



Chairman's report for 2018 AGM

The Trust Board's drive and focus over the past 12 months has been on three main areas; Training, Communication and Leadership.

Training

Our training programme continues to be centred around the District Training Roadshows that have been delivered around the country. This is now the second round at which we will get to every district. The first round took over 18 months to get to every district. This time we are getting to every district over a 12 month period. The new CPNZ training programme has been launched with patrollers able to carry out their training either online or by hard copy. The preparation and printing of a training manual allows us to ensure we maintain a consistent approach to everything that we do. The availability of a national assessment standard ensures we are all working on the same page.

The availability of an online training platform allows us to be more responsive and flexible with training and assessment options for patrols as well as the patroller. With the patroller package completed, we will now be looking at the development of training for patrol committees and especially trainers and health and safety officers.

The new training package does not remove the need for regular patrol training. Most patrols carry this out on a monthly basis and some are now including the national training modules in this monthly training. The ability to have a consistent national training package is a key factor in ensuring that Police maintain their confidence in CPNZ.

Communication

The implementation of our communication strategy over the last year included meeting with members of CPNZ at all levels. The Board meets with patrollers at the District Training Roadshows; meets with patrol leaders on the day following the roadshow; and also has two meetings with the District Support Committee Chairpersons. All three levels are very important and the decision to host each session and accommodate people overnight where necessary has proved a most valuable opportunity for us all to sit face to face and consider the issues being faced as well as working towards the future of the organisation.

Our new website and existing facebook profile have set a platform for better communication in the future. We have linked to many community patrol's facebook profiles allowing us all to know what is going on around the country. In particular these tools allow us to share the good stories that are generated by community patrollers. Also, and of significance, they give the general public more information on CPNZ, allowing them to see who we are, why we are here, what we do.

Leadership

Leadership for the future of CPNZ has developed as an ever increasing role in the organisation. It is important that we have a vision for the future and strive towards it.

CPNZ is a significant organisation that helps in the prevention of crime in New Zealand. In one policing area of New Zealand, over the past 12 months the Police and the Community Patrol worked together to reduce the serious crime rate by 45%. The Police Area Commander, in an article in the local paper, thanked the patrol and stated that 'the huge amount of useful data the patrol provides - during their tasked and preventive patrols - contributed enormously to the success of this ongoing operation.' I think this says a lot about the effect we have on the communities we serve. One current Member of Parliament stated at the Auckland Training Roadshow that he would like to see CPNZ recognised as a 'first response agency'. The Board recently awarded two patrollers for the fantastic job they did when they were the first responders to a fatal motor vehicle accident when a car hit a cyclist.

The community is the backbone of the country. They are always there when needed. When we think back to the Christchurch earthquakes we will remember that it was the community that were the first responders. CPNZ patrols are there when they are needed.

This year saw CPNZ take important steps forward in the area of supporting Maori, Pasifika, and Ethnic communities. The Board felt it necessary to be bold in this area and accordingly we redefined a part-time paid position and created the full time position of Maori, Pasifika, and Ethnic Support Officer. We are now represented well in this area and I ask you all to assist as we build this facet of the organisation.

Initiatives by patrols this year have grown. The Board managed to pay out well over the amount we budgeted for contestable funding. Unused funds from other areas were repurposed to patrol needs and, in particular, initiatives to promote the organisation and reduce crime. A community that knows there is a significant volunteer security and safety organisation patrolling the area is far more likely to feel safer and be safer.

Partnerships is often a word thrown around here and there, often a page filler. However for us it is key to our vision for the future. Our Police partnership continues to provide areas where we can assist in the development and implementation of crime prevention initiatives. In many ways the Police's problems are our problems. The crime issues faced by the rural sector are, admittedly not easy ones to solve. However a joint initiative by Police and CPNZ has allowed us to work in this space towards a better future for those in the rural areas of New Zealand.

At the Aged Concern conference this year I spoke on crime that affect the elderly and, importantly what CPNZ does and how the demographics of many members in CPNZ align with Aged Concern. The future will require more security for the elderly. I am sure that their security and safety will be at the heart of what CPNZ does in the coming years.

The increasing population and changing demographics create new demand areas for Police, and therefore CPNZ. Our work with the District Safety Patrols supporting ethnic Police recruits will continue and even grow across the country. The growth and urbanisation of Auckland poses issues that CPNZ will support the Police and we have recently seen patrols from different districts within the wider Auckland area come together to assist another district and Police operations.

Our vision of safe, resilient communities shows that we have taken on a task that is far from an easy one. We support the Police in their mission to be 'the safest country' . No doubt the journey we all face will be a tough one to crack. We know the road, the potholes and the criminal elements we have to face. No doubt the future holds some complex issues that will need to be managed and solved. CPNZ will be a part of the solutions to these issues in order to create safer communities..

The next twelve months

Over the coming twelve months we will be continuing our drive to increase communication opportunities, especially online with our website and facebook, as well as an increased availability of training. We will continue to put effort into our partnerships with other like minded organisations and continuing with the development of CPNZ to be able to provide for the changes in the crime prevention and community safety environment of the future.

The successes of the year have happened due to the work done by the great patrollers that we have around the country. Many of you regularly go above and beyond what would be expected of volunteers in the community. The work of our staff must also be applauded. Their work has taken them away from their homes on a number of occasions and when high levels of demands have been put on them they have positively responded to the demand.

The ability for CPNZ to respond to the needs of communities and support our partners do not come without significant effort on the part of all patrollers, patrol committee members, District Support Committees, the Trust Board and the CPNZ staff. The drive for consistent and appropriate training, uniformity in our dress and with our vehicles as well as effectively managed, trained and equipped patrols must be continued. The effort by all volunteers in this great organisation is recognised by the Board, our partners and, I am sure, your communities.

On behalf of us all, thank you.

Chris Lawton
Chairman
Community Patrols of New Zealand Charitable Trust Bard