



impact

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Get Ready to Get Thru Waikato!

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Common acronyms

MCDEM: Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management
CDEM: Civil defence emergency management
EOC: Emergency Operations Centre
MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

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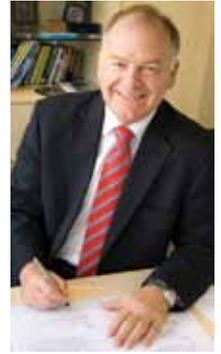
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EDITORIAL

John Hamilton, Director Civil Defence



Focus on the community

The independent report of the review of the response to the Christchurch earthquake being undertaken by Ian McLean and David Oughton and their team is nearing completion and will be provided to the Minister of Civil Defence at the end of June 2012.

Its recommendations will drive the work programme for the Ministry and elements of the sector for the next few years. But even before the review is finalised it is clear to me that there are a number of aspects of Civil defence Emergency Management (CDEM) that deserve to be enhanced to ensure community resilience is improved and any future response is better.

For me, we need to put the focus of our efforts back on the community, its people and their readiness as well as their role in the response to help generate greater resilience. The now widely adopted community response planning is a critical part of the process. I would like to see it result in not just community involvement in CDEM and preparations, but in the response itself. It will help form strong partnerships and connections to the local civil defence authority so that the community participates, informs and assists in response activities rather than simply waiting for the mythical "civil defence" to turn out to help. With guidance and thought there are simple things a community can do to be better prepared and able to help itself in the response.

Inevitably there will be challenges in accomplishing this work but I am sure we can work through them. One of those challenges is to gain a thorough understanding of the community and its vulnerabilities and to take them into account in planning.

I recently attended the forum for disability-inclusive emergency preparedness and response (see page 8). The forum was held in Christchurch and provided those with disabilities, who have been through the earthquakes, an opportunity to explain their experiences and suggest improvements.

Toward the end of June we will also host a similar forum that will give volunteers the opportunity to tell us of their experiences in the response and to suggest where improvements could be made to better use the resources made available so willingly.

With guidance and thought there are simple things a community can do to be better prepared and able to help itself in the response.

One of the strong messages I took away from the disability-inclusive preparedness forum is that we in CDEM need to recognise that disconnects exist currently. In many cases we know very little about each other and we do not appreciate each others' expectations. If we know each other well we can work together better and that will generate resilience. The second message is that those involved with disabilities are not short of willingness, which suggests CDEM should use it to improve readiness. I expect the volunteer forum will provide similar insights.

As we review the response to the earthquakes and learn from each other's experiences it seems to me we have a unique window of opportunity to reflect on our approach to CDEM and its considerable strengths that have served us well and, simultaneously, to identify aspects for improvement. With heightened awareness of the value of being prepared, now is the time to really involve communities in CDEM and their readiness and to generate partnerships that share responsibilities between individuals and the community and the CDEM authorities. ■

Minister promotes New Zealand ShakeOut

It's been great to hear that so many New Zealanders are joining up to our first nationwide "ShakeOut" earthquake drill.

New Zealand ShakeOut registrations have now reached over 100,000 with the numbers growing daily. It's a big ask but I'm optimistic we can reach our target of having one million people "Drop, Cover and Hold" on Wednesday September 26 2012 at 09:26 in the morning (9:26-26:9).

The work by the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management in writing to major government agencies and New Zealand's 100 largest businesses is starting to have an impact. An advertising campaign starting next month will also encourage more people to sign up, and I have specifically written to all my parliamentary colleagues encouraging them to get involved by advocating "ShakeOut" in their electorate.

Everyone in New Zealand needs to be prepared for major earthquakes, and practise how to protect themselves when they happen – even if they don't live in an earthquake-prone region such as my own home in Napier, we all travel through the country all the time, and we need to be aware. New Zealand Shakeout will encourage people to know how to respond, to practice their response, and to be able to do it quickly.

The Ministry of Education has been working with all schools and encouraging them to take part in the drill. I'm pleased to see so many schools getting behind the project. Children are great at spreading messages and will be proactive about encouraging family members and others in the community to take part. It's also vital that children know what to do when a major earthquake happens.

This is a fantastic civil defence emergency management initiative. New Zealand Shakeout will help Kiwis "Get Thru" an earthquake, and encourage people to educate themselves about their own hazard environments. In an earthquake or any civil defence emergency, the better prepared the community is, the less response is required. It means local civil defence emergency management can target and deliver assistance quickly and effectively, and help communities transition effectively into recovery. But in the end, the best thing I can say about "ShakeOut" is that it will save lives. ■



Hon Chris Tremain, Minister of Civil Defence

The best thing I can say about "ShakeOut" is that it will save lives.

Adrian Prowse

Many of you who have worked with the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management (MCDEM) will have known our Senior Communications Advisor, Adrian Prowse. Sadly, Adrian passed away on Friday, June 16. Adrian had been diagnosed with cancer and took early medical retirement in May.

Anyone who met Adrian was struck by his enthusiasm for everything he did, his positive nature and his deeply held belief that it is our relationships with people that underpin all our work.

Adrian joined MCDEM in the middle of 2007 with a genuine commitment to helping make New Zealand safer. I honestly believe he achieved that.

Adrian was instrumental in improving MCDEM's communications with the civil defence emergency management sector and the public. He redesigned, edited and published our monthly E-Bulletin, and quarterly Impact magazine, which now have thousands of subscribers. He redesigned our website to the limit of the elderly systems it works on. He began a major project, now underway, to completely overhaul the website with new systems that will make it serve the CDEM Groups and the public much better. He introduced us to Twitter and Facebook and the world of social media. Every publication MCDEM printed or published on line was improved with Adrian's editing and production skills.

