

August 2016

The New Zealand firefighter magazine

K1





# K1

Cover photo



*Evacuated staff watch firefighters work on a roof fire at Jack's Point restaurant near Queenstown yesterday morning. Firefighters from Queenstown, Frankton, Arrowtown and Alexandra used water from a near frozen neighbouring pond to fight the blaze.*

Photo: James Allan Photography

## August 2016

K1 is an independent magazine produced by the K1 Group.

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## This issue

Pump panel returns to the near side	3	Auckland blacks Type 3	13
Waterview tunnel sets new parameters	5	Olympic K1 for Cairns	13
Minister urges participation in fire service Bill	8	Million dollar run	14
Day One first priority for transition team	9	Six of the best for Josh	15
Geraldine Wins ARRO	10	Plan for the unthinkable: Parisian CFO	15
Live firing and MVAs	11	Fire storm wrecks early Stratford	17
QSM for 7	13	Stratford still going strong	18
		Service medals & 2017 challenges	21
		Back to future with EMS	22

# K1

# Pump panel returns to the near side

A lower cab floor, a mid-mount pump, increased locker space and vehicle length are the major features of the latest iteration of the Fire Service's Type 1 pump appliance. Currently under construction at Fraser Fire in Lower Hutt, the first unit is close to completion.

The relocation of the pump from the rear and some

tweaking in the design mean that there is nearly full cubic meter of extra locker space. The hosereel will still remain at the rear, but it will take a sharp eye to find the differences by looking only at the body pod.

It's up front in the crew cab where the most noticeable changes are evident. The cab is set considerably lower



***A new Type 1 being fitted out at Fraser Fire.***

***Bufs may struggle to find significant exterior differences, apart from the pump and lower steps to the cab.***

Photo: NZFS

to the ground which will mean there is one less step to mount before entering. It is also narrower by a little over a metre. This is obvious in the accompanying photos.

Even with these changes the Iveco ML100 platform will still offer performance very similar to the existing Type 1 appliance.

Information supplied to *K1* by Fire Service NHQ also describes the following points:

## **Cab and chassis**

The same space inside the cab

The same safety equipment and features

## **Body and pump**

The NZFS equipment load carrying capability will increase by 100 kg to 1000 kg

The appliance will be approximately 400 mm longer (no longer than 7500 mm) due to the appliance being narrower by approximately 110 mm

The long access ladder (mounted on a sliding gantry down the centre of the appliance) will increase in extended length by 1.2 m

The same water tank capacity (2000 litres). The same foam tank capability (60 litres)

Simpler Class A foam system. The same number of foam capable outlets, i.e. the hose reel and two deliveries (one O/S and one N/S)

The same pump performance (1920 l/pm). The pump will be mounted immediately behind the cab (i.e. mid-mount) with the pump panel located inside the N/S A locker (Front Locker)





The same number of inlets and outlets, with one pump inlet and two delivery outlets on the N/S, one delivery outlet on the O/S, and one 60 m hose reel at the rear.

The move from standard suction hose to Storz couplings on clear suction hose.

**Look ! No pump!!!**



**Spot the difference....**

## New pump technology on Type 1

New technology on the revamped Type 1 includes the Pump Boss – the pump pressure and engine speed is controlled by a FRC (Fire Research Corporation) electronic pump pressure controller.

The pump pressure controller uses microprocessor technology and operates in one of two modes, PRESSURE or ENGINE RPM.

It maintains a steady pump discharge pressure within system capabilities by controlling the engine speed or holds a selected engine RPM.

In pressure mode the pump pressure controller monitors and compared the selected pressure setting and varies engine RPM to keep the discharge pressure at the selected setting.

In engine RPM mode the pump pressure controller maintains a constant engine RPM.



# Waterview tunnel sets new parameters

Auckland's Waterview road tunnel has been setting records and stretching design parameters ever since its inception. Now that the massive boring machine has departed and the construction crews are well into the final fit-out, the scale of fire suppression and escape/rescue becomes apparent.

The NZ Transport Agency's Waterview Connection project includes the country's longest road tunnels – 2.4km in length. The twin tunnels each carry three three lanes of motorway traffic, meaning firefighters can use all the help they can get. The nearest stations are Balmoral, Avondale, Mt Roskill, Te Atatu and Auckland City.

Construction manager (mechanical and electrical) David Taylor said NZFS staff have been regular visitors throughout the build, providing input into the design and familiarising themselves with the site.

"Key fire service personnel will be invited to witness some of the commissioning of the fire life safety systems including hot smoke testing. There will also be emergency scenario testing involving all main emergency services prior to the tunnels opening in early 2017," he said.

Eighteen exit cross-passages at 150m internals connect the two tunnels together, so the public can be directed to tunnel A if there is an incident in tunnel B. Sixty-two mounted jet fans ensure the non-incident tunnel is maintained at a higher pressure to limit the

potential for smoke migration through the exits.

