

your lifeline
when you
need it most



CQ RESCUE said goodbye
to some wonderful
colleagues...

...and welcome some new
crew on board.

Regardless of the industry you work in, staff will come and staff will go. During 2008, CQ RESCUE said goodbye to some wonderful colleagues and in 2009 we welcome new crew members.

Among the new recruits will be two pilots and QAS Intensive Care Paramedics James McManus & Gavin Farry. The new crew members will join Pilots Heath Scanlon and Alex Crawford; Air Crewmen Darren Bobin, Dan Hoare and Paul Price, Intensive Care Paramedic Dan Basham along with Phil Dowler, Leonie Hansen and Pauline Green in Administration



RACQ CQ RESCUE Bulletin

February 2009

CQ Rescue missions on the increase

During 2008 the RACQ - CQ RESCUE helicopter carried out an average of over one mission for each day of the year with October being the busiest month when the crew conducted 41 missions in 31 days. The second busiest month was December with 39 missions carried out during the month. The majority of patients during both of these busy months were 'locals' residing in Mackay and surrounding areas.

Of the 39 missions in December, nine of these flights were to Townsville. Current costs for the service to fly the Bell 412 helicopter to Townsville amount to \$20,000 each mission.

The crew attended to 36 motor vehicle accidents in 2008 ...that's an average of three each month and the CQ RESCUE helicopter was tasked by Aussar (Australian Search & Rescue) on 15 occasions for search and rescues which is more than one per month.

Additional searches tasked by other agencies are not included in this figure.

Areas west of Mackay, predominantly the mining towns, were the top region for aero-medical transfers by RACQ - CQ RESCUE while Townsville was the most frequent single destination.

A notable increase in 2008 was the number of missions to Bowen with the CQ RESCUE crew averaging one mission per month to the Bowen region. The number of tasks to Proserpine and Whitsunday Islands were also higher in 2008 than they have been in previous years.

Holiday Tragedy...

The first quarter of 2009 is shaping up to be quite busy with the crew attending a number of inter-hospital transfers, motor vehicle accidents, searches and tasks to primary locations but one very tragic case was the motor vehicle accident near St Lawrence on Sunday 8th February.

Just before 4pm that afternoon the RACQ - CQ RESCUE crew were tasked to the motor vehicle accident in which five people were killed when a camper van and motor vehicle collided.

A 25 year old Italian tourist survived the accident and was airlifted on board the RACQ - CQ RESCUE helicopter to Mackay Base Hospital.

This accident which tragically claimed so many lives in a split second is a timely reminder to drivers to stay alert and expect the unexpected when driving on the region's roads.



They've done it again!

Again the ESA Alpha Rho members have cut, wrapped and sticky-taped Christmas gifts during the entire month of December.

For several years now the ESA members have carried out the Christmas Gift Wrapping service at Caneland Central with some ladies wrapping from the moment the shops open, throughout the day and into the evening.

Thanks to the generosity of Caneland Central who provides the paper, tape and necessary utensils each year and the dedicated ladies who made a

zillion bows and ribbons which added the finishing touches to the gifts, RACQ - CQ RESCUE was recently presented with a cheque for \$9,000.

Our appreciation also goes to the wonderful volunteers who helped make the fundraiser a huge success and to the very generous people who took advantage of the wrapping service and donated in support of the helicopter rescue service and Mackay Surf Lifesaving.

They are looking forward to wrapping your gifts again in December 2009.

Your continuing support for CQ RESCUE...

If you would like to increase your support for CQ RESCUE there are a number of ways in which you can help...

- Donation forms can be downloaded from www.cqrescue.com.au or call the CQ RESCUE Office on 4957 8181 to make a donation with your credit card.
- Join the Rescue 100 Club. Members donate \$1,000 each year and are invited to meet with other members at sponsored events each quarter. Donations can be made in full or in quarterly installments of \$250. Call Leonie at CQ RESCUE on (07) 4957 8181 or 0427 578 182 for more information.
- Contribute regularly through payroll deductions. A payroll authority form can be found on the CQ RESCUE website www.cqrescue.com.au under 'Donations'. Either discuss this option with your pay office or call CQ RESCUE for information. Make a competition out of it and encourage your colleagues to contribute as well.
- For a list of merchandise visit www.cqrescue.com.au and phone CQ RESCUE on (07) 4957 8181 with your order. Shirts, stubby coolers, caps and pens are just some of the merchandise available.
- Is your company interested in sponsorship? Donations of \$5,000 or more appear on the CQ RESCUE website and major sponsorship details are available by calling Leonie or Phil at CQ RESCUE.
- When you want to help out financially but simply do not have the finances available, a bequest in your will may be the perfect option for you. Bequest wording can be located on our website or call Phillip Dowler on (07) 4957 8181. Alternatively, talk to your solicitor regarding your wishes.
- Perhaps organizing a fundraising event is more to your liking. CQ RESCUE appreciates the effort and hard work involved in arranging fundraising events which benefit the helicopter rescue service. Call the CQ RESCUE Office on (07) 4957 8181 to discuss your ideas.

The Daily Mercury 

Save these dates...

Mackay

7th & 8th March

The second annual Barra Pro Barra Classic at Teemurra Dam. Registration forms and further details are available from Barra Pro on Nebo Road, West Mackay or by phoning 4952 4629 for information.

11th March

IESA presents the 'Choirboys' and a three-course dinner and auction in aid of CQ RESCUE at Mackay Entertainment Centre. This year IESA celebrate 15 years of business in Mackay and as part of their celebrations, IESA wanted to give back to the community by holding an event supporting CQ RESCUE. Tickets for the dinner and concert can be purchased from Mackay Entertainment Centre or email jane@prosepr.com.au for more information.

Airlie Beach

1st April

A new restaurant named 'Waterline' perfectly situated at Shingley Beach overlooking the Abel Point Marina is holding a dinner and auction in support of RACQ - CQ RESCUE. Tickets can be purchased by contacting Tony Logan in Airlie Beach on 0403 183 208; Waterline Restaurant on 4948 1023 or email tony@waterlineonshingley.com.au. The entire ticket price will be donated to CQ RESCUE - act quickly to secure your place. Accommodation packages are also available.

Thank you!

At CQ RESCUE we are extremely mindful of just how important your support is to keep the rescue service operational. Whether you are an individual, a corporation, a club or group, we are extremely grateful for your support of our service and the work we do.

As an aero-medical service vital to this region we trust we can count on you for your continued support in 2009.



The residents of Breezes Mackay with the results of their fundraising