There are many other examples of the work Adrian did in planning, exercises, and responding to emergencies. All done with the same enthusiasm and focus on people.

I have passed our condolences to his wife Jeanette and their children, and have told them MCDEM and the CDEM sector are better prepared through the work Adrian did.

John Hamilton, Director ■



Volunteer open day a big hit in Auckland



On May 20 Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) hosted their first volunteer open day at Henderson.

The event was set up in response to a significant increase in public enquiries regarding volunteering opportunities with civil defence.

Aucklanders have been inspired by volunteer response efforts in recent events across the country and are eager to learn how they can serve their own communities.

The event was open to those interested in being part of either the Community Volunteer or Initial Response Team (IRT) programmes. A total of 56 potential volunteers attended.

The day began with an introduction to CDEM in Auckland followed by a brief presentation on the roles of initial response team members and community volunteers. The group then split in two for an in depth discussion on their programme of choice.

Facilitators for both groups had a 100% success rate with 36 applications submitted to the IRT programme and 20 to the community volunteer programme.

New recruits to the community volunteer programme will be enrolled in the welfare support training pathway. Community volunteers complete four core introductory sessions before moving on to specific training in welfare facility roles.

In addition to training, community volunteers attend public events as “Get Ready Get Thru” champions alongside Auckland CDEM staff. This new initiative has been well received by existing volunteers, who enjoy handing out information packs and spreading the ‘Get Ready Get Thru’ message to their communities.

For more information visit www.aucklandcivildefence.org.nz/Volunteer ■

CDEM Capability Assessment Report 2012

The Ministry Of Civil Defence & Emergency Management has released the *CDEM Capability Assessment Report 2012*, a report that summarises the results and observations from the 16 CDEM Group capability assessments conducted from June 2009 until February 2012. The assessments included the quantitative assessment of 103 organisations – including 76 of the 78 local authorities in New Zealand – and additional ‘qualitative’ interviews with 493 individuals across the political, executive, and operational spheres. The Report is in two parts. Part 1 is an overview of the nationwide results, a discussion of trends and issues observed, and an assessment of the state of civil defence emergency management (CDEM) in New Zealand. Part 2 is a more detailed assessment by functional area of CDEM, including results, observations, best practice, and provision of case studies.

The report shows that the strengths of CDEM are:

- increasing the level of community awareness and understanding of hazards and risks, and preparedness for them

- enhancing New Zealand’s capability to manage civil defence emergencies, including CDEM professional development frameworks, planning, exercising, warning systems, emergency operations centres, coordination of lifeline utilities, and welfare delivery
- the ‘new’ organisational structures for CDEM (post-CDEM Act 2002), including improved multi-agency partnerships, and planned, collaborative working practices.

Some of the areas for improvement are:

- reducing risk through comprehensive and integrated hazard risk management
- recovery planning and management
- promoting and implementing business continuity management (public and private).

The report also discusses future issues for CDEM, including:

- raising the profile of, and improving the integration of emergency management-related functions in local authorities

- continuing to develop multi-agency integration through partnerships, including developing public-private partnerships with the business sector
- maturing from a focus on internal response processes and capability, to a focus on supporting and building community resilience
- evolving the civil defence identity, and ensuring CDEM is ultimately about practising holistic ‘public safety’.

The report raises a number of issues that will need to be considered by both CDEM Groups and central government agencies alike. The Ministry will work with CDEM Groups to analyse implications of the Report for their work programmes and approach. The Ministry will also consider implications for its own work programme, including future support requirements, policy, planning, and projects.

The CDEM Capability Assessment Report 2012 can be found on the MCDEM website under ‘Publications’. ■

Northland CDEM Forum 3rd May 2012

The seventh annual Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Forum was held in Whangarei on May 3.

Approximately 170 guests registered from a broad cross section of organisations including:

- emergency services
- community groups
- CDEM groups
- council staff
- health professionals.

There were seven speakers and rather than a dedicated MC, each of the CDEM staff across the region introduced a speaker giving the audience an opportunity to meet the staff.

There was no cost to guests and they were gifted a civil defence “Get Ready Get Thru” bag with a Meridian Energy wind up torch, information on disaster preparedness and some branded lollipops.

The event was designed to be informative and interesting as well as an opportunity for the local community to be updated on regional initiatives and meet Northland’s CDEM staff.

Full presentations are available on request from Kim Abbott: kimab@nrc.govt.nz. A brief synopsis of the three key speakers follows:

Co Founder of the Student Volunteer Army – Jason Pemberton

Jason Pemberton from the Christchurch Student Volunteer Army (SVA) provided an entertaining and insightful overview of the way that the volunteers were coordinated during the aftermath of the Christchurch earthquake.

Jason’s key points were:

- The fundamental role of the SVA was communication and to act as an “information receptacle”.
- The SVA was organic in growth, responding to immediate needs and volunteer capacity. The organisation eventually settled on the role of helping those in need of low/medium priority labour in low risk areas. Any volunteer was welcomed, not just students.

→ They had the ability to get a lot done partly because they didn’t have to function within legislation and other bureaucratic boundaries.

The lessons learned on engagement in Christchurch were:

- capture the immediate ground swell of support
- use existing, specific networks of people
- utilise time given at the time
- maximise enjoyment/value
- reward and retain, give praise.