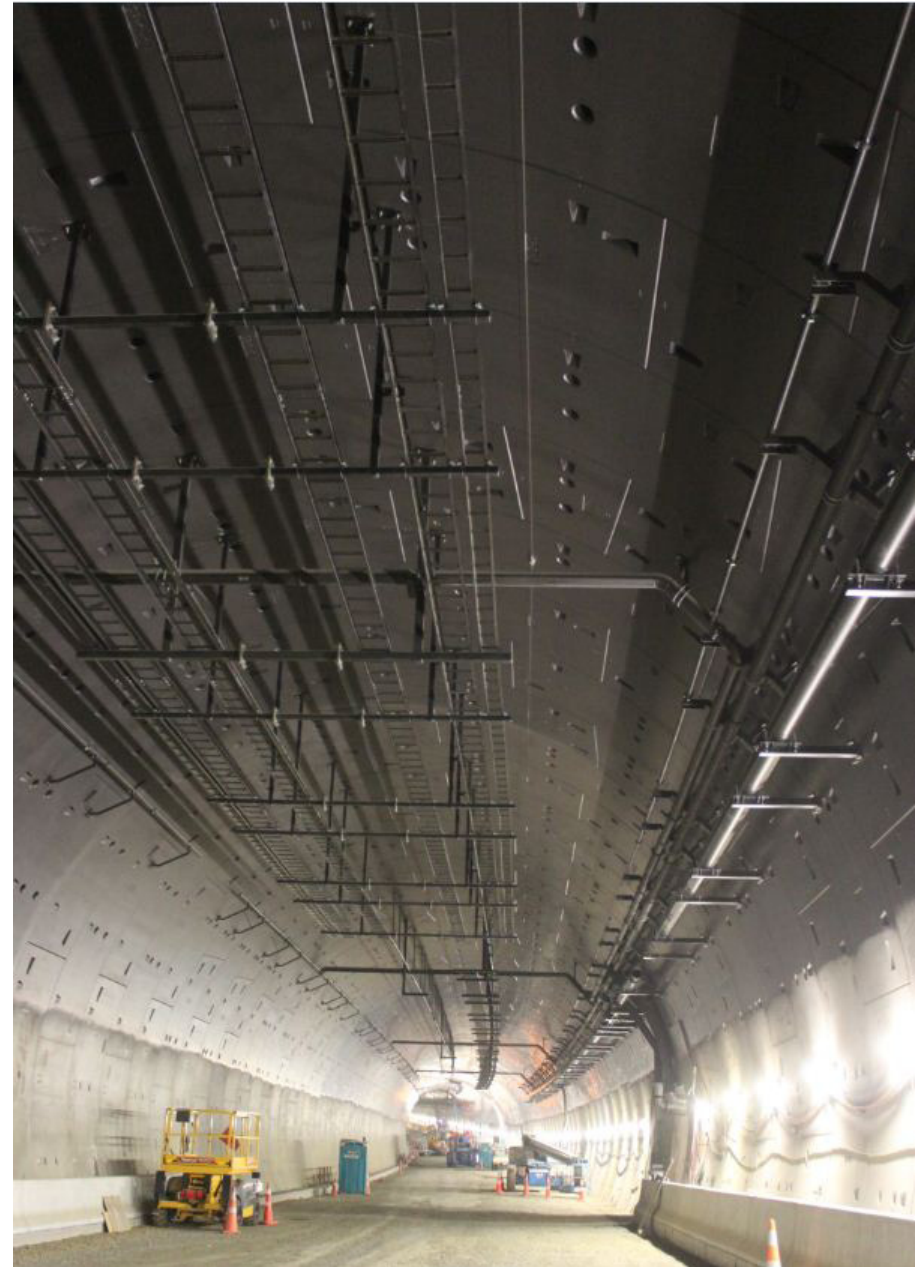
There are 173 separate deluge zones, each providing a discharge density of 10mm/min of water over the full width of a 30m length of carriageway. Pressurised fire hydrant outlets located at 50m intervals along the length of each tunnel provide dedicated firefighting water supply for NZFS operations.

A water ring main is provided in each tunnel with connections between the two legs of the ring main at each exit cross-passage which is supplied by five 250 cu m water tanks (via three dedicated fire water diesel pumps) located within the Southern Ventilation Building adjoining the southern portals.

David Taylor told *K1* that the fire hydrant system has been designed for two hydrants operating simultaneously with three deluge zones.

"The fire water storage capacity

*The massive scale of the project is evident in this photo of one of the tunnels, as the fit-out continues.*



**August 2016**



has been designed on the basis of three deluge zones operating for 90 minutes and two fire hydrants outlets flowing at 12.5 L/sec and operating for a duration of four hours. Due to the potential for hydrocarbon spills in the tunnels, foam deluge sprinkler systems are provided into each of the three tunnel drainage sumps. The foam concentrate is aqueous film forming foam (AFFF)."

The tunnels are provided with multiple levels of fire detection. The primary method is Automatic Video Incident Detection, which alerts the tunnel operators to an incident via the CCTV camera system. "As a redundancy, linear heat detection cables are mounted to the tunnel roof. The cables are capable of providing discrete alarm signals to the fire alarm control panel upon detection of a fire. If no operator response is initiated within a specific timeframe, the fire alarm control panels will automatically activate the deluge zones over the active linear heat (fire) zones."



**Auckland firefighters test radio networks from inside the new tunnels.**

Smoke detection is provided throughout the ancillary, or back of house areas, associated with the tunnel. Ventilation buildings situated at each end of the tunnels direct exhaust gases up and away through ventilation stacks built into ventilation structures. The ventilation buildings also house the main HV transformers, switchgear and control systems that are required to power and operate the tunnels.

The Transport Agency project is New Zealand's largest, most ambitious and complex roading project ever.

## Some of the facts ...

- The \$1.4bn Waterview Connection is one of six related projects either completed or underway by the NZ Transport Agency on behalf of the Government to complete the Western Ring Route and link Auckland's Northwestern and Southwestern Motorways (State Highways 16 and 20).
- The Waterview Connection involves construction of a 5km-long extension to the Southwestern Motorway to connect with the Northwestern Motorway.
- Half of the connection is underground in 2.4km bored twin tunnels constructed by the 10th largest diameter (14.4m) tunnel boring machine in the world, making these the world's 10th largest diameter tunnels. Each tunnel will carry three lanes of traffic.
- The tunnels are twice the length of the Auckland Harbour Bridge.
- The Southwestern and Northwestern Motorways will be connected by a giant motorway-to-motorway interchange at the Great North Road near the tunnels' northern portals.



**A multi-agency exercise at the northern portals.**

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0800 - 10 10 55



## Top shelf

**The Observe, Orient, Decide and Act Model of Decision-Making:** Using the OODA Loop can help improve your efficiency under stress – Billy Schmidt (2012)

For most of my career, I've read and studied firefighter behaviors when operating in dangerous and chaotic situations. I've discovered there are numerous descriptors and attributes (situational awareness, task management, communication, decision-making, teamwork, followership and leadership) that are required for us to work in an environment filled with challenge and uncertainty.

*January 20, 2012*

**What do people desire in their leaders? The effect of leadership experience on desired leadership traits** – Austin Lee Nichols, (2016)

*Leadership & Organization Development Journal*, Vol. 37 Iss 5 pp. 658 - 671

The purpose of this paper is to determine how leadership experience affects the value leaders place on leadership traits. In particular, the author sought to determine if individuals with different amounts of leadership experience differentially desire traits related to dominance and co-operation.

**Traditional Fire Organizations and WUI (wildland/urban interface) Firefighting**

With more than 30 percent of the United States' population living in WUI areas and rapidly growing, WUI firefighting and prevention must become a core service for traditional fire departments with current or future existing WUI in their jurisdictions.

*FireRescue* June 2006

# Minister urges participation in fire service Bill

It is now less than a year until Fire and Emergency New Zealand officially launches and Internal Affairs Minister Peter Dunne is pleased with progress.

“The framework is now in place – the next step is making it a reality. There is a lot of work ahead of us all, however the end is in sight. We are now at the stage where we know the ‘what’ and we’re moving to the ‘how’”

Legislation to modernise the nation’s fire services passed its first reading in July, and makes way for one of the most significant changes to the fire sector since the 1940s. The legislation, he told *K1*, will be back in the House and passed by March next year to enable the FENZ launch in July.

