



RESCUE OF THE MONTH

RECOGNISING OUTSTANDING RESCUES

Date/time: Thursday 23 January 2014 at 5.30pm
Location: Mauao 4WD Track
Lifeguards involved: James Roy, Mitch Ganley, Jackson Edwards, Steven Gregort, Cullum Knox, Damian Munro and George Haynes

Despite the outcome being a fatality, lifeguards at Mount Maunganui gave an elderly heart attack victim his best possible chance of survival on January 23 due to their quick response.

Just before 5.30pm, the patrol received a phone call from a member of the public informing them that a man had suffered a cardiac arrest on the 4WD track, half-way up Mauao (Mt Maunganui). He had been walking with family members.

James Roy and Mitch Ganley responded in the ATV with a resuscitation pack and AED. They arrived to find two off-duty doctors and a fireman performing CPR on the elderly gentleman.

An ambulance had already been called, so James and Mitch assisted the doctors with CPR and defibrillation. The first shock was administered within 10 minutes of the patient collapsing.

Jackson Edwards and George Haynes remained at the club with the 4WD ute and transported paramedics up the Mount to the patient.

The paramedics took over the resuscitation attempt and delivered one more shock from their defibrillator along with administering IV fluids and adrenaline, but the patient was still asystole (no heartbeat).

While the resuscitation attempt was occurring, Steven Gregort was controlling communications in the patrol tower at the club and recording a chronological sequence of events. Callum Knox and Damian Munro were supporting the patient's family in the surf club in conjunction with the police.

CPR was continued for a further 25 minutes before the paramedics declared the patient deceased. The body was covered and transported back down the Mount to the surf club and placed in a private room.

Ambulance officers praised the lifeguards on their initial response, as well as their forward planning of the transportation of paramedics and extraction of the patient from the scene.

By lifeguards responding so rapidly and quickly administering oxygen and defibrillation, the patient received the best possible chance he had of survival.



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