



Tipped For A Big Year Ahead

After the year we experienced in 2020, it's safe to say nothing can be expected. However, if the first few weeks of 2021 are anything to go by, it's going to be a big year for our RACQ CapRescue crew!

Rescue300 launched into 2021 by performing back to back rescues between New Year's Eve and the morning of January 1st. Since then, our crew have performed almost 30 rescues, including inter-hospital transfers, horse falls and motor vehicle accidents.

On January 21st the RACQ CapRescue flight crew were tasked by Queensland Health to the scene of a motor vehicle accident, 13km south of Banana on the Leichhardt Highway. A family of four were involved in a single vehicle rollover just after 7am when the driver reportedly lost control and her utility left the road.

The driver of the vehicle, a female in her 30's, was rendered unconscious from the impact of the accident for up to 40 minutes; while her two sons aged five and eight along with her husband were all in stable conditions upon arrival of emergency services.

Queensland Ambulance Service Paramedics provided initial treatment to the patients prior to the arrival of Rescue 300. Once on scene our medical crew treated the woman in an effort to stabilise her for transport.

RACQ CapRescue airlifted the female patient to Rockhampton Base Hospital in a serious but stable condition with suspected severe head and neck injuries. The remaining three passengers of the vehicle were transported to Moura Hospital in a stable condition by road ambulance as a precautionary measure.



Marlborough Collision

Eleven people involved in an early morning crash on March 1, were lucky to walk away with relatively minor injuries when two motor vehicles collided on the Bruce Highway, just south of Marlborough.

Reports suggest two vehicles side swiped each other at speed on the highway, causing a small SUV to veer off the road and roll down an embankment, coming to rest atop its' roof. The driver of the SUV was treated at the scene for a suspected broken leg and pelvis. She was taken to Rockhampton Base Hospital in a stable condition while her two teenage passengers were treated at the scene for shock and minor injuries.

The north bound vehicle containing eight occupants, one of which was heavily pregnant, were assessed at the scene and all found to be in stable conditions with either minor or no injuries. The pregnant woman was however taken to Rockhampton Base Hospital by road ambulance as a precautionary measure.

The RACQ CapRescue crew noted that this particular section of the highway is notorious for motor vehicle accidents, often due to fatigued drivers. For what should have been the scene of a horrific accident, it's a timely reminder for drivers to be mindful of their wellbeing and remember the Fatal Five when travelling on our Queensland roads.





Local Industry Leader Comes On Board

RACQ CapRescue has recently welcomed industry leader, Coxons Group Australia, on board for a three-year commitment as the Service's newest Lift Off Partner. The proud sponsorship between the local Rockhampton branch and RACQ CapRescue will ensure that the service can continue to provide a world class, dedicated aerial search and rescue helicopter with full aeromedical and counter disaster capabilities in the Central Queensland region.

RACQ CapRescue's Operations Manager Kirsty Wooler comments "One of the core principles of the Coxons Group Australia is to support and develop a better future for their community. We can confirm that this partnership will indeed ensure a better future for the 300,000 residents currently living in Central Queensland.

We value long term relationships at RACQ CapRescue and are delighted to be partnering with Coxons Group Australia for many years to come."

Mark Ostwald, the National Sales Manager for Coxons Group Australia said that, "as a local family-owned business it was very important for Coxons to continue to recognise and contribute back to our local and regional communities. This partnership is a reflection of the Coxons Group values and we are very excited to execute this new agreement today".

Coxons Group Australia provides cooling services to mining, transport, and other industries from their branches in Rockhampton, Townsville, and Newcastle. Joel Heazlewood, Managing Director of Coxons Group Australia commented that, "I think the RACQ Capricorn Service does absolutely fantastic work. This is an important relationship to us, and truly reflects our values of supporting the communities we operate in. As our business grows, we're so grateful to be able to increase our level of support to vital community services."

In addition to the three-year partnership, Coxons Group Australia has also contributed as a Rescue300 member for a number of years, supported fundraising activities among staff, and sponsored the annual Resources Charity Golf Day for which RACQ CapRescue is the beneficiary.

As demand for our service increases, corporate partnerships such as this ensures that we are able to continue providing our vital lifesaving service free of charge to the people of Central Queensland. Currently our rescue team averages 1.3 tasks per day, comprising of primary attendance at accident scenes and workplaces as well as search and rescue activities. We also attend to the retrieval of critical patients from outlying hospitals. Our vital Service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year free of charge.



Multi Agency Rescue

The sole passenger of a vessel taking on water successfully activated his EPIRB late one afternoon in February, prompting a multi agency rescue mission. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority swiftly alerted the RACQ CapRescue crew, tasking them to a location approximately 30 miles North East of Rockhampton in the vicinity of Corio Bay.

Once airborne Rescue300 successfully located the registered EPIRB and the ill fated vessel. Acting as the 'eyes in the sky' our helicopter stayed overhead tracking the vessel until the Yeppoon Coast Guard arrived on scene to tow it back to Rosslyn Bay. We're happy to report it was a great outcome for all involved.





Remote Road Roll Over

Rescues were varied and widespread during February. As a result our RACQ CapRescue crews flew continuously, all across the Central Queensland region responding to emergency calls from regional hospitals, rural properties and motor vehicle accidents on remote highways and roads.