Getting feedback on the FENZ bill and regulations is critical. “There will always be challenges but I am committed to on-going engagement and consultation. It’s important to know this is not a takeover; it is a way to move forward and create a fire service that works for New Zealanders.

“Though FENZ will consider what emergency services are required in an area and where the needs of the community lie, it’s important for New Zealanders to have their say on how the new organisation will operate.” The select committee has called for submissions and the Minister reminds everyone their views are important. “Share them by making a select committee submission. Here’s the guide to help make your submission. Be sure to also give your opinion

on the regulations supporting the Bill through the discussion document.”

The Government Administration Select Committee

will be receiving submissions on the bill, <https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/scl/government-administration/>.

Minister Peter Dunne said we now need your thinking on the detail of how Fire and Emergency New Zealand will operate. “We would like to hear your views on the Discussion Document the Department of Internal Affairs has released.” See <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Fire-Services-Transition>. Questions and submissions can be emailed to [FireServicesTransition@dia.govt.nz](mailto:FireServicesTransition@dia.govt.nz).

## Objectives and functions of FENZ

The main objectives of FENZ – as set out in Clause 10 of the FENZ Bill – include: reducing the incidence of unwanted fire and the associated risk to life and property, and; in relation to its main functions, protecting and preserving life, preventing or limiting injury, and preventing or limiting damage to property, land and the environment.

Clause 11 sets out the main functions of FENZ:

- promoting fire safety;
- providing fire prevention, response, and suppression services;
- stabilising or rendering safe incidents that involve hazardous substances;
- rescuing trapped persons (e.g. MVAs);
- providing urban search and rescue services;
- efficiently administering the Bill.

Clause 12 outlines additional functions. Before performing these services, FENZ must ensure it retains the capacity to perform its main functions. Additional functions include:

- responding to medical emergencies;
- performing technical rescues (e.g. collapsed buildings);
- providing assistance at transportation incidents (e.g. crash scene cordoning and traffic control);
- responding to severe weather-related events, natural hazard events, and disasters;
- responding to certain incidents involving substances or material that create a risk;
- promoting safe practices relating to hazardous substances.

The link to view the entire bill is: <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/legislation-reform-new-zealand%E2%80%99s-fire-services>



# Day One first priority for transition team

The change from NZFS to FENZ will take four to five years, but the transition team will have a plan for Day One by the end of this month.

This means making sure trucks go out the door, people know who they report to and what they're supposed to do, people get paid and everyone has access to information and equipment to do their jobs on 1 July, 2017, said commission board chair Paul Swain.

The board wants to use the expertise already in the sector as it works out what Fire and Emergency New Zealand will look like and how it's going to operate, he told K1.

Board member Nicki Crauford will chair a new Transition Committee, supported by board members

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Public consultation is happening now on legislation and regulations. Submissions on the Fire and Emergency Bill close on 18 August. Go to [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/51SCGA\\_SCF\\_00DBHOH\\_BILL69468\\_1/fire-and-emergency-new-zealand-bill](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/51SCGA_SCF_00DBHOH_BILL69468_1/fire-and-emergency-new-zealand-bill) for information about how to make a submission on the Bill. Submissions on the Discussion Document on proposed regulations also close on 18 August. More information is on the DIA website: <https://dia.govt.nz/Fire-Services-Transition>

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Peter Drummond and Angela Hauk-Willis. Paul Baxter attends the meetings in his position as NZFS CEO. David Strong has been appointed Programme Director of the Transition. He will report to the board's Transition Committee and lead a team of about 30 people designing all aspects of the new organisation. He is a former Lt Col with the NZDF and held a similar change management position with NZ Post recently.

"This transition team is independent of the New Zealand Fire Service and any other organisation that will form part of Fire and Emergency New Zealand," said Mr Swain, "because this transition is about creating a totally new organisation with new ways of thinking and working. It's about building on the strengths of rural and urban fire to create a new organisation that will serve our communities for the next 70 years, just as the current organisations have served us for the past 70 years."

Fire and Emergency New Zealand will be a success if the right people help to design the new organisation, he

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*Paul Swain*



said. "We want to use the expertise that we already have in the fire services."

The transition team is setting up work teams, covering things like technology, assets, people and organisational design, pilots and local committees. Each team will be supported by stakeholder engagement, communications and change management.

Planning is being done to make sure each work area has covered off what's needed for Day One, with a longer term view in mind, with input from the people with expertise and knowledge in those areas.

"It is going to several years before we have a fully unified organisation – and that's when we're going to start seeing new ways of thinking and working," said Mr Swain.

The board is hugely excited by the challenges ahead. "We're building a brand new, larger organisation, with a bigger mandate. It's going to bring a wealth of opportunities right across the workforce."

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The FENZ transition project has set up a website [www.fenzproject.co.nz](http://www.fenzproject.co.nz) so it can keep you informed as the many parts of the fire services sector come together to design Fire and Emergency New Zealand. Updates will be posted to this site so it becomes a useful 'go to' place for information. You can send questions to [myvoice@fenzproject.co.nz](mailto:myvoice@fenzproject.co.nz)

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**August 2016**

# Geraldine wins ARRO

Geraldine volunteers are the toast of the ARRO community having won the 2016 title.

The country town fire brigade was a wild card entry from the New Zealand challenge, but proving consistency wins, it was first in the team leader and second in both the Extraction and Time Critical disciplines. The team was Graeme Dwyer, Travis Smith, Christine Horne (St John), Graeme Mould, Grant Stephens and Pat Brennan.

It was New Zealand's third win in 22 years.

Continuing NZFS' great showing in the challenge, Rolleston was third in the Entrapped, and Rangiora third in the Controlled Rescue.

Now Geraldine has to get its head around travelling to Romania next year for the world challenge, where it will be up against many very experienced career teams.