A key part of what they did was a matchmaking process: getting the “willing and able” in touch with those in need.

Social media facilitated the work and was an important tool in immediate communication. It was also a captive audience and network of people both responding and in need.

Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management – John Hamilton

John Hamilton spoke on his role as the Director and also about the role he played as the National Controller in the Christchurch earthquake. During the presentation the priorities for CDEM in the next few years were outlined, together with those areas of the Christchurch response that needed to be improved and how those could be related to the Northland context. Amongst the points made were

- The need to keep the pressure on key participants in Civil Defence (Local government and partner organisations) to ensure activities undertaken are across the Four R’s (risk reduction, readiness, response, recovery) not just in response.
- Until the Christchurch earthquake CDEM experiences and thinking had been based upon relatively small scale emergencies of short duration. It is clear that we need to develop a structure and the skills that enable agencies to respond to large scale events.
- Ensuring that the Controller has all the information on the emergency available so that plans and actions can be

targeted. The Emergency Management Information System being rolled out will assist with this and enable better information sharing

- Planning based upon a good understanding of the situation and developing appropriate plans based on the information at hand.
- Building response based upon information that is provided from community and partners and recognising that it is an imperative that solid relationships with the community and partners before an emergency.

John also acknowledged the on-going work that is being done in Northland and paid particular mention of the community response plans project.

Minister of Civil Defence – Hon Chris Tremain

The Minister of Civil Defence, Hon Chris Tremain, spoke about some key priority areas that he has identified for the CDEM sector.

The Minister referred to the soon to be released national monitoring and evaluation report and the CDEM Group reports, and their implications. Amongst the priorities identified were working better with volunteers and finding ways to continually evaluate and improve in the CDEM sector.

Some of the key areas in evaluating CDEM Groups success, or otherwise, were active engagement with the community to generate readiness, good governance, communication, and strong leadership. He commented that successful Groups involve mayors’ and chief executives’ active participation. They show sound planning and have made realistic budget commitment, and they involve high levels of co-operation across all member councils.

Good governance ensures there is a balance between identifying the hazards, measuring the risks and mitigating the risks.

The Minister also commented about the role of good communication and developing good lines of communication with the community, being an essential aspect of CDEM. During an emergency, the community must be told what is happening, when and why. Again the role of community response plans and their value was highlighted. ■

Modified Sphere Training 18 April 2012

Auckland Council's welfare and recovery team arranged a very successful pilot training day based on the Sphere Project.

The Sphere Project – or 'Sphere' – was initiated in 1997 by a group of humanitarian non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Their aim was to improve the quality of their actions during disaster response and to be held accountable for them.

They based Sphere's philosophy on two core beliefs: first, that those affected by disaster or conflict have a right to life with dignity and, therefore, a right to assistance; and second, that all possible steps should be taken to alleviate human suffering arising out of disaster or conflict.

Auckland currently has 139 designated welfare facilities of varying sizes, purposes and amenities. While each facility is audited on a regular basis, we wanted to improve the robustness of our analysis and understanding of larger welfare facilities and work in partnership with other stakeholders to improve welfare facility operation and understanding.

In consultation with the Manager, Emergency Management at Adventist Development and Relief Agency

(ADRA), Robert Patton, a training programme was developed with the purpose of up-skilling key civil defence and emergency management (CDEM) staff members and partner agencies. They gained an understanding of the international requirements for emergency accommodation, which enabled them to apply the relevant criteria to Auckland's larger scale welfare facilities.

By the end of the day, participants were able to:

- demonstrate understanding of the sphere guidelines for humanitarian aid
- identify and apply relevant sphere guidelines in the analysis of current and potential large-scale welfare facilities for designation
- identify and apply relevant sphere guidelines in the provision of welfare facilities during and after an emergency event
- understand the role of different agencies in addressing and meeting Sphere guidelines for welfare facilities.

Attending agencies included Ministry of Social Development, Auckland Regional Public Health, Church of Latter Day Saints, ADRA, Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency

Management and the Salvation Army. Auckland Council environmental health officers and CDEM Welfare and Logistics team members also attended.

A very successful and useful day, which has highlighted the need for further improvement in the coordination of needs analysis for impacted people, particularly for multi-agency response. It also put emphasis on the imperative to develop an assessment tool to identify appropriate welfare facilities and monitor ongoing status.

We are delighted with the results of this initial foray to expand and professionalise the delivery of a welfare response. The basic principles of Sphere are relevant and applicable within the New Zealand context. We will continue to develop and refine this work and offer further sessions to a broader range of agencies.

Anyone wanting more information about the Sphere training should contact Catherine Gilhooly, Emergency Management Advisor, Auckland Council Civil Defence & Emergency Management Department. Email: catherine.gilhooly@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Manawatu-Wanganui PIM training

May saw the Manawatu-Whanganui CDEM Group hold a two day public information managers (PIM) workshop in Palmerston North.

"We have a large number of new faces to the PIM teams around our region and there are limited spaces on the national training course. To overcome this we decided to run our own workshop with the support of Ministry staff," explained the region's group PIM Caroline Rowe.

The workshop was based closely around the national training course but adapted in

parts to suit the Region and its hazardscape. Ian Wilson and Vince Cholewa from the Ministry were also on hand to lend their support.

"The national PIM course has such a great reputation so it was fantastic to be able to use its resources and inject a bit of our own local perspective into the course. It also served as a really valuable networking opportunity. Building relationships within the Group is really important but can be difficult, particularly when you have a region as spread out as ours."

