

---

---

# NZLSAR News

---

---

Volume 9 Issue 5

October 2003

---

---

## CONTENTS

Recognition for SAR participants  
John Cassidy, Thames SAR patron  
Conference 2004  
SAR Secretariat  
Search Management Software

August combined meeting  
Special Interest Groups  
ID Cards  
Questionnaire  
TUMONZ

---

## SAR participants contributions recognised

---

Land SAR in New Zealand relies very heavily on the efforts of the volunteers that make up the NZ Land SAR organisation. Many, many people put hundreds of hours into SAR, not only on searches, but also in the ongoing training and administration that is required to maintain the organisation. The NZLSAR Committee has, since its inception, understood the importance of recognising the work that these people do without any reward year after year or, in some cases, even acknowledgment. It is for this reason that the NZ Land SAR Award was implemented so that the various SAR organisations around the country could formally recognise those volunteers who have made a significant contribution to SAR in their area. Since its inception in late 1994, a number of NZLSAR Awards have been made across the country. The NZLSAR Award, which is signed by the Minister of Police and the Chairman of NZLSAR, is usually presented to the recipient by a member of the NZLSAR Committee at a suitable function organised by the local SAR organisation.

Copies of the application form for nomination of a person for the NZLSAR Award can be obtained from the NZLSAR web site, your Regional Secretary or from the Field Officer John Tristram at the national office.

Every now and then the contribution that a person has made to search and rescue is recognised by the wider community. This year three of our members have been recognised in such a way: Russell Carr, who received a QSM in the 2003 New Year's Honours' list, Cliff Jones, who was named the NZ Herald New Zealander of the Year

in January 2003 and Stewart Davies, who was awarded a QSM in the Queen's Birthday Honours' list. All three have made a distinct and outstanding contribution to SAR in their area over a number of years and are to be congratulated on receiving their well deserved recognition.

The Police have an internal recognition system for their members who are involved in search and rescue. The Lou Grant Search and Rescue Trophy, named after SAR Sergeant Lou Grant who was killed in the Police Eagle helicopter crash in 1993, is awarded every two years to a member of Police SAR who has made a significant contribution to search and rescue. This year the award was presented to Sergeant Peter Summerfield of Canterbury Search and Rescue. Peter has been a member of Canterbury SAR for over 25 years, which makes him one of the longest serving Police SAR members in the country. This award recognises the contribution he has made to SAR at both local and national level.

Also this year, the Mount Cook (Aoraki) Rescue Team was presented with the coveted New Zealand Search and Rescue Award by the Minister of Transport, Paul Swain, at a ceremony at Parliament in May. This is only the second time this award has been made and its presentation recognises the long and dedicated service that the many members of the Mt Cook (Aoraki) Rescue Team have made over many years.

**Roscoe Tait**  
Chairman NZLSAR

## John Cassidy

How do you honour a man who has devoted most of his life to search and rescue?

John attended the Annual General Meeting of Thames Land SAR without a hint that this was not just an ordinary AGM. He didn't think it too unusual that the meeting was attended by the Chairman and Field Officer for NZ Land SAR and the Chairman for Region Two and a good representation from Hamilton SAR.



After officers and committee members were elected, speeches of appreciation for his readiness to share his experience and skill in SAR were given. Written messages from other people throughout the country and from overseas were read to the meeting. John was then asked to come forward and was presented with a framed Certificate of Appreciation from Thames Land SAR with which he was honoured as the first Life Member of Thames Land SAR.

When he was settled back in his seat, Roscoe Tait asked him to come forward again and he was presented with a special NZ Land SAR plaque in recognition of his services to Land SAR in New Zealand.

A final gesture of the high esteem in which John is held was his appointment and acceptance to the position of Patron to Thames SAR.

The rest of the evening passed in typical Thames fashion with lots of good food and drink and a great deal of socialising.

Thames Land SAR are very grateful to Roscoe Tait, John Tristram, Tiena Jordan, Barry Were and the Hamilton team for making the effort to attend this rather special meeting and make it such a memorable occasion for John Cassidy.

