



## **Personal Locator Beacons**. Information for members

The Motueka Tramping Club owns 2 Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs).

At least one PLB must be taken on a Club trip. Take two if the group is large, you are on an away trip and likely to do two different trips at the same time, or you are doing a cross over trip.

### **Responsibilities**

#### Purchase and Registration – Mike Tooker

- Ensure funds are put aside for replacing PLB every 5 years.
- Make a proposal on suitable purchase options to MTC Committee as required.
- Purchase and register the PLB.
- Update the RCC when Beacon Contact people change.

#### Holder of the Beacon – Mike Tooker

- Mike will hold the PLB's and keep track of where the beacons are at any time. He will check the batteries on the PLB from time to time.
- When contacted by a trip leader Mike will arrange where the leader can pick the PLB up from.
- Hire the PLB to a member if it is not required for Club use. \$10 per hire.

#### Contact people if PLB is activated

- Contact people will be contacted by the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC).
- They need to know if the PLB is being used by the club, where the trip is taking place, how many people are on the trip and if any of them have known medical conditions that the RCC should be aware of.
- When the helicopter has rescued a person the RCC will recontact the contact person and say who has been helicoptered out and where he or she will be taken.
- The PLB contact person will then ring the members In Case of Emergency person from the list provided

#### Leaders of Club Trips

- Arrange to get the PLB's from Mike Tooker and return or advise what you have done with the PLB if kept for the next trip or passed onto another member for the next trip.
- Leaders get PLB's from Mike Tooker by contacting him by:
  - Leaders let Mike know by email if you intend to keep the PLB for the next trip or it has been passed to another named person for the next trip.
  - Return the PLB's to Mike Tooker by placing it in the letterbox of his home in Motueka.
  - Inform beacon contacts by email where you are going and the names of the people on the trip. The Rescue Coordination Centre will want to know if anyone on the trip has a cell phone if the

PLB is activated. Let the contact people know one or more cell phone numbers of people on the trip.

- Remember to inform the contact people if you change your expected destination or direction if possible.
- Carry and/or arrange for another participant to carry the PLB's ensuring that the participants know where the PLB is located.
- Use the PLB when an emergency requires it, after discussion with the group. Make yourself familiar with the instructions on the beacon, about how to activate. Activate away from cover e.g. not in a hut or under dense bush cover. Leave it active and trust that it has been activated as there is no way of knowing that the message has got out. Keep a look out for the helicopter and signal it by waving, using bright clothes, lights (candles) etc.
- Read FMC magazine August 2016 Page 50 and November 2016 Page 8 about when to activate your PLB.

#### Hirer of Beacon

- Members who hire the beacon please ensure they do as the Leaders of Club Trips are asked to do.

#### Members and other participants on Trips

- Have your ICE and Medical Information form filled in and in or on your pack in a way that it can be kept dry. Update the information annually and if medical condition changes.
- Assist the leader and make your best endeavors to help make decisions about PLB use and any first required if a person is hurt

#### **Contact information**

Mike Tooker

Laurie Hope

John Beatson