It wasn't just Ministry staff who helped out, Queenstown District Council's Communications Manager, Meaghan Miller, was Skyped in to give her account of the Canterbury earthquake response having been a key part of the PIM team there.

"It was great to balance the theory with some real-life experiences and everyone really enjoyed hearing Meaghan's insights from her time in Canterbury," said Caroline.



New Canterbury Emergency Coordination Centre



Left and above: Inside and outside of the new ECC.

In the February 22 earthquake the buildings surrounding the Canterbury Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) were severely damaged meaning that it could no longer be used. As a result the ECC moved out to the NZi3 building at Canterbury University before being combined with the Christchurch City Council in the nationally-led Christchurch Response Centre in the Christchurch Art Gallery.

Post-earthquake the regional emergency management office moved into a small

office in Papanui, north of the central business district. This served as a space to work from but would have been severely limited if we had to respond to another emergency. Since late last year the regional office has been looking for a new place as its office and as the ECC. Also there has been some work on an all of government Public Safety Hub, which as part of it campus may have a regional ECC included in it. As such Environment Canterbury has provided us with two re-locatable buildings in the car park of the old ECC.

The office moved into these new building on the 24th of May in time to activate the ECC on the 29th and 31st for the Canterbury Groups annual Exercise Pandora. This year's exercise focused on a snow storm and heavy rain emergency across the region with the EOCs practicing sharing and movement of EOC staff from one to another. Over the next few months we look forward to settling in to the new office and getting it prepared for any emergency activations. ■



Above: The old ECC with cleared site of one of the previous ECan buildings that has been deconstructed.

Nothing about us, without us – the experiences of disabled people in Christchurch



A symposium on Disability-inclusive emergency preparedness and response: Learning from the Canterbury earthquakes was held on May 28 and 29 at the Riccarton Park Function Centre in Christchurch.

Attendance was at capacity on the first day with representation from disabled people local to Canterbury, health and disability providers, disabled persons organisations, people from a range of organisations working in emergency management including Police and the NZ Fire Service from the emergency services.

“Not just consultation, but participation. Nothing about us, without us”. That was the message from Pam MacNeill, one of many disabled people who offered advice to emergency managers and generously shared personal accounts of their experiences during the Canterbury earthquakes.

“I am a totally blind woman and that’s quite okay with me, I’m entirely comfortable in my own skin. It’s only when others disable me by placing unnecessary barriers in my way, including negative attitudes, that I am truly handicapped.”

A primary aim of the symposium was to learn from the experiences of disabled people in Christchurch and identify what needs to be done to improve emergency preparation and response for disabled people in future emergencies in New Zealand.

The Minister for Disability Issues, Hon Tariana Turia, opened the symposium following a welcome from Riki Te Mairaki Pitama (Ngai Tahu) and the President of the Disabled Persons Assembly (DPA), Christchurch & Districts, Roger Marsden.

New Zealand Sign Language interpreters provided continuous commentary to deaf and hearing impaired participants.

An international speaker at the symposium, Valerie Scherrer, is the Emergency Response Unit Senior Manager for CBM (an international organisation working to improve the quality of life of disabled people). Based in Brussels, Valerie has had experience in many emergencies such as earthquakes in Haiti, Pakistan, Iran, India and Turkey; cyclones in Bangladesh and the Philippines; the Aceh tsunami; and in conflict/post conflict contexts in Palestine and Iran.

Valerie acknowledged that diversity can be overwhelming in emergency management. Working with organisations and finding commonalities between the different groups can help to provide inclusion for all – not only disabled people.

Valerie also conducted a half day seminar in disability inclusive approaches to emergency management in Wellington on May 31.

The Director of Civil Defence & Emergency Management, John Hamilton, encouraged partnerships between communities and local councils.

“If we don’t fully understand our communities we may inadvertently overlook individuals both during preparation for emergencies and in response. The symposium was an excellent opportunity to learn from disabled people about how prepared they were, the accessibility of information, and how they fared during the earthquakes. The feedback from disabled people in Christchurch will assist us to revise our guidance.”

John also encouraged people attending the symposium to register and take part in *New Zealand ShakeOut*, the national Drop, Cover and Hold earthquake drill which will take place at 9.26 am on 26 September 2012. Registration information and a large number of resources are available on the *New Zealand ShakeOut* website including specific information for disabled people. He also suggested spreading the word to *Drop, Cover and Hold* with friends, family and neighbours.

Marcie Roth joined the symposium via Skype from United States and answered questions from the audience. Marcie is the Director of the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination, at the Federal Emergency Management Authority. She encouraged disabled people and emergency managers to train each other. Disabled people must participate in all aspects of emergency management. Marcie challenged us to consider – what does the community require in order to meet the needs of everybody in that community?

Video recordings developed especially for the symposium from Japan and Pakistan were also shown.

Community Constable Debi Leahy and Clint Sommers (New Zealand Police) along with Senior Station Officer Quin Webster (New Zealand Fire Service) gave an overview of the *Emergency 111 TXT Service* for Deaf and hearing impaired people. This initiative was developed in partnership with Deaf Aotearoa and the National Foundation for the Deaf and there are plans to extend the service for people with other disabilities.

The New Zealand Fire Service is also producing a home fire safety check DVD that will be accessible to people with a range of disabilities.

Representatives from the Canterbury DHB, He Oranga Pounamu, Christchurch City Council, LIFE Unlimited and ACC gave presentations and participated in panel discussions. There were many opportunities to contribute to group discussions, to ask questions, and to identify options and actions for future emergency planning and response.