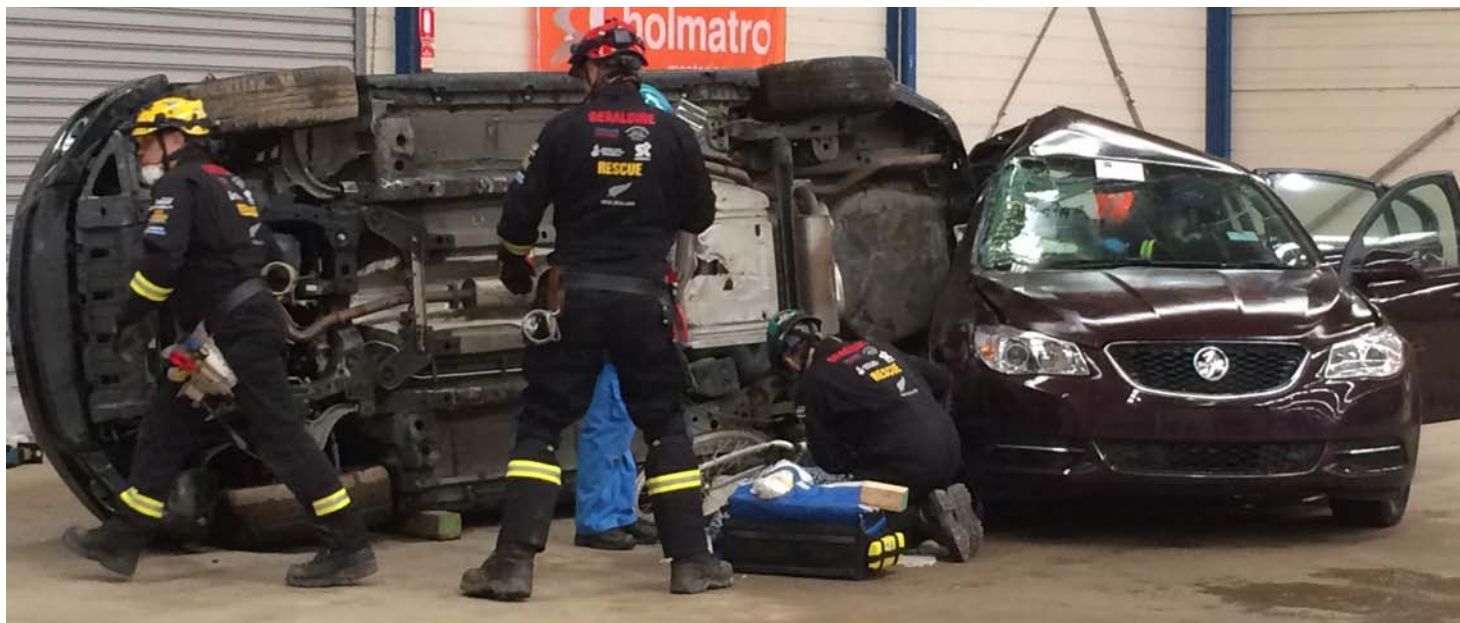
The 2016 challenge was held at Lardner Park, near Melbourne. Next year's Australasian challenge will be held in Hamilton.



**Geraldine with the winner's hardware.** Photo: ARRO



**Geraldine at work during the challenge.** Photo: Kirsten Bolton, UFBA





# Live firing and MVAs

The New Zealand Defence Force and NZFS have a strong relationship, especially in Waiouru. As Waiouru is the only brigade that falls between Taihape to the south, Ohakune to the west and Turangi to the north, it has a very large turnout area, and works very closely with the Turangi brigade to keep the Desert Road safe.

With Waiouru Camp gradually winding down and moving to Linton and Burnham, the absence of the Army's Waiouru camp brigade is going to leave a major hole in fire and rescue cover along the Desert Road and the township. There is no set date yet for the brigade's move, but it is believed the current plan is that it will transfer to Burnham.

Lance Corporal/Senior Firefighter Karl Mouldey reports that a vast majority of incidents Waiouru attends are scrub fires due to the large area of the Waiouru Military Training Facility. These fires are often due to other NZDF units undertaking live field firing or exercises.

In the year of July 2015 to July 2016, Waiouru responded to 158 calls:

- 70 scrub fires;
- 29 MVA, including one fatal;
- 26 PFAs;
- 20 helicopter landing sites;
- 4 structure fires;
- 3 medical assist;

- 1 hazardous substance incident;
- 1 vehicle fire;
- 5 other special service calls.

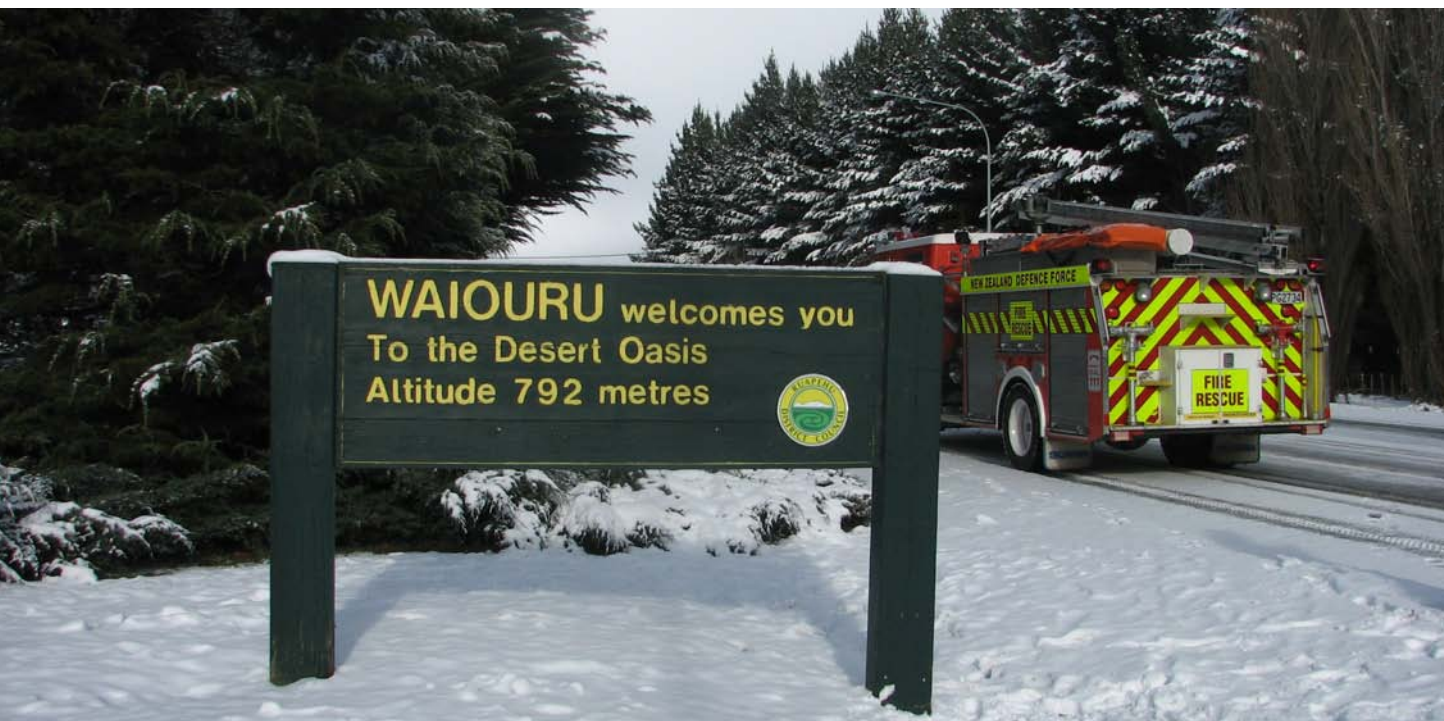
The brigade is kept busy in summer with scrub fires and busy in winter with motor vehicle crashes, with an array of other incidences in-between. It also has to comply with compliance training from the NZFS, NRFA and Army. This allows Waiouru firefighters to be eligible for deployments with the NRFA and also NZDF while also protecting the community of Waiouru.

Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade was established in 1940 by Warrant Officer Class One Ormond Poppleton. Prior to WO1 Poppleton joining the Army, he served as a firefighter in Wellington for about eight years. His primary role was to organise a fire service for the camp which was being built at the time.

The station was located in the middle of Powles Ave inside the camp, and was made up of five separate buildings. This station served as the Waiouru Military Camp Fire Brigade fire station until 2011, when the brigade moved to the current location on Tank Road. This new station was a refurbishment of the Light Armoured Vehicle hangars. Today the current station houses six appliances, with living quarters and a lecture room attached.

In 2012, all New Zealand Army firefighters underwent a title change to Emergency Responders to better encapsulate the vast workload as emergency responders would encounter, not just putting water on fires.

The WMCFB currently has eight appliances within the confines of camp. Two Scania G93Ms serve as the PRT and the frontline pump – call signs W937 and W931. W937 has all the hydraulic rescue gear much similar



**August 2016**

to NZFS, and W931 is the pump that also carries a PPV fan, Level 4 gas suits and a decontamination shower. These have been in service since 1991 and hold a water capacity of 1350L.

Three Hino GT1118s serve as rural fire appliances. These hold 2700L of water and are 4WD capable. They were introduced into service in 1987 and are currently in the process of being replaced.

An ex-NZFS 1982 International ACCO acts as the NZDF's spare appliance for Linton & Waiouru camps and Ohakea and Whenuapai Air Force bases. This appliance was purchased from the NZFS in 2007. The Mercedes Benz Unimog (known as the 'Firepod') a prototype appliance used to design the soon to be in-service Detachable Fire Pods replacing the Hinos. The Firepod consists of a 70/35 CAFS unit, a Millennium pump, two lockers to store rural firefighting equipment and a 1000L water tank.

The command unit, known as Waiouru 1, is the Duty Executive Officer's appliance. Due for replacement, this Nissan Navara houses an assortment of incident control point accessories including Incident control board and all incident management team jerkins.

### Training

After completion of the All Arms Recruit Course held in Waiouru, New Zealand Army emergency responders are required to attend a firefighting course run in Linton at the Joint Services Fire School where all new sappers undergo a three-month basic fire course. Then they must complete a consolidation period of 18 months on-the-job training before they attend their intermediate fire course. This is a nine-week course equivalent of the SFF programme in the NZFS. After this course, they are then deemed capable of being an OIC of a rural appliance back in their respective camps.

After this course, Army ERs start their pump operation and emergency response driving portfolios before they complete an NZFS approved course. On the completion of these courses, the ERs are then eligible for promotion to Lance Corporal within the New Zealand Army ranks.

Junior Command and Control is the next course. This seven-week course is the equivalent of the SO Programme. ERs are selected after a period of 18-24 months and take the next step in their career. On completion of this course and a selected New Zealand Army course, ERs are eligible for promotion to Corporal.

Senior command and control is the last course held at the JSFS. This course, the equivalent of the SSO programme, is a five-week course. On completion of this course and a selected New Zealand Army course, ERs are eligible for promotion to Sergeant.

An NZDF fire brigade is very similar in rank structure to that of the NZFS. Starting from the top:

- Emergency Response Master/ Chief Fire Officer. Army rank of Warrant Officer Class One, Class Two or a Staff Sergeant.
- Emergency Response Second in Command/ Deputy Chief Fire Officer. Army rank of Staff Sergeant or Sergeant.
- 3 shifts/watches. These are made up of an IC, 2IC, a Senior Responder and 3 Responders.
- A Shift IC is either an SSO/Sergeant or an SO/ Corporal.
- Shift 2IC is either an SO/Corporal or an SFF/ Lance Corporal.
- The other 4 shift member can be a mixture of SFF/Lance Corporal or QFF/FF/Sappers.

All ERs wear the equivalent NZFS rank on their helmets for ease when NZDF and NZFS are operating in the same workplace.



**K1**



# Auckland blacks Type 3

Auckland City firefighters have black-listed the station's lead truck – the Type 3 MAN – after months of increasing failures with the truck.

K1 understands that the number of City's K0 hours has risen dramatically since the MAN has been on the run, and has now reached a level firefighters find unacceptable. It is the worst kept secret in the NZFS that career crews have been generally unhappy with the Type 3 ever since it made its debut.

Blacking the truck is a rare move. Firefighters have gone to the media saying they believe someone will be killed if the faults are not fixed – firefighter or a member of the public. Failures include water pumps not working, door latches falling off trapping

firefighters, and major engine trouble. At a recent house fire in central Auckland, one fire engine could not get water pumping through a hose and a second broke down at the station.

"When a door flies open when you're responding to a call, it's a little bit disconcerting," said union branch secretary Boyd Raines. "When you can't get out of your truck to do your firefighting duties or do medical duties or CPR, that's quite disconcerting for the firefighters. Or a pump won't go into gear at a fire so you can't put the fire out or do search and rescue if there are people trapped."

He said the faults were widespread across the fleet of vehicles introduced just last year, and are preventing firefighters from doing their job. City's MAN has failed to start twice and Balmoral's once in a recent six day period. So far there had been 215 complaints of gear failure.

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**Auckland City's 207.**  
Photo: Daniel Capon,  
111Emergency



## Olympic K1 for Cairns

K1 200m flat-water kayaking competitor, Anne Cairns, is at the Rio Olympic games. In doing so she has had to maintain two tough training regimes – for her flat water kayaking and as a career firefighter at Palmerston North.

Cairns, 34, recently farewelled her firefighting colleagues who marked the occasion with a special cake presented at a good luck morning tea at the station.

Self-funded, she will not be representing New Zealand, but instead will be paddling for Samoa – qualifying through her Samoan-born mother. Firefighters and friends chipped in and a 'Givealittle' page was established for her.

Her first run is on August 15 on what looks to be an often windy and unpredictable course. Area Manager Mitch Brown told K1 that although Cairns is very humble and quiet about her adventure, the guys on station seem to be quite in awe of her and the fact that one of their number is an Olympian.





# Million-dollar run



Firefighters from 234 brigades across the country have set another new fundraising record for the Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge, raising just over \$1,161,000 for Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand. The event hit the million dollar milestone for the first time last year.

