



Whangarei / Kaipara Area COUNCIL REPORT

Submitted 13 February 2015

Operation Easter

Northland Police conducted a joint operation with OFCANZ in relation to the distribution and manufacture of Methamphetamine. On the 16th of December, 15 Head-hunter members and associates were arrested in Whangarei. Police seized drugs, guns and cash in multiple raids on gang addresses.

Police intelligence indicates that the main Whangarei lab had the capacity to produce \$3 million worth of methamphetamine per week.

During these operations search warrants were executed in 7 of the 12 Police districts which illustrate the scope of this organised criminal network.

Christmas / New Years

The Christmas/New Year holiday period saw the presence of Police in and around Northland's public areas, beaches and hotels. Locals and visitors alike were in the main well behaved with their New Year celebrations. Police staff worked hard across the district during the Christmas/New Year holiday to keep any potential disorder incidents at bay through scheduled tasks and prevention work. Road Policing provided high visibility out on the roads to ensure drivers were driving safely and to the conditions. Unfortunately we did have 3 separate road fatality incidents. The crash on the Waipu straights where 4 family members were killed, a motorcyclist died after losing control on a bend at Tangowahine and a nine year old boy died when the go cart he was driving rolled at Ahipara.

Operational Tidal

A 60 year old man has been charged with murder on 9th February. He fatally assaulted a 25 year old male at an incident in Tikipunga on Monday 26th January. The two men were known to each other. This investigation saw some very good work done during the initial attendance by frontline police staff followed up by the enquiry team and other staff that were involved resulting in a quick resolution to this matter.

Operation Waitangi

A large amount of Whangarei / Kaipara Police staff were deployed to Waitangi to assist in the Policing of the Waitangi celebrations. This was a very successful event for Police with no major incidents recorded. This is a national event which placing the whole of Northland in the national spotlight.

Search and Rescue

Northland has had an "unprecedented" number of search and rescue callouts over the summer with about 80 per cent preventable. The Northland police and volunteer search and rescue teams were called to 70 jobs over 42 days from December 18, including 60 water-related jobs, six drownings, five land rescues and three reported plane crashes.

The 809 Foundation

Constable Anton KURAIA has started his fundraising trek to Wellington. Anton has formed the foundation to help cancer patients fight cancer naturally. He departed from the Whangarei Station at 8.30am Sunday 1st February. He is due to arrive in Wellington within the next 6 weeks. If you want to support Anton and follow his progress then you can do so by going to: www.the809foundation.org.nz

Awards

Volunteer Charlie Moates – Certificate of Appreciation for his work as a volunteer for the last 12 years which includes monitoring the CCTV cameras, which is an initiative between Police and the Council.

Inspector Justin Rogers
Area Commander
Whangarei / Kaipara