Massey and Otago University researchers were present at the symposium and encouraged disabled people to complete a research survey. Symposium participants with disabilities also took the opportunity to complete a questionnaire which was

developed by the Christchurch & Districts DPA. These, along with other resources produced from discussions over the two days will help to inform communities and agencies in order to achieve disability inclusive preparedness for, and response to emergencies.

Resources generated through the symposium will continue to be made available on the Office for Disability Issues website: www.odi.govt.nz/whats-happening/events.html

The symposium was supported by the Office for Disability Issues, the Accident Compensation Corporation, CBM, DPA Christchurch & Districts, the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development. ■

Online resources:

Get Ready Get Thru: www.getthru.govt.nz

Get Ready Get Thru resources for blind and partially sighted communities: www.getthru.govt.nz/web/GetThru.nsf/web/APRE-8DNRQH?OpenDocument

Deaf and hearing impaired communities: www.deaf.org.nz/for-you/government-services/civil-defence

Emergency 111 TXT Service for Deaf and hearing impaired people: www.police.govt.nz/deaf-txt

New Zealand ShakeOut: www.getthru.govt.nz

GeoNet – Faster and in your pocket

<http://beta.geonet.org.nz/>

Quake History
Location history for this earthquake

Interval Since Event	Origin Time	Latitude	Longitude	Depth	Magnitude	Status	Quality
000 00 12 16	2012-06-20T05:06:55.603Z	-43.57	172.87	8	4.7	Confirmed	Good
000 00 10 21	2012-06-20T05:06:55.678Z	-43.58	172.88	8	4.6	Subordinate	Good
000 00 04 33	2012-06-20T05:06:55.692Z	-43.58	172.87	8	4.6	Subordinate	Good
000 00 02 19	2012-06-20T05:06:55.708Z	-43.58	172.87	8	4.6	Subordinate	Good
000 00 02 17	2012-06-20T05:06:55.708Z	-43.58	172.87	8	4.7	Subordinate	Good
000 00 01 48	2012-06-20T05:06:55.725Z	-43.57	172.86	9	4.6	Subordinate	Good
000 00 01 45	2012-06-20T05:06:55.821Z	-43.58	172.86	8	4.7	Subordinate	Good
000 00 01 27	2012-06-20T05:06:55.725Z	-43.57	172.86	9	4.7	Subordinate	Good
000 00 01 10	2012-06-20T05:06:56.295Z	-43.64	172.72	24	4.6	Subordinate	Excellent
000 00 00 59	2012-06-20T05:06:56.231Z	-43.58	172.82	10	4.3	Subordinate	Good
000 00 00 45	2012-06-20T05:06:56.295Z	-43.64	172.72	24	4.2	Subordinate	Excellent
000 00 00 42	2012-06-20T05:06:56.295Z	-43.64	172.72	24	4.4	Subordinate	Excellent

Our new website is up and it's fast! It locates earthquakes automatically (no humans needed) and as soon as there is enough data it is able to post a first location on GeoNet Rapid. If you look at the screenshot above you can see the first location was posted 42 seconds after this actual earthquake.

As more data arrives, from more distant stations, the system refines the location and finally finishes when the last data has arrived. This delay is caused by the time it takes from the earthquake P wave to travel to the stations. For example, if there was an earthquake at Stewart Island, it would take around seven minutes for the earthquake wave to travel and be picked up by our sensors at Cape Reinga (top of the North

Island). The very last change comes later on when one of our duty seismologists looks at the event.

We have also brought our descriptions of intensity on GeoNet Rapid into line with those used at the United States Geological Survey so that we are using the same words to mean the same shaking effects. We've also added some colour, with orange and red at the upper end of strong shaking, whilst the cooler colours of grey and blue are the lower end.

The earthquake locations on GeoNet Rapid will be slightly different to those on www.geonet.org.nz. The main reason for this is that SeisComP3 uses a three dimensional velocity model, whereas www.geonet.org.nz uses a one dimensional model.

SmartPhones:

The official GeoNet Application for your android phone is available (free) from the Google Play Market: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=nz.org.geonet.quake>

The GeoNet application for your iPhone/iPad will be available this month.

GeoNet Rapid will be in full production by late 2012, and will bring with it a whole new look to the GeoNet website and information, some exciting things to come!

For further information about GeoNet Rapid, please contact Sara Page, s.page@gns.cri.nz ■

GET READY TO GET THRU WAIKATO!

The first ever Waikato's Get Ready, Get Thru expo was presented by Waikato Valley Emergency Operating Area (WVEOA) at the new Waikato Show.

Building resilience in the community at events like this increases awareness on a greater scale

More than 10,000 people attended the action packed event over April 27-29. Those 10,000 plus people now have been spoken with and have received the Get Ready, Get Thru message so they can better prepare themselves, their families and workplaces for any emergency.

The Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management supported the expo with Get Ready, Get Thru material, guidance and support during the planning stages.

Emergency Management Officers from WVEOA, Shaun Libeau and Chris Hattingh, created the expo to be family focussed with giveaways, competitions, fun activities and attractive displays for all ages to come and enjoy and learn.

The key attraction was the 'Stanville Earthquake House', which portrayed a family home after a

serious earthquake. The home was open to the public so that the story about the earthquake could be told. Off the hallway of the home were three main living areas and a bedroom – all seriously affected by the quake. People left the house with a better understanding on what an earthquake can really do and were presented with Get Ready, Get Thru promotional material to help them prepare for such an emergency.