**Jim Rowe**  
Waikato District

## NZLSAR Conference 2004

Region Two has accepted the challenge to organise the next NZLSAR Conference. A lot has been achieved in the last few months. A Committee has been formed with representatives from Hamilton, Te Kuiti, Thames, Tauranga and Whakatane. The conference venue has been booked and the date has been set.

Many great suggestions have been coming in for the program and keynote speakers. An exciting extra at this conference is the proposal to have a

week of pre-conference courses and workshops. More details will be available early 2004.

**Dates: Fri 15<sup>th</sup> to Sun 17<sup>th</sup> October 2004.**

**Venue: Hopuhopu camp near Ngaruawahia.**

Only 10 minutes north of Hamilton.

A multimedia PowerPoint presentation is available for any groups that are interested – it can be sent out on a CD. No special software is needed. For a free copy contact **Barry Were**, **07-849-1189**, **barryw@datasolve.co.nz**.

**Barry Were**  
Member Conference Committee

*Below is an abridged version of the paper presented to the National Search and Rescue Committee by the National Search and Rescue Governance Working Group and from which has come the SAR Secretariat.*

A Maritime SAR Review was undertaken and led by the Maritime Safety Authority (MSA) with the Ministry of Transport (MOT), Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), Police, and NZ Coastguard Federation (NZCG) as a consequence of the Maritime Patrol Review 2001. A key finding of the Review was that there is an over-arching need for stronger strategic coordination and governance of SAR efforts in New Zealand, as current arrangements are not designed or resourced to deal with these issues from a national perspective.

At its meeting on 7 December 2001, following consideration of a paper presented by the Chair of the Maritime Search and Rescue Review Group (MSA), the National Search and Rescue Committee approved the establishment of a National SAR Governance Review Working Group (the Group), *“to assess the current role and function of the National SAR Committee with a view to improving its position as a governance body for SAR in New Zealand”*. The Group, comprising representatives of the MOT, NZDF, Police, CAA and MSA held its inaugural meeting on 26 February 2002. The Group appointed the MOT as its Chair and developed its own Terms of Reference (ToR) for the governance review. Four tasks in the ToR were to identify:

- “1. the current Crown governance of search and rescue within New Zealand where governance is oversight and management; strategic and business planning; finance and budgeting; infrastructure; human resources and agency interaction and*
- 2. international examples of SAR governance; and*
- 3. the possible SAR governance options for New Zealand, including resource implications and consequent benefits; and*
- 4. the preferred SAR governance for New Zealand.”*

### **National SAR Governance Review Working Group Review Process**

In accordance with the ToR, the Group analysed the present SAR governance arrangements in

New Zealand and reaffirmed the Maritime SAR Review conclusion that governance is deficient because of the absence of any single entity with ownership and accountability for SAR at a national strategic governance level. An immediate consequence of this fundamental shortcoming is that the SAR framework lacks a vehicle for considering strategic issues and developing policy at a national level. The lack of an over-arching governance body has in turn meant that SAR resource management has focused on the efficiency and effectiveness of the individual components of the SAR system, rather than on improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the management and coordination of SAR resources in the widest sense.

The Group next gathered information on SAR governance in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, United Kingdom and United States of America

After analysis of these overseas governance structures and their applicability to SAR governance in New Zealand, the Group found that SAR governance problems are not unique to New Zealand. It was evident that the overseas experience is very relevant to New Zealand's own deliberations. The Canadian experience is particularly instructive because New Zealand shares so many of the issues faced there, e.g. the extensive use of voluntary organisations to provide SAR services and resources.

The Group then took the opportunity to confirm 'key outcomes' to be achieved through any revised SAR governance model and the associated issues to be addressed, which are summarised as:

- 1 A SAR Governance framework across all elements of SAR, including all Classes (I, II & land all environments (maritime, land and air) to:
  - address ownership, accountability and leadership issues;
  - provide, clear seamless strategic responsibilities through the entire framework;
  - meet legislative and international obligations; and

- provide coordinated strategic policy and strategic plan development.
- 2 A SAR framework that works, by providing for:
- feedback loops to effect continuous improvement;
  - continuous coordination and consultation among all SAR stakeholders;
  - the identification, adoption and implementation of equipment, performance and competency standards.;
  - improved and effective communication on SAR matters;
  - efficiency and effectiveness through cost/benefit and value for money criteria;
  - effective resourcing (personnel, funding, allocation, priotisation measures); and
  - SAR education strategies.

