



TARANAKI
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

News letter

December 2012

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Christmas is nearly here!

It's nearly the end of the year and Christmas will soon be upon us! As many of you know, we normally organise a Christmas function for CDEM staff and volunteers. This year we thought we might try something different. In fact, we would like to hear your thoughts, which will help us decide what to do, where and when.

Would you be interested in a region-wide event for everyone? How about a mid-year event sometime in 2013, rather than in December? Do you have any ideas for a venue? We would like to hear your thoughts, so we have put together a short survey, which should only take a minute of your time to complete. Simply go to <http://goo.gl/NY40T> to provide your feedback. Thank you.



New Zealand ShakeOut a success!

Thank you to everyone that participated in New Zealand ShakeOut, and for making New Zealand's largest ever earthquake drill a huge success. Across the country 1,340,180 participants took part in the Drop, Cover and Hold drill at 9:26am on 26 September.

In Taranaki 28,704 people registered to participate, more than a quarter of the region's population!

It was great to see so many people taking part across Taranaki from schools and early childhood education centres, to businesses and those at home. We were so pleased with the involvement and commitment from everyone.



Frankley School



New Plymouth Fire Station

Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Plan 2012-2017 published

A new Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan has been published after a thorough five-yearly review of the previous plan.

The Plan provides a framework for the efficient management of the hazardscape of the Taranaki region by stating hazards and risks; specifying arrangements for the management of hazards and risks; and stating the roles and responsibilities for the management of hazards and risks.

To view the CDEM Group Plan for Taranaki go to <http://www.trc.govt.nz/taranaki-cdem-publications/>



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24 hours - 0800 900 049

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Release of the independent review into the Christchurch earthquake response

The Christchurch earthquake of February 22, 2011 caused tragic deaths and injuries, severe damage to tens of thousands of homes and devastation of the city's central business district. It was an unprecedented challenge for civil defence emergency management in New Zealand.

To analyse the response and identify areas for improvement, the Ministry of Civil Defence Emergency Management (MCDEM) commissioned a review to be carried out independently. The review involved interviewing over 200 people who were involved in the response and has 108 recommendations. It was publicly released on 5 October 2012 after being received by the Cabinet. A copy of the full report is available on MCDEM's website <http://goo.gl/iK2Bo>.



Emergency Debris Management Plan for Taranaki

Recent events both locally and internationally have highlighted the need to plan for debris management in emergencies. Events such as the Christchurch earthquakes and the floods in Australia produced huge volumes of debris. An Emergency Debris Management Plan has been produced to ensure Taranaki is sufficiently prepared to handle large quantities of



debris following an emergency event. The plan was prepared by the Taranaki Regional Council's Waste Officer, in consultation with the solid waste officers of the three district councils and Civil Defence Emergency Management. The plan will assist in the immediate and short term planning and facilitation of the removal, collection, and recycling or disposal of debris following a disaster. The plan aims to mitigate any potential threat to the health, safety and welfare of the impacted residents.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Taranaki Community Emergency Response Team



The Taranaki Community Emergency Response Team Incorporated (TCERT) has recently formed to replace the former New Zealand Red Cross Emergency Response Team.

A MOU is now in place between the Taranaki CDEM Group and TCERT to provide the operational support, including first aid, urban search and rescue, general rescue, flood response, storm response and swift water rescue, during emergency situations.

TCERT is made up of volunteers who are former members of the Red Cross Response Team, as well as new members. Once trained and equipped, members of the team are on call to respond to emergency situations that may occur within Taranaki, and also to support the emergency services.

International News

Philippines floods

In early August, heavy monsoon rains exacerbated by Typhoon Haikui caused flooding in Manila and much of northern and eastern Philippines, killing 109 people, displacing approximately 1.1 million others and affecting nearly 4.2 million individuals.

Beijing floods

In a twenty-hour period on July 21, a flash flood hit the city of Beijing in the People's Republic of China. Within a day of the flooding, 56,933 people had been evacuated, while the floodwaters killed 79 people and destroyed at least 8,200 homes.

Hurricane Sandy - In October Hurricane Sandy claimed more than 185 lives as it swept across the Caribbean and made its way to the US. In the United States, Hurricane Sandy affected at least 24 states, from Florida to Maine and west to Michigan and Wisconsin, with particularly severe damage in New Jersey and New York. At least 106 lives were lost in the US due to Sandy, with 40 of them in New York City



Hurricane Sandy aftermath.