"It was a great experience putting the house together – the support was enormous!" Says Shaun.

The "Schools Day Out" attracted over 400 children to the Waikato Show. All were tasked to find out more about civil defence. Get Ready, Get Thru mascot, Stan the dog, was kept busy answering questions about flooding, storms and lots about earthquakes. Positive feedback from teachers who have used the MCDem "What's the Plan Stan" schools' package commented on the great work WVEOA has done at the expo to reinforce their teachings.

Building resilience in the community at events like this increases awareness on a greater scale, along



Above: Stan with members of the Lions Club

with engaging with the Waikato Valley community to promote the 'Get Ready Get Thru' message – a huge thanks to prepare.co.nz who gave away Survival Kits and 20l water containers to lucky winners.

Waikato's The Breeze 99.4fm supported the expo from the word go, with live competitions, free passes and live interviews over the three days from the 'CD HQ' at the expo. We are truly appreciative of all the support local businesses and services assisted us with, the expo wouldn't have as huge success without the support.

"The expo was a great start to something that WVEOA would like to build on every year with the local emergency services and support agencies alike. It can only get bigger and better – bring on 2013," Shaun said.

Also, a huge thank you to Jamie Richards and the team at Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group for helping out over the expo – it was great to have the inter-group support. ■



Above: The interior of the 'Stanville Earthquake House'.



Above: The Red Cross were on hand to check out Stan.

Left: Stan meets Emergency Management Officer Shaun Libeau

International professional development for public information management

Southland's Public Information Manager (PIM), Michele Poole (pictured right), has become the first New Zealander to achieve accreditation in an international programme for public information officers.

Emergency Media and Public Affairs (EMPA) is an Australian organisation dedicated to improving the communication between emergency managers and communities during crises. It's the only one of its kind in the world, and is recognised by the International Association of Emergency Managers and Emergency Management Australia.

Last year EMPA launched its one-year accreditation programme for Emergency Public Information Officers. Michele Poole, the PIM for Emergency Management Southland, was one of the first to sign up for the course and completed the programme last month. She is now encouraging other public information managers to consider the programme as part of their professional development.

"MCDEM offers an excellent basic training course for public information managers, but there's nothing more advanced available for people who have some experience behind them. We also lack a forum to bring the PIMs

together to share what they've learned," she said. EMPA provides both, with the accreditation programme and an annual conference."

Michele said the assignments made her look critically at how public information was managed, both in Southland and nationally, and consider overseas research. Encouraged by her mentor from the University of South Queensland, she compared the provision of public information during last year's two major emergencies – the Christchurch earthquake and the Rena response – and developed a series of recommendations for Emergency Management Southland.

The accreditation process also encourages emergency communicators to broaden their focus so that they can take on the equivalent of a PIM role in any type of emergency response. The principles of public information management are the same for civil defence as they are for oil spills or a rural fire response, for example – only the context changes.

Having attended three of the last four EMPA conferences, Michele said that they provided a valuable opportunity for emergency communications specialists to come together and learn from each other.

"The conference is a chance to hear PIMs from other sectors speak about their experiences in a



range of emergencies, and it brings together people from emergency management and media with academics, who are sponsored by EMPA to research effective communication with communities during crises."

Information about EMPA and its accreditation programme is online at www.emergencymedia.org ■

International Engagement

Visit by Director-General of Emergency Management Australia

On May 9 and 10, the Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management, John Hamilton, hosted Emergency Management Australia's Director-General, Cam Darby, and Assistant Secretary – Crisis Coordination, Kerryn Vince-Camp.

The purposes of the visit were to review the cooperative agreement between Australia and New Zealand, to exchange ideas and identify opportunities for future joint activities.

The visit was hosted in Christchurch to enable Cam and Kerryn to view the situation in Christchurch first-hand, and to hear directly from some of those involved in managing the response and on-going recovery. The scale of the impacts in Christchurch in its many guises continues to make a deep impression on visitors. The visit also gave Cam and Kerryn the chance to meet with parts of the affected communities.

Notably a call was made on the highly effective group of community-spirited champions of Lyttelton. Cam and Kerryn were impressed by the ability of *Project Lyttelton* and associated groups to galvanise and coordinate community activities both during and after the earthquake, actions which made a big difference.

John laid down a challenge to the Lyttelton group to think about their success and what it is they are doing and capture the 'nuggets' so that others can learn and perhaps apply similar approaches to community resilience in their areas. ■

New Zealand supports Annual Asia Pacific Earthquake Response Exercise

The New Zealand United Nations Disaster Assessment Coordination (UNDAC) team (together with a New Zealand Fire Service's Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) planning team) participated in a 25 national exercise in Padang Indonesia from May 29 until June 1.

Indonesia is a very disaster prone country – Padang itself suffered a devastating earthquake in 2009 in which 1200 died and 250,000 people were left homeless. There are still visible signs of that earthquake in the City of Padang. Padang is on the West Coast of Sumatra some 600 km south of Banda Aceh.

The exercise was jointly managed by the Indonesian National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) and the United Nations. It involved the UNDAC team coordinating more than 20 International USAR teams into the local Disaster Management Agency of West Sumatra Province (BPBD) and subsequently into the Indonesian National Search and Rescue Agency (BASARNAS).