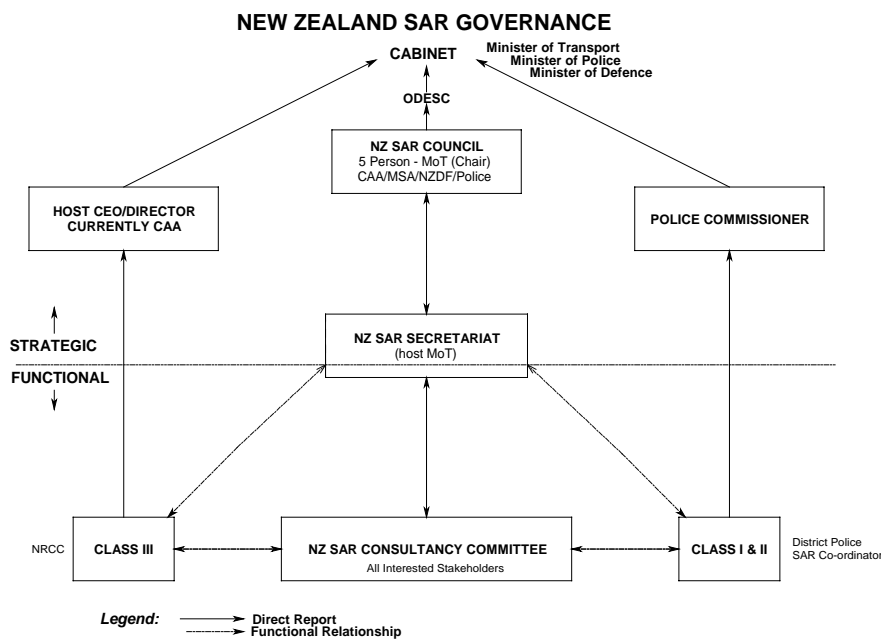
The Group then considered the development of a proposed new SAR governance structure for NZ. The approach adopted in undertaking this task was to consider how improved governance can be achieved through measures that do not require any departure from the existing legislative arrangements through which government organisations currently undertake their SAR activities. The object was to identify improvement measures that can be implemented readily using the mechanisms and resources already available to the participant agencies. The Group agreed that any new model should strengthen SAR coordination at the strategic level without impinging on the existing functional conduct and command of Class I to III SAR activities. The

Group noted that, while there is room for improvement, the current Class I to III system of executing required SAR activities does work well. Any new model would, however, need to provide for changes in functional responsibilities should that subsequently be deemed necessary.

The requirement to link with Government initiatives for crisis management, cross-agency networking, and introduction of the Maritime Co-ordination Centre Manager pilot programme focussed the Group on the development of a single model. The Group briefly considered other options but eliminated them for reasons that included inconsistency with government initiatives, being based around different political models or being too expensive for application in New Zealand. As a result, the Group quickly settled on a pragmatic approach to provide a model that effectively addressed New Zealand’s key issues but fitted within the current resourcing constraints to be able to propose a model that could be implemented now, not later.

The Group concluded that opportunities for improvement in this area included drawing on overseas models to form a NZ SAR Governance Committee or ‘Board’ that would be supported by a full-time SAR secretariat.

Tested against the “key outcomes” the Group determined that the proposed governance model, as shown below, would provide a robust strategic framework for application across all elements and classes of SAR:



## **Description of Proposed Governance Model**

### *Link to Government Crisis Management Model*

As shown, the NZ SAR Council would link well with the government's Domestic and External Security Co-ordination (DESC) system through the Officials' Domestic and External Security Co-ordination group (ODESC) and thence to Cabinet. The reporting line for existing SAR activities remains unchanged at the present time, however, it should be noted that the government plans to adopt the DESC model for the management of all major national crises and circumstances affecting national security, and intends to establish an Ad Hoc Committee on Domestic and External Security Co-ordination to manage and coordinate the national response to all major crises. The outcome of those plans may ultimately shape the linkage between SAR governance and the DESC system but would not affect the substance of SAR governance.

