

## The Trust: where have we been?

From the NZRT

*The NZRT is moving from strength to strength and it's appearing that the time is right for an organisation to take a leadership role amongst communities.*

One thing readers will notice is that the Esprit de Corps has not been published for a while. This travesty is the direct result of an enormous amount of work that has been going on behind the scenes.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read about progress made on the Community Ambulance Service. Heather Cotton is working hard to produce the compliance documentation required, we have identified a Medical Director, and a vehicle has been fitted out ready for the medical equipment to arrive.

A lot of work has gone in to developing the capabilities of the New Zealand Resilience Corps,

### Five Questions To Ask... Family

*Every month we will be giving you five questions to ask people in your life. The answers might surprise you! We will discuss the reasoning behind the questions in the following issue.*

- 1) What is more important to store – food or water?
- 2) How would everyone get in touch with each other if the phones went down for a long time?
- 3) What medications do other members of the family need?
- 4) Where is the tap to turn off the water feed to the house?
- 5) Where is the family pet's favourite outdoor hangout spot?

with meetings undertaken or planned with senior politicians and government officials, highlighting the benefit of a loose network of trained volunteers within communities, rather than the traditional hierarchical approach of Civil Defence.

On the research front we are undertaking an exciting project that examines the readiness of government departments in Wellington City. This research has been described by one academic as "totally new, unique, and not replicable". In other words, this research is hot! Jarrod Coburn is leading the project and hopes to present the results at the national Emergency Management conference in

Rotorua later this year.

The Trust has been working closely with the Federation of Wellington Progressive and Residents' Associations to help develop support for residents' groups. And of course our

community education programme is going from strength to strength.

Corps members can be rightly proud to be a part of this movement – still working hard to build resilient communities.

## CORPS MEMBER PROFILE Tracy Hurst-Porter

*Each issue we present a brief biography of a Corps member, and ask them a few pertinent questions.*



Tracy is a familiar face in the Northern Ward of Wellington City – a friendly and helpful person willing to get involved where needed. She is the Immediate Past President of the New Zealand Parent Teacher Association, and the Newlands Community House Co-ordinator.

**What do you do with your time?**

I divide my time between paid community work, family and voluntary work. When I am able I spend a little time on my hobby - bobbin lace making.

**How did you get involved with the Corps?**

I got involved in the Corps after attending the Emergency Preparedness Course at Newlands College. I was so impressed and energised by what I learnt that I volunteered to help deliver the courses. From there I have worked with others to develop a new teaching tool (which has been hugely exciting and rewarding). When the opportunity arose for me to attend a PHEC (Pre-Hospital Emergency Care) course I took it with much appreciation. The course was exciting, exhilarating, and exhausting all at the same time. I learnt heaps!

**Why did you join up?**

I joined the Corps because I believe in the concept of community working together for the greater good. It is exciting to be involved at a grassroots level with an organisation that has the ability to make a difference. The skills I have already learnt with the Emergency Preparedness and PHEC Courses have helped my family to be more prepared in the

event of something bad happening. I'm confident my neighbours will be better off as well because I have been talking to them about some of the things I have learnt and I know we will all be looking out for each other in times of adversity.

**What is the main thing you want to achieve through the Corps?**

I would like to see enough members of my community involved in the Corps that in the event of a disaster we would be able to look out for those who did not have the benefit of the training offered. Wouldn't it be great to have the rest of Wellington and ultimately New Zealand sharing the mindset that they are working together as a community to look out for each other?!

**What do you think of the new uniform design?**

The uniform is practical, comfortable and smart. I wore the new uniform to the PHEC course and received many compliments about how smart the uniform looked. I especially appreciate the mix and match aspect of the uniform with the choice of jersey, vest, and jacket to compliment the white shirt and navy trousers.

## Have YOU signed up?

### Certificate in Resiliency PART TWO

Advanced Personal Preparedness - Free

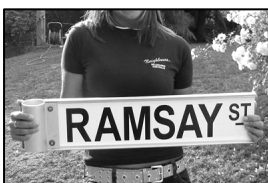
Newlands College  
**Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup>**  
and  
**Tuesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
7PM ~ 9PM  
[this is a four-hour course]

Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC) - \$475

Tawa Community Centre  
**Monday September 15<sup>th</sup>**  
to  
**Friday September 19<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30AM ~ 5:00PM  
[this is a five-day course]

See [www.nzrt.org.nz/courses](http://www.nzrt.org.nz/courses) for course information and a timetable.

### Hot Topic Neighbours



August is Know Your Neighbours Month, so it's time for all of us to make the effort and get to know the folks who live next door. You could meet new friends, new business contacts, or someone who can lend you cups of sugar.

# OPINION Communities: Newlands Skate Crew

Jarrod Coburn, NZRT

*A recent paper by the United Nations reflects positively on the work of the Trust.*

Risk of disaster is on the rise throughout the world. The impacts of modern disasters are deeply related to the socio-economic conditions, tradition, culture, and climate of the communities they affect.

