$375,000 indicates that many areas of expense fell short of plans and explanations for this may be given in the sub committee reports. The financial year ends with Accumulated Funds of \$202,407 (2005 \$160,090) plus \$112,860 for special funds or projects (2005 \$148,618).

Phil. Rundle, July 2006.

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2006

| | | 2006 | 2005 |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|
| | | \$ | \$ |
| Accumulated Funds | | 202,407 | 160,090 |
| Publications Fund | | 26,960 | 36,456 |
| Redundancy Provision | Note 9 | | 24,462 |
| SAR Research Fund | | 45,000 | 45,000 |
| ACR Training Fund | | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Regional Search Software | | 5,900 | 7,700 |
| Strategic Plan Provision | Note 7 | 25,000 | 25,000 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total Equity | | 315,267 | 308,708 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Represented by: | | | |
| Bank accounts | | | |
| Westpac Bank current a/c | | 8,170 | 1,038 |
| " " call a/c | | 140,712 | 108,235 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| | | 148,882 | 109,273 |
| Term Deposits-Westpac Bank | | 170,000 | 192,000 |
| Debtors and Prepayments | Note 4 | 8,085 | 28,683 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Total Current Assets | | 326,967 | 329,956 |
| Less Current Liabilities | | | |
| Creditors | Note 5 | 11,700 | 21,248 |
| | | ----- | ----- |
| Net Current Assets | | 315,267 | 308,708 |
| | | ----- | ----- |

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

-----Treasurer

-----Chairman

NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2006

| | 2006 | 2005 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| INCOME | | |
| Police Dept Contract | 239,000 | 206,000 |
| Interest | <u>24,134</u> | <u>22,866</u> |
| Total income | 263,134 | 228,866 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Audit Fees | 2,000 | 1,820 |
| Committee Meetings | 19,375 | 19,671 |
| National Field Officer | | |
| Salary, fees and ACC Levy | 46,462 | 51,972 |
| Travel | 4,875 | 7,024 |
| Other Expenses | 771 | 1,043 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 52,108 | 60,039 |
| National Office | | |
| Administration and Stationery | 3,639 | 6,520 |
| Strategic Plan, consultants | Note 7 79,877 | |
| Travel, Publicity | 2,224 | 9,587 |
| Library | 45 | |
| National Conference | | 727 |
| Communications Sub Committee | 5,147 | 4,296 |
| Search Dogs Sub Committee | 22,004 | 25,375 |
| Specialist Sub Committee | 1,220 | 7,340 |
| Training Sub Committee | | |
| Courses and Activities | 8,935 | 12,095 |
| Sub Committee expenses | 4,109 | 5,374 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| | 13,044 | 17,469 |
| Underground Sub Committee | 2,432 | 3,147 |
| Regional Committee Administration Support | 11,039 | 18,957 |
| Regional Training Support | 31,125 | 50,683 |
| Regional Search Software | <u>1,800</u> | <u>300</u> |
| Total Expenses | 247,079 | 225,931 |
| Operating Surplus | 16,055 | 2,935 |
| Publication Fund Movements | 9,496 | |
| SURPLUS, transferred to Accumulated Funds | <u>6,559</u> | <u>2,935</u> |