### *NZ SAR Council*

To address the core issue of the absence of an over-arching governance body, the first step necessary is to institute a NZ SAR Council, whose function would be to provide strategic policy advice to government and strong strategic coordination for all search and rescue in New Zealand – that is to say from Class I through to Class III. The Council would be responsible for effective and efficient SAR in New Zealand through the establishment of a New Zealand SAR vision, mission and goals and the development and maintenance of a New Zealand SAR plan. Establishment of the NZ SAR Council would achieve the outcome, and address the associated issues, summarised at paragraph 7a. The Council would not have a role in the coordination or execution of Class I, II and III searches at the functional operational and tactical levels.

In keeping with the Council's high level strategic function, its membership should be drawn from chief executives or senior level representatives of the key government agencies directly involved in and responsible for SAR. It is important that the handling of wider strategic considerations for SAR as a whole is distinguished from the narrower issues associated with performance of the functional responsibilities of the individual SAR delivery agencies. High level representation drawn from the five core agencies will ensure that those involved do have general SAR knowledge but will reduce the risk of organisational self-interest impinging on strategic thinking. At the

same time, the composition and roles of the Council would leave scope for evolutionary adjustments on the basis of accumulated experience with the new structure. It is envisaged that the NZ SAR Council would meet at least three times per year, with the Secretariat in attendance and providing secretarial support.

As noted in paragraphs 12-13, it is envisaged that the Council would report to government through the Domestic and External Security Co-ordination channels, at the level of the Officials' Domestic and External Security Co-ordination group. The equally important relationship between the NZ SAR Council and the wider SAR community would be maintained through the NZ SAR Secretariat, which would Chair and lead the NZ SAR Consultation Committee.

### *New Zealand SAR Secretariat*

The establishment of a high-level governance body in isolation would not be sufficient because that body must have constant access to the information, advice and support services necessary for it to perform its governance role effectively. A New Zealand SAR Secretariat, modelled on the Canadian National SAR Secretariat, would be an ideal medium for providing the necessary support for the NZ SAR Council. Establishment of the NZ SAR Secretariat would achieve the outcomes, and address associated issues, summarised at paragraph 7b.

The Secretariat's role would not be confined to providing support services to the NZ SAR Council. It would provide policy advice and development, serve as an ideas initiator and be instrumental in ensuring implementation of the measures necessary to make strong strategic SAR coordination a reality.

The Secretariat's role would thus involve coordinating the measures necessary to support the provision of SAR in New Zealand on behalf of the NZ SAR Council. Those measures would include the development, implementation and monitoring of a New Zealand SAR plan, vision, mission and goals (objectives) and the establishment, validation and monitoring of national standards, procedures, training, agreements and documentation relevant to all participants in New Zealand SAR.

This will involve the Secretariat in promoting effective coordination among all the elements of the SAR community. It would need to be able to

gauge the performance of participants in achieving SAR objectives, together with collating information on financial and service performance where activities are Crown funded. The Secretariat would be responsible for reporting to the SAR Council on such matters.

The Secretariat will not have a role in the coordination or execution of Class I, II and III searches, and the functional roles of the participants in SAR in New Zealand would not be altered by the establishment of a Secretariat. The relationship between the Secretariat and the SAR community will be an important aspect of the Secretariat's ability to discharge its responsibilities to the governing body and to facilitate "top down" advice and assistance from that body to the SAR community.

