

Terry Blumhardt – standing again for the LandSAR Board in 2016

I am standing again because I feel that the Board has a place that it needs to get our organisation to and I can continue to help it make that happen. We have had some changes in the personnel on the Board, with more to happen next year also, so I want to continue in my Board member role, not only because I feel that my ideas and contributions are still valid, but to add some stability and continuity to our Board.



SAR and the outdoors is my passion! Shortly after moving to Turangi in 1993 to study Outdoor Recreation, I joined the Turangi Search and Rescue Group and have almost 23 years of continuous involvement including:

- Field team leader and member roles, operating in white-water, alpine, bush and urban environments
- An assortment of committee roles
- Increasing experience of management roles
- A member of Ruapehu Alpine Rescue Organisation since 2002
- Nationwide Search Instructor experience
- One term so far as an Elected Director on the LandSAR Board
- Involvement in design of both Training Workshops and Competencies Project
- Worked on the last National LandSAR Constitution Review
- Privileged to receive LandSAR support to travel to the UK Mountain Rescue Conference in 2008 and still continue to use these experiences and perspectives to add value to our own Organisation.

Adventure tourism and outdoor instruction have been the main income earners. For the last twelve years I have owned and managed Tongariro Guided Walks, a successful tourism business that offers guided walks in and around the Tongariro National Park. I also instruct Bush Leader courses, with the aim of enhancing safety and enjoyment for the next generation of Outdoor Users while still managing to do an occasional bit of Rafting or Cave Guiding to earn a crust.

Continuing to travel around NZ assisting teams to maintain and improve their Search skills and SAR thinking allows me to learn first-hand from grass-roots SAR people the challenges, successes and concerns that LandSAR members face around the country. It is clear we still need to create a more supportive and progressive environment to fully perform at the level expected from the public and from the major stake holders in SAR.

My key objective as a Board Member continues to be improving the SAR environment and culture so Groups and individual SAR members can technically upskill to operate at a professional level doing what they volunteered to do, *serve their community*. I have learned that although we are all trying to do the same job – there are unique challenges faced all around the country and there is no one-size-fits-all solution, *we need and deserve choices that suit our groups*.

I can continue to add to the collective strength and decision making of the Board by contributing:

- Comprehensive operational SAR background
- The ability to put things into a context that others can understand.
- Current and active knowledge of local, national and international SAR issues and options
- Comprehensive and current outdoors background
- Many years experience as a business owner/operator

If you have any questions on any issues, or even things that are on track and need to stay that way, please get in touch, (info@tongariroguidedwalks.nz), or ask me via the LandSAR website forum so that others can see your questions and my answers. I am there to listen and work with the Board to get things done.

Terry from Turangi - There for the Subject, their Families, *and the Team*.