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 2006

| | 2006 | 2005 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| ACCUMULATED FUNDS | \$ | \$ |
| Opening Balance | 160,090 | 205,164 |
| Surplus for the year | 6,559 | 2,935 |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Total Recognised Income for the year | 6,559 | 2,935 |
| Transfers (to) from Reserves | <u>35,758</u> | <u>(48,009)</u> |
| Closing Balance | <u>202,407</u> | <u>160,090</u> |
| | | |
| RESERVES | | |
| | | |
| Publications Fund | | |
| Opening Balance | 36,456 | 26,456 |
| Transfers (to) Accumulated Funds | <u>(9,496)</u> | <u>10,000</u> |
| Closing Balance | <u>26,960</u> | <u>36,456</u> |
| | | |
| Redundancy Provision | | |
| Opening Balance | 24,462 | 21,153 |
| Transfers (to) Accumulated Funds | <u>(24,462)</u> | <u>3,309</u> |
| Closing Balance | <u>Nil</u> | <u>24,462</u> |
| | | |
| SAR Research Fund | | |
| Opening Balance | 45,000 | 35,000 |
| Transfers from Accumulated Funds | | 10,000 |
| Closing Balance | <u>45,000</u> | <u>45,000</u> |
| | | |
| ACR Training Fund | | |
| Opening Balance | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Closing Balance | <u>10,000</u> | <u>10,000</u> |
| | | |
| Regional Search Software | | |
| Opening Balance | 7,700 | 8,000 |
| Transfers (to) Accumulated Funds | <u>(1,800)</u> | <u>(300)</u> |
| Closing Balance | <u>5,900</u> | <u>7,700</u> |
| | | |
| Strategic Plan Provision | | |
| Opening Balance | 25,000 | |
| Transfer from Accumulated Funds | 25,000 | |
| Transfers (to) Accumulated Funds | <u>(25,000)</u> | <u>25,000</u> |
| Closing Balance | <u>25,000</u> | <u>25,000</u> |
| | | |
| TOTAL RESERVES | <u>112,860</u> | <u>148,618</u> |
| CLOSING EQUITY | <u>315,267</u> | <u>308,708</u> |

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

**NEW ZEALAND LAND SEARCH AND RESCUE INCORPORATED
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006**

1. Reporting Entity:

The financial statements presented here are for the New Zealand Land Search & 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 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 and Prepayments:

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

5. Creditors:

These are the cost of auditing these accounts and for other expenses incurred but not paid.

6. Contingent Liabilities:

There were no known contingent liabilities as at balance date. (2005 nil)

7. Commitments:

There were no known commitments as at balance date. (2005 \$39,750)

There was a commitment at 30 June 2005 to consultants for the development of a Strategic plan for \$39,750 and a provision of \$25,000 was created. The consultants review has been completed and the \$25,000 provision returned to Accumulated Funds. The implementation of the review continues and the Committee has created a further reserve of \$25,000 for this.

8. Related Party Transactions:

In addition to any related party transactions disclosed elsewhere in these financial statements there was a related party transaction with a company controlled by a committee member Barry Were for the supply of IMAN/GMAN software and Barry Were has disclosed his interest in IMAN/GMAN.

All trading with IMAN/GMAN was done on normal trading terms.

9. Redundancy Provision:

This provision existed to cover a potential liability to the National Field Officer and, as there is now no employee, the provision has been returned to Accumulated Funds.

NZLSAR Search and Rescue Statistics for the 2005/2006 year

The 2005/2006 figures below are an interim assessment taken in July 2006. The final and more comprehensive figures will be available in the Police SAR Annual Report to be issued shortly.

| | 05/06 | 04/05 | 03/04 | 02/03 | 01/02 | 00/01 | 99/00 | 98/99 | 97/98 | 96/97 |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Land operations | 703 | 885 | 673 | 365 | 372 | 397 | 313 | 332 | 352 | 370 |
| Operational hours contributed | N/A | N/A | 14,047 | 19,556 | 15,631 | 30,759 | 19,061 | 14,368 | 20,146 | 15,812 |
| Number of personal involved | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3,080 | 2,885 | 3,400 | 2,283 | 2,108 | 2,829 | 3,139 |

NOTE. The seeming increase in operation numbers in 2003/2004 was because Class I operations which were solely Police involvement and Class II involving volunteers as well, were combined.

Performance Report

This section gives an overview of the performance of the organisation and activities for the 2004/2005 year. It is in two parts, the first is a summary of the NZLSAR Committee and subcommittee activities plus an overview of the national SAR operational statistics. The second part is an overview of the performance against each of the budgeted items in the Business Plan that was presented to the Police for the 2005/2006 year.

Part 1

NZLSAR Committee and Subcommittees activities during the 2005/2006 year.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Committee meetings held | 4 |
| Total person days of attendance by Committee members | 80 |
| Total person days of attendance by Deputies | 4 |
| Total attendance person days | 89 (93%) |
| Possible total attendance person days | 90 |

The August meeting comprise one day of the Regional Chair and Secretaries Seminar and a one National Committee meeting. The November meeting of the Committee was held over two days, Saturday and Sunday.

STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Communications Subcommittee meetings held | 1 |
|--|----------|

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Total person days of attendance | 7 |
| Information Management Working Group meetings | 3 |
| Total person days of attendance | 20 |
| Specialist Subcommittee | |
| Aviation Working Group meetings held | 0 |
| Medical Working Group meetings held | 0 |
| Numerous emails, etc | |
| Swift Water Group | 0 |
| Vertical Working Group meetings held | 1 |
| Total person days of attendance | 8 |
| SAR Search Dogs meetings held | 0 |
| Numerous emails and phone calls and informal meetings at the assessment courses | |
| Training Subcommittee meetings held | 3 |
| Total person days of attendance | 20 |
| Underground Subcommittee meeting held | 0 |
| Numerous emails and phone calls | |

Many of the Committee members serve on other Subcommittees and Working Groups. These groups have specific tasks or objectives to research and investigate with a view to reporting back to the NZLSAR Committee a suggested course of action. The membership of these Subcommittees and Working Groups is as below.

Finance

Roscoe Tait, Chairman
Graham Thorp

Phil Rundle

Remuneration

Roscoe Tait, Chairman

Phil Rundle

Review Implementation

Roscoe Tait, Chairman
Tric Moller
Dave Robertson

Barry Were
John Scobie
Murray Wilson

| No. | Item | Budgeted amount | Actual expenditure Ex GST | Comments |
|----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 1a | NZLSAR Committee meetings | \$21,000 | \$19,375 | <p>Four meetings were held during the year, two of which were a two-day meeting. These being the August combined meeting and the November to discuss the NZLSAR Review document and recommendations from the Strategic Working Group.</p> <p>The Air New Zealand fare structure and the early purchase of tickets resulted in lower actual costs. The down side is that occasionally a fare is lost when a person is unable to travel or a meeting is changed at the last minute due to circumstances beyond NZLSAR's control.</p> <p>The one-day meetings are held at the Wellington Airport. A person is employed to take minutes of meetings.</p> |
| 1b | Conference | \$10,000 | Nil | <p>\$3,000 will be advanced to the Region 7 Conference Committee who are organising the 2006 NZLSAR Conference in July 2006 to cover initial costs until registration fees are received.</p> |
| 1c 1e | Review & Meetings | \$55,000 | \$79,877 | <p>As an out come of the submissions of the subcommittee charged with investigating funding options from the August 2005 Regional Chairmen and Secretaries Seminar, the need for a full review of the organisation and the development of a strategic plan was essential for the organisation to move forward. In order to achieve this in a reasonable time frame, Design Torque was employed to tour the country to conduct a review of the organisation and to collect input for the development of a strategic plan. A strategy development workshop was held in October 2005 and subsequent review implementation meetings have been held.</p> <p>A proposal based on the agreed strategic plan has been presented to the Police for funding for the 2006/2007 financial year.</p> |
| 1d | Chairman's travel and discretion | \$ 5,000 | \$ 2,157 | <p>This covers any travel that the Chairman or Committee members may have to undertake for NZLSAR outside that for attending Committee and subcommittee meetings. The Chairman has attended a number of meetings around the country to present SAR Awards and</p> |

| | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|----------|----------|---|
| | | | | to take the opportunity to talk about the need for the NZLSAR Review and the progress to date. |
| 2a | Admin Costs | \$ 9,000 | \$ 5,639 | This covers necessary purchases such as stationary, the Post Box, etc as well as the Auditor expenses. As the accounts have become more complex (Conference, Strategic Plan development, etc) the Auditors fees have increased. |
| 2b | NFO Salary + ACC | \$65,000 | \$52,108 | The covers the salary, travel and incidental costs of employing the NFO. The Police continue to very kindly cover the cost of an office and associated expenses for the NFO. In addition to the general administrative tasks that the NFO undertakes, he also maintains liaison with a number of associated organisations such as Mountain Safety Council and Federated Mountain Clubs; as well as attending meetings of the Committee and a number of Subcommittee, Regional meetings, Award presentations, District SAREX's, training courses and Regional seminars. The incumbent NFO retired in April 2006 and the position has been filled on a part-time basis, pending the outcome of the NZLSAR Review funding application, hence the reduced costs. |
| 2c | Publicity/public relations | \$ 4,000 | \$ 67 | A number of plaques have been purchased for either presentation by the Committee (including NZLSAR Awards) or purchase by a SAR Organisation for them to make their own presentations |
| 2d | Library | Nil | \$ 45 | As suitable items for the NZLSAR library are identified they are acquired for the library. These items are available for members to borrow. A list of the publications available appears in this report. |
| 3 | SAR Search Dogs Subcommittee | \$41,500 | \$22,004 | The majority of the budget is for assessment courses. While an increased number of assessment weekends were held, costs were lower that budgeted for the year. |
| 4 | Communication Subcommittee | \$25,500 | \$ 5,147 | This Subcommittee held two meetings during the year. Research into various items such as mapping and GIS software, evaluation of a GPS tracking of teams by radio, GPS training package and HF SelCall trail are continuing. There is still more to be done before recommendations can be made to the National Committee. An Information Management Working Group was formed during the year to look at what |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|----------|---|
| | | | | enhancement could be made to the existing software. [Half of the budget was allocated to software features development.] Priorities have been determined and work has started. However, no costs have been invoiced to date. These are expected to become payable early in the next financial year. The Chairman continues to provide the Committee with regular updates. |
| 5a | Specialist Subcommittee | \$ 1,500 | \$ 1,220 | The Specialist Subcommittee consists of a number of working groups with the Chair of the Specialist Subcommittee maintaining an overview and an encouraging hand to the work of these groups. This budget item is to allow the Chair to travel to meetings, courses, etc. |
| 5b to 5g | Working Group – Technical Rescue | \$ 9,000 | \$ 1,165 | The Back Country Technical Rescue Standards (BTRS) are in place and draft Helicopter Rescue Standards have been reviewed and circulated for comment. The ACR Team Review has been put on hold until these standards have been promulgated as have the ACR exercise, which was held every three years. ACR equipment is funded separately by the Police directly to the ACR Teams. |
| 5h | Working Group - Medical | \$ 6,500 | Nil | While the Working Group has not formally met during the year, work has proceeded on the Nominated SAR Medic (1 st Aider) and a meeting is planned in conjunction with the NZLSAR Conference in November. |
| 5m to 5n | Working Group – Swift Water | \$ 6,000 | Nil | This is a relatively new working group that is assessing the resources available and requirements for swift water rescue in NZ with the view to developing a national model. |
| 5p | Working Group – Aviation | Nil | Nil | |
| 6a to 6f & 6h to 6m | Training Subcommittee | \$30,500 | \$ 5,350 | The Training Subcommittee met on three occasions during the year. The focus of the Subcommittee is on developing guidelines to assist with the measurement of the skills of prospective and existing SAR members and the monitoring of external course quality. A protocol for the development of new courses is being worked on. |
| 6g | MLSO Course | \$ 4,500 | \$ 7,694 | Two five-day MLSO courses were held at the Police College in August 2005. These are attended jointly by volunteers and Police with nine volunteers on each course. The increase in cost this year arose from the payment of accommodation costs at the Police College. The instructor costs are met by Tai Poutini |

| | | | | |
|-----|--|----------|----------|---|
| | | | | Polytechnic. |
| 7 | Underground Subcommittee | \$ 7,500 | \$ 2,432 | This year the Underground Subcommittee has concentrated on training and testing of rope suitability and systems for underground SAR.. |
| 8 | SAR Research | Nil | Nil | No money was allocated to this fund, which currently stands at \$45,000. The purpose of the fund is to build up a fund as seed money for research projects. However, , to date no projects have been identified. |
| 9a | Regional Seminars | \$ 4,000 | \$ 2,421 | Only a few Regional Seminars were held during the year. |
| 9b | Administrative Support for Regional Committees | \$ 9,000 | \$ 1,512 | Regions are offered two sums; \$500 to assist with administration of their Regional Committee and \$500 to assist with travel for the Regional Representative and/or Deputy Regional Representative and/or Chair of their Regional Committee. Regions are required to submit an annual financial statement to NZLSAR to qualify for these grants. Very few regions take up this offer. |
| 9c | Seminar for Regional Administrators | \$ 7,100 | \$ 7,106 | This meeting is now held annually as it is an important forum for the National Committee and Regional Committees to |
| 10a | Regional Training Grants | \$50,400 | \$31,125 | The costs of the instructors for approved training courses are met by Tai Poutini Polytechnic resulting in much lower costs to NZLSAR. NZLSAR is now able to cover the associated course costs for the regional training. Associated course costs were paid for 54 courses. |
| | IMAN Program | Nil | \$ 1,800 | Funds were allocated in 2003/2004 to encourage SAR groups to use computer based systems by providing them with a copy of the IMan and GMan programmes for both use and training. Grants totalling \$1,800 were used to purchase these programmes for local SAR organisations. |
| | Publication Fund | Nil | \$ 9,496 | NZLSAR maintains this fund so that there is always money available to pay the cost of printing any publications that NZLSAR produces from time to time. This year the second edition of the Field Guide was published. Also the Search and Rescue Incident Management for land SAR using the CIMS model was published. The Alpine Rescue Techniques Manual will be published in the coming year. |