#### *New Zealand SAR Consultancy Committee*

In view of the importance of the relationship between the Secretariat and SAR providers, it is proposed that a NZ SAR Consultancy Committee be established to serve as a link between the Secretariat and SAR providers and as a forum for discussion for all SAR stakeholders, including voluntary groups. The NZ SAR Consultancy Committee would provide an appropriate channel through which issues generated at a functional level could be fed into the governance process. The NZ SAR Secretariat would chair the SAR Consultancy Committee as part of the process of providing the SAR community with a greater voice in the strategic decision-making process, and it is envisaged the NZ SAR Consultancy Committee

would replace the current SAR Operations Committee (SAROC)

#### **Legal and Funding**

The Group considers that the administrative measures now proposed can improve SAR governance within the scope of the existing legislative and funding framework. The immediacy of implementation is one of the improvements that can be made relatively quickly. This is one of the key benefits of the model proposed. It is possible to strengthen SAR strategic coordination without such action being contingent on first having to achieve legislative and funding change.

In particular, the formation of a NZ SAR Council would not in itself require new legislation or funding, as the proposed members already have a government mandate to provide SAR services and are funded to do so.

The establishment and operation of the NZ SAR Secretariat would have to be funded by the agencies represented on the governing body until such time as an alternative funding stream became available, whether in the form of additional Crown funding or some form of third party funding.

It is considered the Secretariat should function for up to two years before its functions and merits are reviewed. However, a recommendation concerning Crown funding should be made to government soon after its establishment.

#### **Gerard Prins**

National Police SAR Coordinator

## **Search Management Software**

### **Search Management Software.**

The IMan software has now been released and is available for evaluation and purchase from [www.datasolve.co.nz](http://www.datasolve.co.nz). Follow the links from Products to IMan. IMan has a free 30 day fully functional trial and the purchase price is \$100 per computer.

IMan will record or log all information related to a search including clues and background information, plus details of search team members, team tasks, equipment and locations.

A separate program called GMan is also available from the same web-site. This is the Group Manager that manages member details for SAR groups. These details include records of training, and events attended, personal and group equipment plus locations. All these details get imported into IMan when needed for a SAR operation.

#### **Barry Were**

Adviser, Waikato District

## **NZLSAR August Meeting**

Every two years a combined meeting of the Regional Chairs and Secretaries and the Committee of NZLSAR is held. Traditionally, this meeting has been held in November. However,

this year it was held in August as there were a number of important topics that needed to be aired and discussed.

The day started with a review of what was happening in the Regions

A very interesting and informative presentation was given by Jon Graham, the recently appointed Manager of the NZ SAR Secretariat. He explained the role of the SAR Secretariat as well as giving some back ground on the Inquiry into the National Rescue Co-ordination Centre.

Ian Nicholson, the recently appointed Executive Director of the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council, gave an update on the Council and the changes that have occurred.

Ted White from the Occupational Health and Safety, Department of Labour, gave an overview of the changes to the Health and Safety in Employment Act and the amendments that took effect from 5 May 2003. The result of the discussion was the decision by the NZLSAR Committee requesting the Chairman to write to the Commissioner of Police asking his opinion on how the Act and the amendments will affect SAR volunteers.

The three main topics that were discussed at the meeting were:-

### **Training and Standards.**

With the relationships that have developed between Tai Poutini Polytechnic and SARINZ there is a significant change in the provision of training for NZLSAR. There is now the ability for those who want to, to gain "qualifications" in SAR related topics. This does not change the training; it just adds an additional dimension to the training. What it does do is increase the range of possible courses that can be covered by the new funding arrangement. Laurie Gallagher gave a good presentation on possible training pathways and how the training and various standards are linked.

Draft Standards have been developed for Team Member and Team Leader. These standards have been pushed up the list as a result of the introduction of the changes to the Health and Safety Act 1992. The general consensus was that the majority of our members already have these skills and so the introduction of the standards as guidelines should not create any problems.

### **Adviser Review.**

This review arose from two main factors: The Adviser Standards are more than five years old and are due for review and the introduction of

CIMS (Coordinated Incident Management System) for managing SAR Operations. The fact that the Adviser Standards conflicted with the CIMS model added to the impetus to undertake a complete review of the Adviser's operational role(s).