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Tongariro unrest

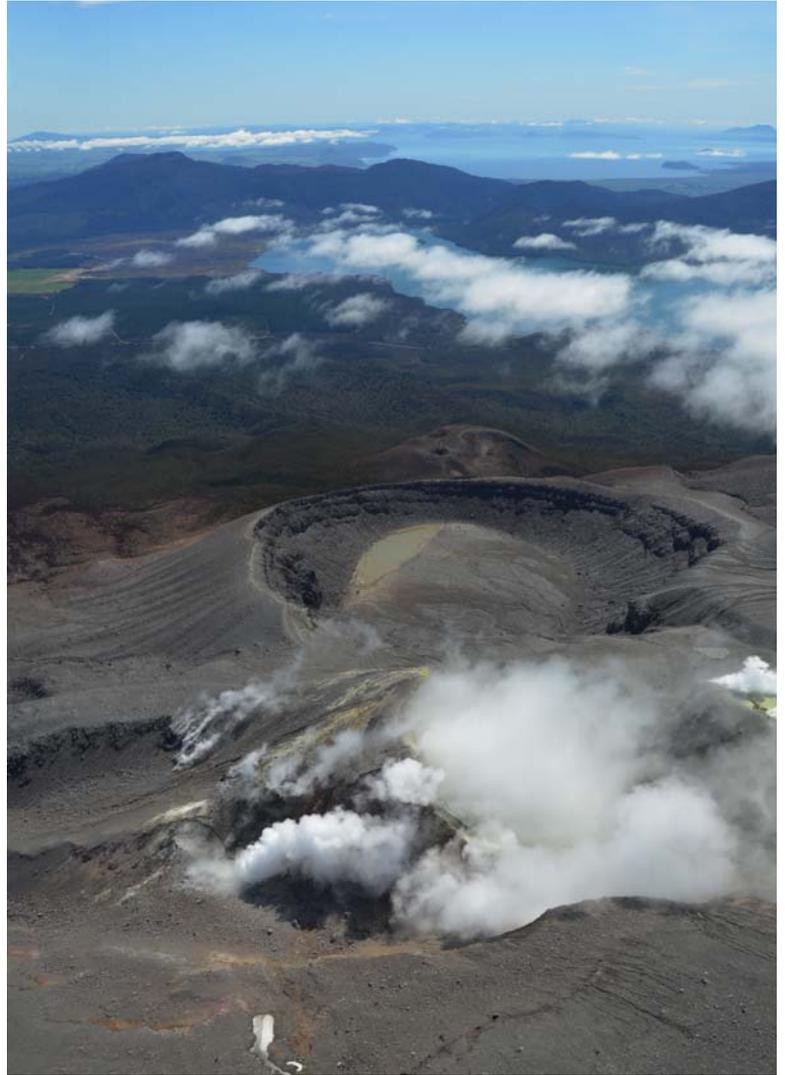
At approximately 11:52pm on 6 August 2012, an eruption occurred at Mount Tongariro. The eruption lasted only a couple of minutes and occurred partly from existing vents at the Upper Te Maari Crater. It also involved the formation of a new crater and eruption fissure.

The eruption deposited ash on the communities near the volcano and downwind of the active vents, temporarily closing SH1 (Desert Road). Large rocks (ballistics) were thrown up to 2km from the vent, landing on the Tongariro Alpine Crossing track and Ketetahi Hut.

GNS Science maintain permanent surveillance of active and potentially active volcanoes, which is the best way to detect the early signs of increased seismic and volcanic activity.

Leading up to the eruption there were earthquakes on 11-13 July, these stopped but then restarted on 18 July through to 22 July. It was these later earthquakes that attracted the attention of GNS, as did changes in the type of gas on 23 July. The Volcanic Alert Level was raised to Level 1 on 20 July.

Prior to the eruption GNS met with the local community to talk to them about the volcanic unrest. Teams of Volcanologists continued to closely monitor the volcano. A smaller eruption occurred in the same area on 21 November.



Mount Ruapehu

A Volcanic Alert Bulletin issued on Friday 16 November by GNS Science summarised that recent measurements at Ruapehu indicates the likelihood of an eruption from the mountain has increased.

The last time Ruapehu erupted was in September 1995. The ash from the eruption impacted greatly on farms across the central North Island and closed Hawkes Bay airport for two days. Ruapehu is being constantly monitored as it has been through several periods of activity. Despite it being quiet at the moment, an eruption could occur with little or no warning.



Photographs: Tongariro, October 2012
(courtesy of GNS Science)

Keeping Safe over Summer Bell Block Community Safety Day

Saturday 8 December, 11am - 1pm

Bell Block Residents Society, North Taranaki Neighbourhood Support and Bell Block Community Police are holding a Community Safety Day on Saturday 8 December from 11am at Parklands Shopping Centre.

There will be a drawing competition for children and a free sausage sizzle! To be in with a chance to win a prize, children can bring along a picture they have drawn, illustrating what 'keeping safe over summer' means to them. Drawings will be judged by an artist and winners announced at 1pm.

The Police and Fire will be there, along with Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management and special guest Stan from 'What's the Plan Stan' fame.



Emergency Services Day

Sunday 9 December, 10am - 2pm

More FM Taranaki, along with support from the New Plymouth Egmont Lions Club are holding an Emergency Services Open Day, on Sunday 9 December from 10am-2pm, at the East End Reserve, New Plymouth.

The Police will be there with the Police Dog Section and Armed Offenders Squad, and will have feature displays at key times of the day. The Booze Bus, Speed Trailer, Seatbelt Trailer, and Booze Goggles will also be there. The New Plymouth and Waitara Fire Service will demonstrate the Jaws of Life and the Burning Kitchen.

Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management will also be there, along with Stan from 'What's the Plan Stan'.

Both the Community Safety Day and the Emergency Services Day will be fun and interesting for all the family and friends - see you there!

CDEM Training

Thank you to everyone who attended CDEM training recently. The 'Introduction to CDEM' training session was the first in a series of training sessions that will continue throughout 2013.

The next training scheduled for early next year will be 'CIMS 4' followed by an 'Introduction to the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)'. Dates for these sessions will be out soon.

Business Continuity Planning for NGOs

Taranaki CDEM, in partnership with NZ Red Cross, Taranaki District Health Board, Ministry of Social Development, Work and Income, and Child, Youth and Family, recently held a workshop on 'Developing Business/Service Continuity Planning for NGOs' at TEMO in October.

The workshop was organised for managers of social service sector organisations, to help with emergency planning and to ensure they can continue to provide critical services to clients in the event of an emergency.

Another workshop will be held in December for organisations in South Taranaki.



We are pleased to announce that you can now follow Taranaki CDEM on Twitter and Facebook at:



<http://twitter.com/TaranakiCD>

www.facebook.com/TaranakiCivilDefence



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