More than 850 firefighters from across the country took part in the event, racing up the 1103 stairs. The 2016 target was set at \$850,000 which was achieved three days before the event and continued to rapidly climb.

Photos:  
Shaun  
Jeffers  
Photography

Fundraising initiatives were many and varied. The title of top individual fundraiser within a team was highly contested and went to Simon Oliver from the Taranaki stair climb team who raised \$14,671.20. The top individual fundraiser not in a team was Daniel Coley from Bunnythorpe who raised \$5343.70.

The team that raised the most money was Auckland Airport Fire Rescue with \$64,280.82. The brigade that raised the most money based on the number of firefighters in the team was Oamaru – \$24,136.72.

Pru Etcheverry, CEO of Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand, said she is humbled by the amount of time, effort and commitment every participant put in to fundraising for this event. "We simply are just speechless that we have hit yet another fundraising milestone and are so very grateful to the firefighters for going so above and beyond for LBC."





## Six of the best for Josh

Mt Wellington's Josh Harrison made it six in a row, powering up the Sky Tower in an incredible 8 minutes and 48 seconds. In second place for a second year was William Garnett from Auckland Airport Fire Rescue who completed the climb in 9 minutes and 35 seconds, while Nick Graham from Otahuhu came third with a time of 9 minutes and 43 seconds.

The fastest woman up the tower was Tracey Lemon from Waihi Beach with a time of 13 minutes and 57 seconds.

Pictured taking the lift down afterward are: (from left: William Garnett (2nd), Nick Graham (3rd), Josh Harrison and Jackson Kluts (7th).



## Plan for the unthinkable: Parisian CFO

We need to plan for the unthinkable and continue to imagine what and how the next threat may present itself, is the message from Parisian fire chief, Brigadier General Philippe Boutinaud, who toured Australasia recently to share key learning and reflections.

In January and November 2015, the French capital suffered terrorist attacks for which the Islamic State claimed responsibility. These attacks resulted in a complex combination of co-ordinated actions (shootings, explosions, hostage taking), unprecedented for Paris and represented a real challenge for the emergency services as a whole.

General Boutinaud was in charge of all the rescue operations in Paris on November 13, 2015.

Prior to 2015, the Paris Fire Brigade made a series of continual improvements to organisational systems, procedures and plans following on from the London (2004), Madrid (2005) and Mumbai (2008) attacks.

This included the 'Red Plan Alpha', which was applied in 2005, and is dedicated to managing mass casualties in multiple locations, with principles based on disaster medicine, triage and evacuation. Additionally, its operation centre was consolidated in 2011 to include the emergency call centre, the medical co-ordination centre and crisis centre all in one location. The Paris Fire Brigade also maintains

double subordination status with the Ministry of Interiors (Police) and Defence. In many aspects, these factors contributed to the overall incident management efficiency on 13 November 2015.

On 13 November, 2015, Paris was struck in seven different locations in 40 minutes, with two major terrorist attacks near the Stade de France and in the Bataclan concert hall. Hundreds of firefighters and medical teams were mobilised for almost eight hours for the extraction, the triage and the evacuation of people wounded by bullets and blast shrapnel.

In total, 130 persons died, almost 400 were seriously injured and over 4000 have been psychologically impacted by the incident.

We need to plan for the unthinkable and continue to imagine what and how the next threat may present itself, the General said. Don't plan based on the last event. There is a need to reconceptualise what future joint exercises and training will look like. Make time for it, and commit to it.

### Psychosocial support

Ensure psychosocial support is available and accessible to victims, emergency services

**Brigadier  
Boutinaud**



personnel and their families. The psychological and social impacts of emergencies can remain dormant and emerge long after the incident has occurred. We need to acknowledge the important role our agencies and organisations can play in raising awareness and improving understanding of psychosocial support, reducing the stigma associated with mental health.

### **Medical services integration, co-ordination and support**

To take stock and understand the capacity of medical services to deal with a large scale of mass casualties and ensure the necessary agreements between emergency services, hospitals and health providers are in place to respond collectively if necessary.

### **Joint training / tactical training exercises**

Conduct regular joint training exercises that involve co-ordination between police, fire and ambulance. Exercises that include participation from health providers should also be conducted regularly. Note that training exercises should focus on tactical elements of a high threat event such as regional trauma services, mass casualty, area surveying and active shooters. The Paris brigade practices varying scenarios every weekend.

### **Social media**

There is a strong need for solidarity. Ensure the timely use of social media as early as possible to deliver messages to the public that help minimise duress on emergency services and keep the public informed. The use of social media is becoming an important tool and should be utilised by agencies for

intelligence gathering purposes.

### **Command and control structure**

A clear common understanding of the command and control structure is needed by all agencies.

Ensuring Police can manage the active shooter risk and danger and have overall safety and security responsibility of the incident locations and work effectively with other emergency services personnel.

Having consistent and standard naming protocols is also needed to ensure police and emergency services agencies are using the same language. This is

### ***Parisian firefighters assist the injured after the Charlie Hebdo attack.***



### ***Firefighters haul survivors from the Bataclan Theatre where 90 people died in the attack.***

particularly important in the co-ordination of multiple incident sites.

### **Resource allocation**

Ensure precise allocation of resources, particularly personnel. Resources will be in high demand during a high threat incident but agencies must remember to allocate appropriately to ensure there is a reserve force in place ready to be deployed in the event of subsequent attacks and to respond to business as usual incidents.

### **First responders**

Foster a learning culture amongst first responders, so they learn from the good and the bad, without fear of reprisal or judgment. Agencies need to be one step ahead, the General concluded. Think about what the first responder will look like in the years to come.

With thanks to AFAC



# Fire storm wrecks early Stratford

Early settlers in the Stratford district went about their chores and jobs on Wednesday 6 January, 1886, while in the surrounding countryside smoke rose lazily from the farmers' bush burns.

The town clearing (pictured below, a few months earlier), at this stage covered about a square mile, the greater part of which was still littered with stumps, dead trees and logs. From a scatter of houses and cottages among this debris the clearing was being 'farmed', with gardens, orchards, hen runs, pigsties, and patches shut up for grass seed.

The wind begun to freshen about 2 pm and building steadily, it first merged fires from many points, creating great updrafts which then hastened their spread by wafting great showers of sparks about over the mountain slopes. From the huge un-felled dead ratas dominating the clearings came great flakes of fire as sunbaked pieces of twigs and bark were whirled

skyward to fall like hail over the broad countryside. Many clearings were struck without warning as airborne sparks ignited ripening patches of grass seed or tinder dry bush burn debris, which the wind quickly fanned into new conflagrations. The district's trees were draped with an abundance of moss, usually damp or sodden, but now tinder dry from the long drought.

