



Debrief

DECEMBER 2007

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PO Box 720, Kerikeri

The Monthly Newsletter of

Far North Search & Rescue



Next Training - **None until February - Team building tramp TBA**

Where: Likely to be Tongariro Crossing

When: Leaving Friday night, back Sunday night Dates TBA

What: Full kit including wet weather gear, plus extra warm gear

Who: All Welcome

Details to follow closer to the time

Next Meeting 7:30pm **FEBRUARY 6th** Kaikohe HQ

Standbys and Callouts

Nil

Last Trainings **Team Leader - Kaikohe 18/11/07** (Thanks to those who submitted reports)

The weekend started with members of FNSAR and Northland SAR taking up positions at opposite sides of the yard and the usual face-off ensued. We soon learnt that this was the *Forming* stage of a team's life cycle.

Once in the Classroom, we went through *Storming* and *Norming* with the introductions and beginning to settle in and work with new faces.

Let loose from class and split into two teams, we were all soon *Performing* the infamous Bucket of water and two ropes ("Oh that's what the inner tube is for !") Trick.

Next we learnt about Leadership Styles and the importance of being dynamic in style to suit the situation. During the scenarios each student had a go at Leader. We soon found that by unnecessarily sticking to an Autocratic style, you were very likely to have a mutiny on your hands, ending up in a team of one and that the Participative style can mean it takes twenty minutes to move a stretcher five metres.

Though one team were so impressed with their leader's style, that they were willing to sacrifice any working limbs and the well being of their patient in order to complete his task. Thankfully, the instructor called a halt to proceedings as the first team members attempted to stand on the rotten and rickety obstacle in the cordoned-off, condemned assault course.

The remainder of the weekend was theory based covering all aspects of Team and Team Leadership including, *Attitude* and *Going Positive*, balancing *Task-Team-Individual*, *Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs*, *Decision Making & Task Management* etc. etc.

Lastly, the hot topic of the responsibilities of the Team Leader in Risk (Safety) Management. Thankfully there was no mention of lemons, but the subject brought forth the Autocratic style in many students which had the instructors reaching for their own workbooks, desperately revising Conflict Resolution.

All too soon it was the final stage of the team's life cycle ; *Adjourning*. We had all learnt something as the clean-up operation was the most dynamic and efficient yet seen.

Thanks to Tony and Kip for another excellent course.

If nothing else, always remember :

Personal
Responsibility
In
Delivering
Excellence.

CONTACTS: *Pres:* Roger Ladd 407 9559; *Sec:* Sue Field 407 7622; *Newsletter:* Pete McGhee 401 6660

Many thanks to our supporters: **Kerikeri Outdoor Shop & Glengarry Hancocks Wines, Auckland.**



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Last Trainings...(cont)

Kayak - Whangaroa Harbour 02/12/07

Four took to the high seas in the Tupperware Navy, for a tour of the sea caves outside the harbour entrance. The journey started off nicely with the wind at our back (although we all knew what that meant for the trip back!) and a gentle cruise down the harbour. The sea was smooth and a lazy swell was just enough to have some fun timing runs past partially submerged rocks. Lots of caves and tunnels were thoroughly explored, although the swell put some interesting ones off limits. A brief burst of amusement and embarrassment occurred when a possible visit by a cetacean turned out to be merely a plume sent up by a lone diving gannet, I'll freely put my hand up for that one ☺



An excellent afternoon out, despite the slog against wind and tide back up the harbour. Total distance 17km. With summer here, there is a possibility of revisiting the area sometime in January. The idea being to extend the trip out around Stevensons Island on a nice day for those who are interested in tagging along – contact Pete if interested.

Parting Shot

A reminder that there are no meetings or trainings until February. A brief newsletter is still planned for release around Mid January which should also include the 2008 training schedule

If you're planning on heading away over the holiday period, please inform the person above you on the phone tree.

And with the silly season upon us, with its hordes of people arriving in the district, keep your kit ready to go and the petrol tank full.

Have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year, and thanks for your time and effort over this last year.

Cheers

Pete

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