

RescUnews

June 2009



CAPRICORN
HELICOPTER
RESCUE



NEW LOGO AND LAUNCH

In March CHRS launched a new logo in spectacular style at RescUresponse Day at Paradise Lagoons.

Dave Benson, the World Flag Flying Record Holder skydived into the arena with a flag presenting the new 'look' for CHRS to an applauding crowd. Dave, who comes from Esk in SE Queensland donated his time and enthusiasm to help raise awareness for the vital life saving service.

The day proved very successful with over 1000 people turning out for the first time event. Feedback from the public has been overwhelming and the event will now be held bi-annually. The new logo was designed by Bronwyn Fenech and her team at FM Studios and gives a fresh new image which is easily recognised by the public.

*Top: Volunteers Laraine, Desiree and Janet at RescUresponse Day
Top right: Tony Gambling RACQ Central Zone Director and Kay Becker CHRS Executive Officer
Right: Andrew Howie discusses the importance of EPIRBs*



NEW SPONSORS

CHRS are grateful for the contributions of two new sponsors, 4RO and AngloCoal. 4RO played a key role in launching the new logo by hosting RescUresponse Day and broadcasting to the wider community. Their contribution helped to make the day a success.

AngloCoal also made a valuable contribution. This year their employees chose to contribute to the service instead of holding their annual Christmas Party. Sponsorships are not only valuable to the service, companies who support the region they work in, benefit by building trust and goodwill in the community.



AMSA RESCUE

Early this year the crew was called on to take part in several search and rescues at sea. One involved an AMSA search which took over the hangar at Canoona Rd as the base for the exercise. Around 100 people took part in the search for the 3 fishermen lost off their trawler during the category 5 cyclone Hamish. The only survivor was rescued due to activating an epihb found floating in the debris as he drifted miles from his capsized vessel. The epihb had in fact been lost from another craft a month prior to the incident.

Matt Cook, the Senior Base Crewman who was later winched to the trawler wreckage stated that it was "...the scariest moment of my career when I entered the unstable vessel balancing on its side, on the reef." Matt carefully crawled through the wreck gaining valuable footage of the internal damage as well as underwater footage which helped authorities to assess the situation.

Left: AMSA Briefing at Canoona Rd Hangar



TARGET 10,000

... Think about what you are really saving

Do you contribute to your local helicopter rescue service? We are currently seeking payroll contributors to join the 'Target 10,000' payroll deduction scheme. Over 90 businesses in the Capricorn region are currently contributing to the scheme.

The payroll scheme minimizes administration costs and allows employees to make a tax deductible donation to the service. CHRS have a \$1 million target each year and look to local businesses and their employees to help by joining the payroll deduction scheme.

All moneys donated go towards the operating costs of the helicopter - you never know when you may need it.

VOLUNTEERS JOIN RESCUE EFFORT

Jan Barrett and her team of Volunteers were on hand to lend support during the recent AMSA search and rescue exercise. The volunteers organize and participate in a variety of fundraising activities, such as dances and sausage sizzles, on a regular basis to help fund the service.

Over \$15,000 has been raised by the enthusiastic team of workers so far this year. If you are interested in volunteering, give Jan a call on 4934 0333.

Right: Ray Tobin and Jan Barret supporting AMSA rescue crews



NEW STAFF

The crew recently welcomed new recruits Chris Manns – Pilot, and two Air Crewmen Daniel Millar and Matt Brandon. The newcomers and their families are settling into the Rockhampton area and enjoying all that the region has to offer.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are grateful to individuals and organisations that support our vital life saving service. Every contribution, no matter how small, makes a difference as we strive to reach \$1Million each year. It is reassuring to know that these valuable contributions help maintain a FREE and vital service to all residents and visitors to our region.

SPONSORSHIP

CHRS highly values financial support from companies of all sizes. Corporate Social Responsibility is becoming an increasingly important part of business. Sponsorship has taxation advantages and organizations benefit from the goodwill of employees and the general community.

PAYROLL DEDUCTION SCHEME

Payroll giving is the most tax efficient way for PAYE tax payers to give to charity directly from their salary. It is tax effective because the amount you decide to give is deducted from your pay before tax is calculated (the tax savings are even greater for higher-rate payers).

For CHRS, payroll deductions economize on both time and money and ensure a steady cash flow for the service to continue its vital work. The 'Target 10,000' campaign aims to enlist the help of 10,000 employees in the region who are willing to donate just \$2 per week to help achieve our annual \$1Million target. However, every dollar helps and you can give as little or as much as your budget allows.

DONATIONS

Gifts to CHRS make a significant difference to the lives of those in need. Many of our donors contribute on a regular basis, monthly, quarterly or half-yearly. Donations can be made by post, phone or bank transfer.

BEQUESTS, IN MEMORY AND GIFTS

Making a Will is not about death or dying - it is about the satisfaction of sharing your good fortune with a cause close to your heart. We have seen a growth in bequests and 'In Memory' giving. Increasingly, people are also donating in lieu of birthday, Christmas and farewell gifts in the workplace. These donations have a lasting impact on the lives of others.

GENERAL FUNDRAISING

Why not hold your own fundraising event? Doing your own fundraising can be hugely successful, and is always good fun! Events such as golf days, auctions, sausage sizzles are just a few ways to have fun and help others.

In an emergency, it is vital to get help to the scene as quickly as possible. With your support we can continue to be there, bringing help and hope to those who need it most.



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