So say officers of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development, in a paper entitled "Community Based Disaster Management: Empowering Communities to Cope with Disaster Risks."

An approach the UNCRD supports – called Community Based Disaster Management – is very similar to the approach the New Zealand Resilience Corps has, namely that community disaster prevention programmes are an essential component of sustainable development.

In the current economic climate of uncertainty and worry about the impact our lifestyle is having on the ecology it is important that individuals have a means of taking control of their situation. In developing sustainability amongst local communities we provide a means of empowering, which in turn builds a stronger and happier society.

## A thoughtful thought...

Imagine the individual parts of a bicycle. Even if all the parts were present in one room – tires, chains, seat, brakes and handle bars – they would not go very far if they were not all working together. The individual parts are simply that.



A bicycle, by contrast, is more than the sum of its parts. Put together, it can go a long way. Pulled apart, it goes nowhere. In fact, it is not even recognisable as a bike. In our case, the bicycle is a community and resilience clusters are the component parts.

Sherri Torjman

*The Newlands Skate Crew is an informal group of younger people – aged from 8 years to 25 – who skate, blade, cycle, and in one case unicycle, at Newlands Skate Park.*

The park's history is one of true partnership between the youth sub-community and Wellington City Council. Over the past eight years residents would often see members of the NSC at the park picking up rubbish, helping beginners get confidence, or perfecting their skating skills.

Adam and the members of the NSC have exhibited great skills that are needed in all communities. The willingness to fight for- and protect a sense of place, encouraging and growing new members, and taking 'ownership' of what is most precious to them.

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of August,

## News from the NZRT

### Community Ambulance

The community ambulance for the greater Newlands area is nearly complete, we are awaiting funding to enable us to purchase emergency medical equipment. The vehicle is a multi-purpose Emergency Support Unit, and will be available free of charge for any sporting or other event within the greater Newlands area. The vehicle, equipment, and trained volunteers will be a great boon to the area in the event of a civil emergency.

### Community Education

Our next foundation course is coming up on the 19th of August and is bigger, better, and more informative than ever. After much hard work the course will conclude with a carefully crafted group exercise – called "The Game" – that puts into practice everything learned over the two days.

The advanced course (part two in the Certificate of Resilience) will be held in September and is fast filling up. Subjects covered on that course will focus on helping you to be prepared to help others. Places are limited and many have already signed on. Be quick! Contact us to sign up.

Adam is holding the public premiere of a skating DVD, filmed over the past 18 months and featuring many local youth.

The launch will provide increased profile for the Crew. It will be an excellent opportunity to launch the planned skate competition that will be part of the Northern Festival, and to attract more members to assist with youth activities at the Newlands Community Centre.

One of the long-held views of the NSC is that more needs to be done to the skate park to enhance it. Shade, seating, and developing the adjoining land – which is used for football practice – is all part of their development plan for the future.

Learning to take responsibility and ownership of community assets is important for young people. We say "well done, NSC!"

**Premiere of Skateology: a visual history of Newlands Skate Park.**

Where: Bellevue School Hall  
When: 1PM, Sat 16<sup>th</sup> August  
Cost: Free

*Parents are encouraged to attend with their children.*



The logo of the Newlands Skate Crew was designed by Calen Paris, a long time friend and mentor of Adam Martin.

## News from the Corps

### Pre-Hospital Emergency Care course (PHEC)

The Trust recently finished delivering it's first Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC) course at Tawa Community Centre. Andre Slierendrecht, owner of Triple One Care, tutored 13 participants from a diverse array of backgrounds. There were lifeguards, first aid tutors, and even two wannabe ambulance officers!

Another course has been arranged for the week of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> of September. The cost is \$475 per person, but free to Resilience Corps members wanting to volunteer as ambulance staff or in other projects of the Corps.

### COMING UP

**Pre-Hospital Emergency Care (PHEC)** five-day course, organised by NZRT, 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of September. Cost \$475 pp.

**Introduction to Disasters and Emergencies** foundation course – Newlands Papakāinga. August 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup>. Free.

**Advanced Personal Preparedness** course – Newlands College. September 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>. Free.

For further information or to book, contact us at [education@nzrt.org.nz](mailto:education@nzrt.org.nz)

## Monthly Project

*This is where we set a target (or 'project') for our readers to achieve over the next month. You are encouraged to correspond with the editor with your results, which will be published. We also welcome your suggestions for future projects. Email us: [info@nzrt.org.nz](mailto:info@nzrt.org.nz)*

This month's project is a real doozy! We want to find out how many people have water stored at their house, and how much of it they have.

Strike up a conversation with the neighbours on either side of your house and ask them about water storage. Ask them how much they have stored. Jot this down and email us here at Esprit de Corps. We will publish the findings next month!