The UNDAC Team consisted of members from New Zealand, (John Titmus and Graeme McDonald), Japan, China, Australia, Fiji and India supported by partners: DHL, International Humanitarian Partnership, Telecom des Frontieres and Map Action. This was the first time in response or an exercise that the team had to work with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), its ASEAN coordination Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA) and Emergency Response Assessment Team.

These exercises rotated between earthquake disaster prone countries in the Asia Pacific region provide a valuable tool for disaster management authorities and the international humanitarian community to interact and practice common methodologies. During this particular exercise new USAR standard operating procedures and forms were used for the first time. These are now being evaluated and will, where appropriate, be incorporated into the next change to the INSARAG Guidelines. For the UNDAC and USAR teams it provided valuable learnings when responding to an



event in a country where English is not the first language and where coordination is achieved through interpreters.

The New Zealand UNDAC programme, which presently has nine members, is a joint arrangement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (MCDEM). The programme allows for its members to be part of a United Nations UNDAC Team which supports the Government during a major disaster. To date, New Zealand team members have participated in disasters in Indonesia, Sri Lanka (Indian Ocean tsunami), the United States (Hurricane Katrina), Solomon Islands (earthquake and tsunami), Samoa (tsunami), Nepal (floods), and others.

For any information regarding this programme please contact MCDEM Northern Regional Coordinator, John Titmus, john.titmus@dia.govt.nz or 0274489374. ■

Above: UNDAC Team members take part in the Asia Pacific Earthquake Response Exercise

FEMA Visit – Second Bilateral Meeting

On July 30 John Hamilton will host a small of United States Federal Emergency Management Agency officials in Wellington. This will be the second bilateral exchange visit, following the signing of the cooperative agreement between the two agencies in 2011. The first formal bilateral meeting was held in Washington DC in July 2011. It is expected the meeting in Wellington will have a strong focus on community resilience building initiatives and discussion about the on-going recovery activities in greater Christchurch. ■

International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction – HFA progress reporting

New Zealand is a signatory of the United Nations' International Strategy for Disaster Reduction's (ISDR) Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: *Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters* (HFA). The Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management, John Hamilton, is the New Zealand focal point for the ISDR programme.

In New Zealand, implementing the HFA is, for the most part, 'business as usual' in line with the Government's National CDEM Strategy, legislative framework and policies that underpin hazard risk reduction and community resilience building. New Zealand's South Pacific regional and bilateral support programmes are also aligned with ISDR objectives.

A biennial monitoring and review process to assist countries in assessing their own progress in implementation of the HFA has been established. This self-assessment process uses an online template tool, the HFA Monitor, and serves as a continuous feedback mechanism for countries to capture key trends, areas of progress and challenges at all levels in achieving the strategic goals of the HFA. Individual

countries' findings are also aggregated, and key examples identified, to contribute to regional and global reports

There have been two completed rounds of HFA Monitor reporting (2007-09 and 2009-11) for which the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management prepared national reports. The reports were tabled at the 2nd and 3rd Sessions of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva that the Director and Minister of Civil Defence attended each time.

The 2011-13 HFA reporting period is now beginning. This round of the HFA Monitor will also provide an important source of information for the consultations on a post-2015 global framework on disaster risk reduction. An outline of a new framework will be developed for consultation at the 4th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2013. The Ministry is to prepare New Zealand's interim HFA Monitor report by 30 September 2012 that will inform the preparation of regional and global reports. The final version of the national report, to be publically available on the ISDR website, will be completed by 30 April 2013.

Another new feature of the 2011-13 progress review is the opportunity for local government self-assessments as part of the ISDR's *Making Cities Resilient* programme. An online tool, similar to the national HFA Monitor, is available for local authorities that already are or are willing to sign up to the programme. The self-assessment tool has local-context indicators, presented as key questions which are answered on a scale from 1 to 5. The questions are aligned to the HFA priority areas and core indicators as well as to *Ten Essentials of the Making Cities Resilient*.

The local government self-assessment tool (LG-SAT) is available at <http://preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/hfa-monitoring/>

The New Zealand national reports are available at <http://www.preventionweb.net/english/countries/oceania/nzl/>

For further information contact Richard.Smith@dia.govt.nz ■

Community Engagement

Volunteers: Best practice guidelines and survey of councils

Volunteering New Zealand (VNZ) leads the Managers of Volunteers Programme, a national initiative promoting recognition of and professional development for managers of volunteers. One of their aims is to raise awareness amongst those who influence the delivery of volunteer services about the need for good management of them, and the critical role managers of volunteers have in achieving this.

As part of their work towards this, VNZ are developing best practice guidelines for volunteer-involving organisations. These aren't guidelines for how to manage volunteers well. They are tips and strategies

for organisations to use to ensure the whole volunteer programme (managers of volunteers and volunteers, and everything they do) is recognised, resourced and supported as a central and vital part of organisations.

VNZ has a fantastic group of pilot organisations in place – from large national organisations to local grass-roots organisations based in Canterbury, Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Wellington and Auckland – testing a draft of the guidelines. They will report back in July.

VNZ is also conducting research examining

the current situation of volunteering in local government in New Zealand. This has identified issues faced by local bodies in the recruitment, retention and engagement of volunteers for the delivery of council services. The study provides a foundation for further discussion and needs analysis in this area. Consideration is given to the value of local government volunteering as a means of increasing a community's social capital stocks of both general connectedness and trust.