NZLSAR AWARDS

The NZLSAR Award was established to enable SAR organisation to recognise those individuals who have made a significant contribution to land search and rescue. Over the last year the NZLSAR Committee was pleased to approve NZLSAR Awards to the following people:-

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Marty Green | 28 August 2005 |
| Eric McDonald | 28 August 2005 |
| Russell Miller | 28 August 2005 |
| Terry Patterson | 28 August 2005 |
| Mike Sheridan | 28 August 2005 |
| Rob Duncan | 27 November 2005 |
| Richard Hayes | 27 November 2005 |
| Lex Perriam | 27 November 2005 |
| Walter Russell | 27 November 2005 |
| Phil Whitelaw | 27 November 2005 |
| Gerry Prins | 4 March 2006 |
| Phil Rundle | 4 March 2006 |
| John Tristram | 4 March 2006 |

Roscoe Tait
Chairman NZLSAR

2005/2006 Affiliated SAR Organisations

Below are the affiliated SAR Organisations in each Region and the number of members they each have.

| <i>Region One</i> | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Organisatio | Total |
| Auckland | 62 |
| Far North | 22 |
| Northland | 35 |
| Total | 119 |

| <i>Region Two</i> | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Organisation | Total |
| Hamilton | 38 |
| Kuaoturu | 32 |
| Paeroa | 12 |
| Tairua/Pauanui | 30 |
| Taupo/Tokoroa | 53 |
| Tauranga | 36 |
| Thames | 55 |
| Turangi | 78 |
| Waihi | 20 |
| Waitomo | 40 |
| Whakatane | 62 |
| Whiritoa | 19 |
| Total | 475 |

| <i>Region Three</i> | |
|---|--------------|
| Organisation | Total |
| The Gisborne Land Search and Rescue Charitable Trust Board | 6 |
| Total | 6 |

| <i>Region Four</i> | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Organisation | Total |
| Horowhenua | 38 |
| King Country | 40 |
| Palmerston Nth | 80 |
| Taranaki | 116 |
| Waimarino | 24 |
| Wairarapa | 77 |
| Wanganui | 24 |
| Wellington | 80 |

Total 479

Region Five

| Organisation | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Greymouth | 31 |
| Kaikoura | 26 |
| Hokitika | 35 |
| Marlborough | 44 |
| Motueka | 58 |
| Murchison | 9 |
| Nelson | 119 |
| Reefton | 13 |
| Takaka/Golden Bay | 31 |
| Westport | 35 |
| Total | 401 |

Region Six

| Organisation | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Christchurch ACR | 72 |
| Amuri | 54 |
| Christchurch AREC | 28 |
| Ellesmere/Rakaia | 29 |
| Methven | 40 |
| Oxford | 40 |
| Pegasus | 55 |
| Sth Canterbury | 115 |
| Total | 433 |

Region Seven

| Organisation | Total |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Balclutha | 50 |
| Dunedin | 75 |
| Gore | 44 |
| Invercargill | 56 |
| Milton | 31 |
| Oamaru | 54 |
| Owaka | 52 |
| Stewart Island | 53 |
| Te Anau | 51 |
| Tokanui/Waikaw a | 45 |
| Wakatipu | 75 |
| Wanaka | 30 |
| Total | 616 |