



Debrief

JULY 2010



PO Box 720, Kerikeri
Email: info@fnsar.org.nz

The Monthly Newsletter of
Far North Search & Rescue
<http://www.fnsar.org.nz>

Next Training - Search Methods (Full & Refresher) 10/11th July

Where Trefoil Park, on Left, 13km south of Kaikohe on Mangakahia Road
When SARINZ full Course 10th & 11th July. FNSAR In-house Refresher 10th from 1pm
What **ESSENTIAL CORE SKILLS**
Effective searching is the key to an efficient and swift resolution of a search.

Bring: SARINZ Folder (if you have one) LandSAR ID number (if you have one)
Full search kit for day and night search, in wet or dry (as it should be)
Sleeping bag and overnight kit
The site has marae-style sleeping, full kitchen and showers etc
Food supplied..

Next Meeting 7:30pm Wednesday 4th August Kerikeri

At Proctor Library on Cobham Rd. Meeting room to left of main library doors.

New Member Pre-meeting Training Starts 7pm

Next Months Training 9 - 4 Sunday 8th August Whangaroa

This is focussing on GPS and Communications, geared for those who haven't had much experience or aren't confident with the units.

Terrain will be a nice open grassy paddock for a change ☺

Still waiting for 15 people to advise if they will be attending * I need to know reasonably accurate numbers in order to balance experience across the teams and set up the routes.

Thank you to those who have already responded. If you were a "Maybe" I'll contact you closer to the date for a firm Yes or No.

Callouts:

Operation Christopher Robin.

On 25th June, FNSAR were asked to help in the search for 2 missing pig hunters who had already spent 1 cold night in the bush. The search was centered in the Waipoua forest and the search base was at the old forest HQ. About 0130hrs on the 26th the LPs were located by Northland SAR and it was decided that because of the physical condition at the time that all of the party would bivvy up for the night and hopefully walk out in the morning. Upon FNSAR arriving at HQ we were advised that one of the LP condition was poor and a stretcher carry maybe required. We were deployed into the bush and arrived at the GR given only to find the LP party was in fact a further 300m away but this area was soon covered and we were able to meet up with the LP. 'Big Dave' (approx 200Kgs) as he was come to be known was looking better for a good sleep and some warm food and was contemplating the 600m walk out much to the relief of the stretcher carriers...(cont)

CONTACTS Pres: Ian Ruddell 407 7932; Sec: Marilyn Buckley 407 4299; Training: Sue Field 407 8636

Many thanks to our supporters: **Kerikeri Outdoor Shop, Kerikeri & Stirling Sports, Waipapa**

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With lots of positive encouragement Big Dave set off along a well cleared path that team members hacked out of the bush with machetes. Some flora may have suffered at the hands of over enthusiastic slashers but this was outweighed by the backbreaking logistical nightmare of carrying Dave out. Showing great character and determination Dave made it out to the waiting Ambulance where he was given a medical but declined a ride to the hospital. The debrief was held at the Forest HQ where hot coffee and food was gratefully accepted and some light banter over where the district lines actually were completed another successful search and rescue.

Last Training

Early on the 19th June members of the FNSAR meet at the Totara North HQ (Doug's place) to continue the search for the Missing Amanjeet Bains.

On the way to the search area, an impromptu discussion was held at the major DP where various scenarios were projected and it was decided that at another time this area could be revisited for further searching. Upon arriving at the search area (intersection of the Wairakau and Sherman Streams) the group split into 2 teams and were given designated areas to search. Although a range of objects from shoes to plates and general rubbish were found no relevant clues were located. The search continued through to the afternoon when some team members returned back to Kerikeri while others opted for an adventurous night out in somewhat wet conditions.

Capt Mark provided some amphibious transport across to Kingfisher Lodge where we were shown in local hospitality and ended up in warm dry accommodation watching the AB's battle for desperate Welsh. We slowly meandered up the harbour on Sunday morning before returning to Keri. Once again thanks to all those who gave their time to continue searching for Mr. Bains and an extra thank you to Capt Mark.

MSC Training coming up

Outdoor First Aid - Revalidation. August 22nd. (Note you need to hold OFA as a pre-requisite)

As an outside course, you need to be proactive with these, no-one will be asking you if you wish to attend. Email Pauline at northland@mountainsafety.org.nz

Parting Shot(s)

New Members Induction training: Reminder to new members there is a series of short trainings to run from 7pm to 7:30pm on meeting nights, and slightly longer sessions on the third Wednesday evening of each month. These will introduce new members yet to attend a SARINZ course with an overview on such things as pack contents, tracking, navigation, search methods etc. These will rollover at the end of each sequence so if you miss one, you'll be able to pick it up again in a couple of months. Attendance will be recorded on your training records. Details on these will be posted on the website on the reminders page once available. Contact Jo for details.

BackCountry Freeze Dried Foods: Grant has a couple of boxes of goodies: full 24Hr packs as well as single and two-serve packs. Catch up with him if you need to restock. Reminder that these are intended for Training/Operation use only.

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