



Debrief

OCTOBER 2008



The Monthly Newsletter of

Far North Search & Rescue

fnsar@ihug.co.nz
PO Box 720, Kerikeri

<http://farnorth.sar.org.nz>

Next Training - Ropes/Stretcher training : Sunday 19 Oct. 0900 Hrs.

It is rumoured that somebody may require our help in the near future. Accordingly, expect the phone tree to be activated sometime on Saturday 18 Oct.

If you should miss the call, meet at Grant's place, as per call-out, by 0900 hrs. on the Sunday. This will be a scenario exercise so please try to revise or learn the knots, hitches etc. below. You will need your SAR daypack, food & water for the day and clothing to suit the weather ??



A good turnout will make this work.

A poor turnout will make bent backs and stretched arms.

Recommended revision :

- Tape Bend
- Italian Hitch
- Clove Hitch
- Fig. 8 on-the-bight
- Fig. 8 follow-through
- Double Fisherman's bend
- 3-wrap Prusik Hitch
- Reef (square) Bend
- Alpine Butterfly

Also a " Wrap 3, Pull 2 " with a sling around an anchor point. And a rough idea of how a 3:1 Pulley system is constructed.

You will not be expected to be an expert on any of the above.



Next Meeting 7:30pm November 5th - Proctor Library Meeting Room, Kerikeri

Meeting room is to your left as you face the main doors.

Standbys and Callouts

None last month

CONTACTS: *Pres:* Glenn Fountain 407 7839; *Sec:* Marilyn Buckley 407 4299; *Newsletter:* Pete McGhee 401 6660

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



Debrief

OCTOBER 2008

Monthly Newsletter of Far North Search & Rescue Inc.

Last Training Regional SAREX - Matakana , Thanks go to Joy for this submission.

Arrived Friday afternoon at 4.30pm to find the Sarex HQ setting up. Very soon the briefing was underway, the group was split in to two scenarios, and teams for each scenario were quickly deployed out for the night.

As the stragglers arrived that evening they were quickly put in to teams and sent out to join the others. Soon it was just HQ left behind and they were quickly into their tasks. The race was on to find their L.P. first.

It was a lovely fine night for the searchers to be out and many enjoyed the experience after being through such a wet winter and some very wet miserable searches.

Once again we were fed and watered well. Some great organisation had gone into the event.

All teams were back at base by late Saturday afternoon after having found their L.P.

Saturday night was party night for all with an organised games evening the highlight being the silly hats competition. By good luck ,and certainly no planning ,a member of the Far North Team won the silly hat prize. Unfortunately the Far North Team didn't rate as well in the games but had a heap of fun just the same.

Some very subdued team members turned out for the Sunday competitions. Teams of seven were to compete against each other in a rigorous event which Cliff Metcalfe said was designed to burn out the booze. And this it did as teams were seen heavily sweating with full packs on running the streets of Matakana.

As a side trip the non competing members of Far North went for a short Tiki Tour of Omaha Bay .Lovely to see how the other half live in such a beautiful spot.

Back to HQ for a final cleanup and cheery goodbyes. A very enjoyable well run SAREX. Be there next time yourself to be a part of the fun and the team.

AGM : Held at FNSAR HQ, Kaikohe, October 1st.

We now have an all-new, clean sweep, across the board committee...Drum roll, please...

President:	Glenn	(He is to be saluted at all times)
Vice President:	Geran	(Silently plotting the Presidents downfall)
Secretary:	Marilyn	(Responsible for leaked secrets)
Treasurer:	Ian	(Ensures the \$434,978,000.59 is safe in a separate account)

Other Appointments:

Training:	Sue	(The mastermind behind the secret bush trainings)
Funding	Bec / Jo	(Responsible for acquiring funds – Best not ask)
Membership	Grant	(Roams the streets at night with his press gang)
Resource Manager	Grant/Geran/Ron	(Ensure the Bat Cave is fully stocked, and ready to go)
Newsletter / Publicity	Pete	(Tries to make the group look good)
Archives	Geran	(Records everything for when we are asked about movie rights)

Thanks are extended to our last committee for their time, effort, and more time.

Parting Shot

Unfortunately due to time constraints, that's about it for this month. To finish on a high note, we have received \$2500 from the Kaingaroa Lions for Rogers impromptu speech following the golf tournament. Go Rog! ☺ See over for the departing Presidents Final Address...



PRESIDENTS REPORT 2008

2008 won't go down as one of the most eventful years as far as searches go as it was quieter than most. Fortunately we had a full and comprehensive training schedule ranging from lost person behaviour to team building in Puketi. Along the way we enjoyed a mini SAREX, district SAREX and a regional SAREX and as well we have a national conference to attend later in the year. The air force helicopter at the Bland Bay SAREX gave us an opportunity to practice skills we don't usually get to employ and was a real test for our HQ team as well as a chance to fly over the hills instead of walking, a luxury we don't often get in the Far North. The regional SAREX also gave us an opportunity to assess our skills against other groups in our region and we look forward to hosting our regional comrades in 3years time.

While we haven't had many callouts this year 2 of them turned out to be a stern test of personnel and equipment. Both searches in Karetu and Waitangi for pig hunters were held in some of the fiercest storms seen in the north for many years and the fact that both were successful and accomplished safely reflects on the high standard of training and the skill and fortitude of the searchers. A credit to all of those involved.

The Far North has about 30 members in its organisation and while it's sad to see some of the more experienced members move on it's good to see new faces filling those vacancies. And it's especially pleasing to see some of those new faces accepting the challenge of help to run the organization. I thank them for their commitment and wish them luck for the future.

Finally I'd like to thank the committee and the other silent workers who just get on and make things happen, to work with them is only a pleasure.

Roger Ladd
2008 President
FNSAR.

And that's it for this month. Apologies for the late issue, time has been in very short supply recently.

See you at the next training / meeting / search!

Stay safe.

Cheers
Pete