An Adviser Review Group was set up with representatives of both NZLSAR and Police. Comments and papers were received from a number of people and after much discussion amongst the Adviser Review Group it was decided that a survey outlining suggested changes should be sent to all Advisers and interested parties to gauge their views. This was done earlier this year and one hundred and forty two replies were received of which 103 were from Advisers. This represents just over 56% of the Advisers on the Advisers List. The results from the returns are summarised in the following table.



The "Field" experience result is low as the question was badly worded and confusing. Having said that, there is general agreement that experience is necessary to be able to undertake the Adviser role. In addition, Advisers must have an understanding of modern search methods and search management techniques in order to be able to offer sound advice. Therefore people taking on the Adviser role need to have training and competency in these topics.

From the results of the survey and comments received the following definition of the Adviser's operational role (ie the initial call being received and advice being requested) has been formulated.

**A person who represents the local SAR Group and NZLSAR from the time of the initial call about a SAR incident until the CIMS structure is in place.**

- **The Adviser should be able to make quality SAR management decisions based on the sound use of modern search theory and practice.**

- **Be able to provide appropriate skilled resources to the Incident Management Team**

The following recommendations were also accepted by the meeting:

**Criteria for a person undertaking the Adviser role include knowledge of the following:-**

- **Tracking; at a minimum TCA – 1 and preferably TCA - 2**
- **Modern Search Methods**
- **Modern Search Management by participating in a Full MLSO or equivalent**
- **An understanding of CIMS – Level 4 or equivalent**
- **An appreciation of the application of SAR search dogs and other specialist resources.**
- **Urban Search is currently regarded as should have rather than a must have. For those Advisers in urban areas however, it is strongly recommended that such a course is undertaken.**

These criteria are to apply from 1 September 2003 with a period of grace for existing Advisers of two years to undertake the appropriate training if that is required. However any new Adviser appointee(s) must meet criteria before being appointed.

Title of Adviser to be retained as no suitable alternative could be agreed on.

**NZLSAR Review.** NZLSAR has been going for ten years and has grown very quickly in that time. The 2002 changes to the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 combined with the influences from an increasingly risk adverse society have lead the NZLSAR Review committee to look at the structure of the organisation.

The issues that the Review Group is attempting to address include; what management structure should the organisation have? How do we address the issue of the increased amount of administration type work (organising courses, maintaining training records, etc) at the Regional, District and Area level? A number of models have been proposed but no conclusions have been reached. What the Review Group has decided is that to obtain a good outcome some outside professional assistance is required. A strategy has been developed and presented to the NZLSAR Committee who have approved both the strategy and the expenditure to achieve this aim.

**Roscoe Tait**  
Chairman NZLSAR

**Special Interest Group membership**

**Special Interest Groups**

We have collected a few names of people with interests in specialist subject areas. These have been added to a list which will be used as the basis for keeping people up with developments plus to allow the group members to share ideas. The proposed groups relate to the following SAR areas: Computers in SAR for Mapping and Operational Management, Lost person Behaviour, Radios/communications, GPS, SAR

Management, and Person profiling and Alzheimers. The names, contact details and areas of specific interest received so far are contained in the table below. If you are interested in any of these areas then send an email to [tristram.nzlsar@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tristram.nzlsar@xtra.co.nz) to ensure your name is on the list. If you supplied your details when you downloaded a copy of IMan or GMan then you will be contacted for permission to be added to the computers in SAR list.

**SAR Management**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Hm Phone</b>	<b>Wrk Phone</b>	<b>E mail</b>
Keith Morfett	Blue Spur Lodge Cement Lead Road PO Box 168 Hokitika	Ph/fax 03 755 8445		<a href="mailto:bluespur@paradise.net.nz">bluespur@paradise.net.nz</a> z <a href="http://www.bluespur.co.nz">www.bluespur.co.nz</a>

**Swift water**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Hm Phone</b>	<b>Wrk Phone</b>	<b>E mail</b>
Andy England	87 Blake Street Greymouth	03-768- 5678 021-768-5678 (m)	03-768-0472	EnglandA@greyhigh.school.nz
Sam Rainey				samrainey@westlandhigh.school.nz