Some settlers were taken completely by surprise by fire bursting from green standing bush, never before known to carry flames. Others had brief warning as the day was suddenly turned to darkness by the dense smoke of burning green bush.

An Auckland visitor to a clearing just west of the township described the strange sensations accompanying the approach of the flames. At 3 pm they heard a peculiar wind-like noise coming through the bush. Soon the sun was entirely obscured. Then

the fire burst upon the clearing, sweeping it clear of everything—fences, stacks of posts, grass, sheep, cattle. Struggling in the darkness, in danger from maddened horses and cattle rushing wildly to and fro, the family managed to fetch water and save their home.

The fire meanwhile swept into the standing bush on the other side of the clearing and swept on toward Stratford, falling upon the township with appalling rapidity.

So intense was the burning and so dense the smoke, that the inhabitants felt as much in danger of suffocation as of burning. In fact, in the four or five hours that they battled for their town, they seem to have divided their time between defending their homes and fleeing down into the Patea River's little ravine, where they lay on their faces gasping to get some real air back into their lungs. The fire gradually petered out in the bush to the east of the town.

The evening train from Hawera carried firefighters but the main danger to Stratford had passed. Twenty-three members of the New Plymouth Brigade, plus their fire engine arrived by train the following evening and methodically got to work extinguishing all stumps and smouldering buildings.

It was all over for Stratford, but the fire storm had moved off to savage Midhurst. On the morning of 12 January, rain began to fall steadily and the danger was soon over. Little Stratford and its 229 residents had lost 19 homes, 25 sheds, crops, fences, 36 animals.

After this experience, we wonder how many times Stratford town board chairman Charles Curtis, recalled his decision to turn down the New Plymouth mayor's earlier offer of a fire engine, and shuddered at the memory.



# Stratford still going strong

by Brent Rawlinson

Five years after the fledgling Stratford township was razed by a bush firestorm (see earlier article), the Stratford volunteer fire brigade was formed. However, clearing of virgin bush by fire continued and when bush fires threatened the town, it was not uncommon for all shopkeepers to close up their businesses and turn out in force and help.

Now 125 years on, bush fires tend to be scrubbies and the brigade's work has expanded to incidents unheard of at the time – like MVAs.

**1894** Fire brigade proved inadequate during the disastrous fire that destroyed several businesses in Broadway. The brigade was reorganised with the Bank of Australasia's R. Hirschberg appointed captain and C. Penn secretary. The original fire station was a small shed near the northern entrance to the railway station in Broadway central. During the Stratford Volunteer

Fire Brigade's earlier existence, a converted taxi was used as a fire engine – very unorthodox as this vehicle had to be cranked to the left.

**1895** Funds were raised from concerts and dances for a new station in Broadway North, where Norwoods' machinery building is now located.

**1896** Brigade taken over by Stratford town board which had petitioned Parliament expressing concerns at delays in obtaining consent to borrow money for a high pressure water supply for firefighting. Water was taken from small creeks until a series of wells were dug along the eastern fringe of Broadway.

The earliest manual pump was purchased from the military in north Taranaki, it's final days spent carting beer to Whangamomona hotel from the nearby Whangamomona railway station.

**1902** Town water supply extended across the Patea river, a subsidiary fire station was built in Broadway South.

**1912** Major blaze at Trocadero Hotel.

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***The brigade sifts through the remains of the Municipal Buildings after a major blaze on October 23, 1913.***

**1914** Municipal buildings built 1900 were destroyed by fire.

**1933** Broadway south fire station was closed and demolished after approximately 30 years' use. Fire bells were erected in Miranda Street and Portia Street: one of these bells now sits outside the present fire station after being found in Moller Johnson building in New Plymouth in the late 1980s. The bell was restored in readiness for the brigade's centennial in 1991.

**1945** Responsibility for the brigade shifted from the Stratford Borough Council to the Stratford Fire Board with Roy Curtis being it's first chairman.

**1948** The Stratford Municipal fire brigade won the New Zealand competitions at Wanganui competing against 42 other teams winning by the slender margin of one-sixth of a point. The last event on the programme was the two-man rescue; Stratford's turn came and all went well until a dummy used in the rescue was dumped on the stretcher with improper care and an arm was allowed to touch the ground, contrary to the rules. The judges ruled that the incident would be disqualification, but in check found the offending team would be penalised five seconds. Stratford had been the fastest run on the day (36 seconds) and with the penalty imposed, was still placed third in the run giving the team enough points to win the overall competition.

**1951** Kleeman and Bishop's garage (Kleeman was my grandfather) now known as Mountain Motors. Premises completely gutted, but brigade saved between £6000 to £7000 in spare parts. The most disastrous fire Stratford had seen for 25 years and of the basis of the value of the property destroyed, the most expensive fire Stratford had seen.







**A 3rd alarm house fire in 2012.** Photo: Stuff

**21 April 1956** New fire station opened, including four bedrooms for single men's quarters used for more than 20 years, control room, social room and a kitchen. Estimated cost £22,500.

**1961** The Toko volunteer fire brigade was formed and became an axillary brigade under Stratford.

**1962** Stratford Press Factory. Fire raced through the premises of the Broadway North printing office publishers of the Stratford Press causing thousands of pounds in damage. Irreplaceable printing equipment and stationery were lost in the blaze. Due to overwhelming generosity and the assistance of a number of Stratford citizens the next weeks edition was printed although a few hours late. The *Stratford*

*Press* is still in existence today and is printed weekly.

**1966** SVFB first brigade in New Zealand to use the ripple relay house bell warning for its members in at home and in some cases, their place of employment. This up-to-date alarm system was built by the members of the brigade.

**1976** Stratford Municipal Fire Board went out of existence in with national restructuring and the name reverted to the Stratford Volunteer Fire Brigade.

**1982** Bedrooms that were no longer used were removed making way for a larger brigade social room. The fire station premises are still being used today.

**1983** Another fire at the tannery did have a tank of white spirits explode which sent fire raging through the old adjacent structure.

**1988** Stratford Courthouse. Fire at the 90-year-old building had the letters RM on the south side referring to Regional Magistrate; this term had not been used since 1895. Stratford no longer has a court house with court cases being tranferred to Hawera. Thanks to donations and grants of \$100,000 including a \$60,000 grant from the TSB Community Trust, the building was restored and is now situated at the Taranaki Pioneer Village in Stratford.

**1989** Whakaahurangi Marae. Valuable carvings and family treasures were lost when the Stratford marae's meeting house, kitchen and toilets were completely gutted. All have been replaced.