If you have questions about the guidelines or survey, contact VNZ on 04 384 3636 or email office@volunteeringnz.org.nz ■

CDEM and SAR Cooperation

New Zealand’s Search and Rescue (SAR) and Civil Defence & Emergency Management (CDEM) sectors have separate and defined areas of responsibility. There are a number of scenarios that could see them working closely together. Cooperation and collaboration benefit the overall emergency management capability in New Zealand. This is best achieved through effective and open engagement by both sectors at the local, regional and national levels.

The readiness and performance of the SAR and CDEM sectors can be further improved by taking steps to enhance existing mutual understanding and familiarity arrangements at the local, regional and national levels. A particular area of opportunity is improving the engagement between SAR providing agencies and the CDEM sector.

Cooperation and collaboration between civil defence emergency management (CDEM) and search and rescue (SAR) will benefit the overall emergency management capability in New Zealand.

The New Zealand Search and Rescue (NZSAR) Council recently endorsed a paper titled ‘*Enhancing Search and Rescue Sector Cooperation with the Civil Defence & Emergency Management Sector*’. The executive summary of the paper is reproduced below, and the full paper can be viewed and downloaded from the NZSAR website www.nzsar.org.nz

Greater understanding, cooperation, and familiarity between the SAR and CDEM sectors will assist Police, the maritime Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand, and CDEM coordinators perform their roles more effectively.



Improvements in sector to sector cooperation and understanding of how the SAR providing agencies can assist CDEM can be achieved in a number of ways including: the development of pre-existing relationships; establishing relationships where they do not currently exist; and enhancing individual and collective training opportunities. National level arrangements will support the engagement activities carried out at the local and regional levels.

There was close engagement and consultation between the NZSAR Secretariat and the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management during the development of this paper. The next step will involve an increasing level of engagement at the local and regional levels, which will need to be driven by members of the CDEM and SAR sectors.

NZSAR has a mandate from Government to provide strategic leadership and governance to Search and Rescue in New Zealand. The Council comprises the Chief Executives (or their designated representative) of six public organisations – the Ministry of Transport, Civil Aviation Authority, Maritime New Zealand, New Zealand Police, New Zealand Defence Force, and Department of Conservation. The Council is supported by a Secretariat that works out of the Ministry of Transport. ■



New Zealand Search and Rescue Sector

The search and rescue (SAR) coordinating authorities – Police and the Rescue Coordination Centre – respond to more than 2,300 SAR incidents each year. They regularly call on the following range of resources to respond to these incidents:

- Over 10,500 trained personnel (91% volunteers) – many with CIMS 2 or CIMS 4 training
- 39 helicopters
- 31 fixed wing aircraft
- 150 four wheel drive vehicles
- 109 all terrain vehicles (quad-bikes)
- 210 Inflatable Rescue Boats
- 77 Coastguard Rescue Vessels
- 46 private vessels
- 1 hovercraft

For more information on the SAR capacity in your area, contact the local Police SAR Coordinator, or you can contact Carl van der Meulen, NZSAR Secretariat on 04 439 9018. ■



Join us for the largest earthquake drill in New Zealand history!

9.26am, 26 September 2012



New Zealand ShakeOut is an earthquake preparedness campaign that will lead up to a public, nationwide earthquake drill at 9:26am on 26 September (9.26am, 26.9). We're aiming to have 1 million people participate in the drill.

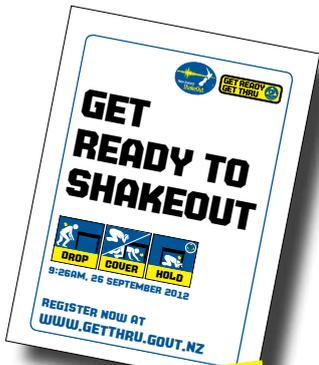
You never know where you might be when an earthquake strikes.

Participating in the ShakeOut is a great way for you, your family, or organisation to become better prepared to survive and recover quickly from a damaging earthquake.

You can do other activities in addition to the Drop, Cover and Hold drill, such as securing furniture and other objects to minimise injury and damage. It's also a great opportunity to update your emergency plan and emergency survival items.

It's easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Sign up now! – go to www.getthru.govt.nz (it only takes two minutes).
2. Spread the word at family gatherings, community events, work meetings, and online with email, facebook or twitter. You can also place a ShakeOut banner on your organisation's website, display posters in your office, distribute flyers, and use other materials on our resources page.
3. Do the Drop, Cover and Hold drill on 9:26-26:9.



Promote awareness and preparedness with Shakeout resources

A whole lot of resources have been created for you to use. We encourage you to check out the full range at www.shakeout.govt.nz/resources.

These include guidelines for how to participate and prepare for a variety of different groups (eg. individuals and families, businesses, etc.) and includes preparedness information and suggestions for how you can share the ShakeOut with others.

What initiatives are you taking to participate in and share the ShakeOut? We encourage you to get creative in your business, community or neighbourhood.

We know that one town is getting its entire central business district involved in ShakeOut activities – awesome!

Some schools and organisations that are in coastal communities are also adding tsunami evacuation drills to their planned activities.

A number of organisations are reviewing their business continuity plans in the lead-up to the drill, and then conducting a tabletop exercise to practise it after the drill.

Many pre-schools and schools are providing information on ShakeOut to parents and caregivers through newsletters, and organisations are including ShakeOut materials in mail-outs, putting web banners on their websites and as an addition to their email signatures.

If you have some innovative ideas we would love to hear about them and share them with others. Email the New Zealand ShakeOut Coordinators at shakeout@dia.govt.nz. ■



NZ Get Thru



@nzgetthru

www.getthru.govt.nz