One of the more serious accidents involved a 28 year old haulage driver who sustained multiple injuries after his truck carrying timber logs overturned on a remote stretch of the Gladstone Monto Road south of Calliope.

Rescue300 was tasked to the accident just after 5.30am. Responding immediately, the crew landed directly at the scene where our on board Critical Care Paramedic and Doctor further assisted the first responders.

After being trapped for several hours the 28 year old patient was extracted from the vehicle with serious head and lower limb injuries. He was stabilised prior to being airlifted to Rockhampton Base Hospital in a serious condition.

There are many contributing factors that can lead to a horrific motor accident. Our Rescue300 crew encourage all road users to do what they can to stay safe when getting behind the wheel. Remember the Fatal Five when driving and ensure you make it to your destination.

Horrific Highway Crash

Just after 7am on a Sunday morning in March, RACQ CapRescue was tasked to the scene of a serious multi-vehicle accident involving a ute and a B-Double truck on the Capricorn Highway 10km west of Duaringa.

Upon arrival to the horrific scene, the onboard Rescue300 crew along with the Critical Care Paramedic and Doctor discovered the B-Double had veered off the right-hand side of the road and into the trees. The utility had sustained significant damage, with the driver still entrapped in the vehicle.

With the assistance of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Queensland Ambulance Service, Queensland Police Service and the on-board crew, the driver was removed from the vehicle safely and assessed for injuries.

Medical personnel deemed the patient to be extremely lucky, suffering only minor scratches and a suspected lower limb fracture. As a precautionary measure, he was treated for suspected spinal and head injuries at the scene also. Once stabilised, the patient was transported to Rockhampton Base Hospital for further scans and treatment.

The driver of the truck appeared to be in a stable condition and was provided medical care by Queensland Ambulance Service Paramedics.



Upcoming Colourful Events

Save the date for:

Colour Me Capricorn Biloela presented by CS Energy
Sunday 1st August, 2021
Rainbow Sports Complex, Biloela

Colour Me Capricorn Gladstone presented by Jemena
Sunday 17th October, 2021
Gladstone Ports Corporation Marina Parklands

To purchase go to - trybooking.com. Don't miss out, tickets are limited.

For more information follow us on Facebook - facebook.com/CapRescue.org.au

25th Anniversary Appeal



Be our hero.
Donate today.
Scan now



JAN - DEC 2020

Rescue Report

Rescues 373

Cost \$4.9M

99 208
PRIMARY TRANSFER
34 32
MOTOR SEARCH
VEHICLE





Proud Payroll Partner

Last month Community Engagement Officer Kim Moss spent time at Hastings Deering Rockhampton, as part of their Toolbox talk program.

“We are grateful to businesses such as Hastings Deering for having us along to talk more about RACQ CapRescue, in particular the benefits of workplace giving for our organisation,” she said.

“Whilst most people in Central Queensland are aware of our service, having a chance to speak with staff in more detail is an invaluable opportunity.”

Hastings Deering Central Queensland Area Manager, Peter Martin, said the company is very proud of their continued association with RACQ Capricorn Rescue.

“As one of the largest employers in Rockhampton with a workforce that supports the CQ region, it is important to give back to the community in which we live and work. There have been countless times where we have seen the team at work, whether it be a car crash or winching flood affected residents to safety. This service is paramount to the community and just knowing it exists in our region gives you peace of mind.”

“It was important to have a representative of RACQ CapRescue here to shed some light on the way they operate and to gain some insights into the “day in the life” of one of the crew.

It would be great to one day have the service 100% government funded, but for now our business and employees help keep the crew flying through this important community partnership.”

If your business would like to help promote the value of workplace giving, please get in touch with Kim Moss today on 49229093 or email kimm@chrs.org.au

Book a “Toolbox” talk with your staff before June 30 to WIN! All payroll donors will be entered into the draw for a getaway at Great Keppel Island Hideaway!



Colourful Fun Run

Once again, Colour Me Capricorn Rockhampton proved to be a colourful success with over 760 participants taking part in the colourful fun run.

Participants ran, walked, danced or strolled their way along the garden paths, creating a vibrant atmosphere and raising almost \$20,000 for RACQ CapRescue.

“It was great to see so many families coming out early on their Sunday morning to participate in our colourful event, which raised much needed funds for our service.”

“As always, the event wasn’t about breaking personal bests but having fun, getting colourful and getting out and about in the community” said Community Fundraising Officer Caitlin Buttenshaw.

Volunteer contribution was at a record high with 22 StepUp CapRescue Volunteers – supported by Thiess in attendance. Volunteers from the CQU Health Clinic were also on hand to provide free sports massages.

Colour Me Capricorn Rockhampton was proudly supported by Rockhampton Regional Council, Stanwell Power Station, Blackwoods, Stockland Rockhampton, Hype Performance and Health, CQU Health Clinic and Flexihire Rockhampton.

Postal Donations

Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Amount: _____

Please return this section with your postal donation.

Donations (\$2 and over) are allowable tax deductions under sub section 78(4) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936.

Make the switch - save money and the planet. Email info@chrs.org.au and switch from a printed newsletter to an e-newsletter.