**1999** Stratford Hotel. The 127-year-old two-story wooden building caught fire, but there was nobody living on site at the time. Forty firefighters and eight appliances fought the fire but were beaten back as

***A good save:  
Stratford prevented the fire in a sleep-out from spreading to the main house.***



**August 2016**

the building succumbed to the flames. Due to the wind direction, the brigade prevented the fire from spreading to the adjacent buildings.

**2001** Mrs Eagar's Broadway South boarding house made from rimu valued at \$27,000, was completely gutted. The building was used as an boarding house in the 1940s.

**2002** E. H. Fazackerley's timber mill in Cloten Road was destroyed along with timber stocks and machinery. The historic building was built of tinder dry rimu and matai with oregon roof trusses. The mill was originally built in 1889 as a bacon factory.

**2012** Avon maternity ward. Arsonists destroyed a 62-year-old slice of Stratford history. Fire swept through the maternity ward and spread to other sectors of the deserted medical complex. Flames were raging out of control when firefighters arrived.

## Cairns case will be heard

Former Kaiapoi firefighter Brent Cairns' claims against the NZFS will proceed, following a court management conference last month.

The judge has directed that a judicial settlement conference will be held late this month, rather than hearing a trial. The purpose of such a hearing is to give the parties an opportunity to negotiate a settlement.

Cairns is alleging senior NZFS officers illegally held investigations into himself after he laid a series of complaints.



*Two-year-old Harry Bennett 'driving' one of Stratford's collection of vintage appliances at the 125-year celebrations recently.*  
Photo: Stuff

## Waiting on WorkSafe report

Riversdale firefighters could have another month to wait until they hear the outcome of a Worksafe NZ investigation into an incident that included their rescue of a worker trapped in a grain silo.

News reports at the time said tradesmen and farm workers frantically baled buckets of grain in a desperate attempt to free an electrical contractor who had become entombed in a grain silo. Riversdale CFO David Stevenson praised the workers saying they had saved the man's life by getting his head free.

Firefighters entered the silo to secure the man and give him oxygen, and then dug him out, once other crews arrived to help. It is not known how the electrical worker came to be submerged in the stored grain.

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## New mobility aid benefit

The NZ Firefighters Welfare Society has a new benefit for members: the Mobility Aid Benefit.

It is payable to assist in the costs of mobility aids required for members, member's spouse or dependent child.

This benefit is to assist members to cover costs associated with the hiring or purchases of mobility aids after an accident, illness or surgery.





## Gold Stars

50 Year Medals and Golds Stars for May and June were:

### 50 Year Medal

Allan Evans	Katikati
James Shaw	Waihi

### Gold Star

Rik Walsh	New Plymouth
David Lavery	Winton
Noel Birchall	Ashhurst
Rodger Weatherall	Milton

## Queens Service Medal for 7

Awarded the Queen's Service Medal in the Birthday honours were:

**Shane Beech** – CFO Maketu since 2006, and Maketu Coastguard.

**Mark Beetham** – former CFO Piopio (appointed at age 25).

**Clifford Deery** – CFO Kawakawa Bay for 20 years.

**Sylvia Forester** – DCFO Waitotara and ambulance first responder for Patea/Waverley/Waitotara district.

**John Harlick** – Tuakau firefighter for 45 years (CFO since 1989) and overseer of the Port Waikato subsidiary.

**Graeme Humphries** – Mossburn and Te Anau firefighter since 1972. CFO Te Anau for 15 years.

**Tony Scott** – Auckland International Airport firefighter for 22 years and volunteer with five different brigades across Auckland and Northland for 27 years. A major force behind the Sky Tower Challenge fundraiser and organiser of the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb.

## 2017 challenges schedule



The majority of times and venues for the 2017 challenges schedule have been settled. If you are able to assist in hosting any of those not yet allocated, please contact Lorelee Hyde at UFBA.

January 21 (TBC)	Region 2 Waterways	Carterton (TBC)
February 4	Region 1 Waterways	(TBC)
February 18	Region 4 Waterways	Clutha/Wanaka
March 2-4	Region 3 Waterways	Ross
March 25	<b>National Waterways</b>	Kamo
April 8	South Island Combat	Alexandra (TBC)
May 5-6	North Island Combat	Palmerston North
May 20 (TBC)	<b>National Combat</b>	Wellington
June 3 (TBC)	Regional RCR	(TBC)
July 20-22	Regional RCR	(TBC)
August (TBC)	<b>Australasian RCR</b>	Hamilton
October 19-21	<b>National Drivers</b>	(TBC)
	<b>Australasian Waterways</b>	Carterton

## August 2016



Haumoana SFF and former CFO **Bill Tims** has died in San Francisco after being struck by a Harley while out walking. His wife Natalie was seriously injured.

Former Third Officer **Kevin Munn**  
Ohakune

LHM **Rex Ratenbury**  
Piopio

Former SO **Robert Cooper**  
Bulls

Former SFF **Henry Jensen**  
Dannevirke

# Back to the future with EMS

In what looks to some as a 'back to the future' moment, the LAFD has recently created a dedicated EMS Bureau.

With more than 85% of the LAFD's responses now medical events, Chief Marc Eckstein explained that the move is to "ensure the provision of optimal patient care in a timely, efficient and compassionate fashion." Currently the LAFD's EMS medical director, he stated "I think it's a bold decision by the fire chief, and it's a great privilege to be able to take on this role,"

Eckstein, also a professor of emergency medicine at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine, added: "To be able to impact the lives of four million people is a daunting responsibility but an incredible blessing. It's really a paradigm shift for the department. We have to have better systems to help our most vulnerable patients with the right type of response."

That includes a new Public Health Unit and increased emphasis on the intersection of EMS and public health concepts. Within that unit is a nurse practitioner

response unit that rolled out earlier this year, along with added fast-response vehicles and future specialised field EMS resources.

Another new endeavor is a planned sobering unit for those with drug and alcohol issues, who are among the department's most frequent callers. If the unit comes to fruition, those calls could be answered by a paramedic and social worker who, instead of transporting the patient to a hospital, would work with them to get treatment and housing. With city council approval, that could start by September.

What this cumulatively represents is an enhanced embrace of the concepts of mobile integrated healthcare. The best response to some patients, Eckstein notes, doesn't always involve firefighters on fire engines.

The back to the future is of course a reference to the very popular TV show from the 1970s based around the lives of

**K1**



two fire-fighter/paramedics and their unit known as Squad 51.

Above: **The new LA County Fire Department's 21st Century Squad 51 parked next to the preserved Universal Studios Squad 51 from the Tv series.**

Below: **Two vintage series collide with the CHiPs series stars mingling with the Squad 51 appliance.**