#### **Digital mapping**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Hm Phone</b>	<b>Wrk Phone</b>	<b>E mail</b>
Matthew Farrelly	28 Monrad St Palmerston North	06-355-3981		mattitc@hotmail.com

#### **Computers and the GPS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Hm Phone</b>	<b>Wrk Phone</b>	<b>E mail</b>
Wayne Reichel	226 Clyde Balclutha	03-418-3969		W.Reichel@xtra.co.nz

#### **Barry Were**

Adviser, Waikato District

### **ID Cards**

**Adviser ID Cards.** These are nearly ready to send to the manufacturer and so should be available for mailing out toward the end of October. Have a look at one if you get the chance and consider taking up the offer by NZLSAR to provide you with one free of charge. There are a few requirements namely you are a Police approved Adviser, you have attended either a Advisers Workshop or attended a Level Four CIMS course or attended a 40 hour MLSO course. Fill out the application form available from your Regional Secretary, the NZLSAR website or the national office.

**Member ID Cards.** NZLSAR has produced in the past a small card for SAR organisations to issue to their members. Another batch has been printed, but with a couple of refinements. Firstly because people were having trouble printing onto the previous shiny surface they have all been made with a "matt finish". As well a number have been printed in A4 sheets. This will allow, with a bit of setting up, for them to be printed as a "merge mail" document. The only hassle will be the need to cut the sheets before issuing.

**John P Tristram**  
National Field Officer

### **Questionnaire**

Advisers and Police SAR Coordinators are likely to have received with this newsletter a questionnaire from Matthew Farrelly. Matthew is a student at Massey University and he is researching the use of computers in SAR. Your time and effort in completing this questionnaire will be of considerable benefit to Matthew and NZLSAR. So please give it some thought, fill out the questionnaire, put it in the stamped self-addressed envelope and pop it in the mail. Matthew will undoubtedly be grateful and SAR may be the better for his research.

**John P Tristram**  
National Field Officer.

## The Ultimate Map Of New Zealand (TUMONZ)

### **TUMONZ.**

Several groups have supplied their CD registration numbers so that NZLSAR can inform them of changes and assist with data updates. We believe there are a lot more groups running copies of this software that have not contacted us yet. Send the details to [barryw@datasolve.co.nz](mailto:barryw@datasolve.co.nz)

If your group is considering the purchase of a laptop for SAR and you intend to run TUMONZ on it then there is one aspect of the specification which is important. If possible you should purchase a machine that uses ATI Radeon graphics technology. Anything less than this is likely to struggle to render the images with acceptable performance especially when flying in 3D view.

**TUMONZ Training.** The standards required in order to provide training courses through Tai

Poutini have now been written and approved. This means that courses will soon be available. Contact **Joe Hayes** at Tai Poutini **03-768-0411** or [joeh@tpp.ac.nz](mailto:joeh@tpp.ac.nz) for details or to make a booking. It is expected that the courses will be either one full day in duration or one and a half days and that computers with TUMONZ pre-loaded will be provided by the attendees. In some cases alternatives in terms of the computers and software may be available – talk to Joe.

These courses are the result of the combined efforts of NZLSAR, SARINZ, Tai Poutini and TUMONZ. As with other SARINZ courses the local organiser is expected to take care of the details related to venue plus ensuring that there are at least 11 attendees.

### **Barry Were**

Chairman, Training Subcommittee

**Editors Comments.** A very big thank you to **Roscoe, Jim, Gerard and Barry** for your articles. To those who proof read and check the spelling and grammar, thank you also. Copy for the **December News** is most welcome and the close-off date is **Tuesday 25 November 2003**. Articles on gear, SAR training or operations are most welcome. Please either mail as neatly hand-written, printed hard copy or on a disc to **NZLSAR, PO Box 12081, Thorndon, Wellington**. Alternatively email it to [tristram.nzlsar@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tristram.nzlsar@xtra.co.nz) Even if you have some thoughts on an article but are diffident in putting pen to paper, feel free to give me a ring on **04-470-7247** and we can talk it through. Regards **John P Tristram**, National Field Officer