

Contact Details

August 2017

www.firefighters.org.nz

these@firefighters.org.nz

Chairman



Keith Nixon
Green Watch
Cell 027 24 80 102
Home (04) 563 6507
Email KeithNixon@firefighters.org.nz

Secretary



Darrel Surman
Cell 021 685 010
Email TheSec@firefighters.org.nz

Treasurer



Bruce Jensen
Cell 027 777 9461
Addsmart Ltd (04) 568 2800
Email bruce@addsmart.co.nz

Office



Avalon TV Studio
41 Percy Cameron Street
Office 0800 65 3473
Email thesec@firefighters.org.nz
Web www.firefighters.org.nz



UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I sit here writing my update from a hotel room in Auckland after spending the day at the Forest and Rural Fire Association of New Zealand (FRFANZ) Annual Conference.

Once again the Welfare Society were invited to attend and present to the members of FRFANZ. Darryl Johnston our region one board representative gave a presentation to the delegates on behalf of the Welfare Society explaining the benefits of belonging to our Society.

We have been well received at this conference and as we go to print we are welcoming more rural brigades and individuals to our membership.

The 1st of July has now come and gone and we continue to work closely with Fire and Emergency management to ensure that our members are well looked after and that even more people are aware of who we are and what we can offer to others within the organization. The more we can continue to grow our membership the more we can offer our current members. Our proposal to Fire and Emergency has not progressed at this time, however the current relationship and arrangements will remain in place and we will work together with Fire and Emergency to ensure that all our members and their families continue to be taken care of.

There has never been a better time to belong to the Welfare Society. As we go to print we are currently in negotiations for a new holiday home in Hanmer Springs.

This has been a well considered process and we are just ensuring our i's are dotted and our t's are crossed. A further announcement on this will be made when everything is signed and sealed.

Our updated phone app is working well. Those members who have the app can now receive notifications from us.

Please remember to download the app if you haven't done so yet.

Region 1



Darryl Johnston
Blue Watch
Cell 021 321 507
Home (09) 817 7275
Work (09) 836 2716
Email darryljt@hotmail.com



Region 4



Erroll Tapiki
Blue Watch
Cell 027 286 6194
Work (04) 577 8380
Email erroll.tapiki@fire.org.nz



Region 2



Malcolm Langdon
Cell 021 324 546
Home (07) 576 3664
Email malcolm.langdon@clear.net.nz



Region 5



Alice Jonathan
Brown Watch
Cell 021 025 68505
Email alice.jonathan010@gmail.com



Region 3



Noel Brock
Black Watch
Cell 027 449 8180
Home (06) 844 7702
Work (06) 834 4245
Email noel.brock@gmail.com



Region 6



Owen Williams
Cell 027 446 8435
Home (03) 489 6114
Email owendwilliams@xtra.co.nz



We have also been able to catch up with some Fire and Emergency management as well as the Hon Peter Dunne. We need to continually push that the Welfare Society is a vital and valuable part of the future make up of Fire and Emergency New Zealand and that we are there for all firefighters and those associated with the service and their families.



Our giveaways at the stand made us extremely popular, with travel coffee mugs and drink bottles going to many homes of those that attended. Whilst the giveaways were being collected it also gave us further opportunity to speak to delegates about joining the Welfare Society.

WELFARE SOCIETY - AGM to be held in conjunction with FIREFIGHTERS CREDIT UNION



NEW ZEALAND FIREFIGHTERS WELFARE
SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 13 September 2017

2.00pm

Petone Working Mens Club

47 Udy Street

PETONE

Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

HOLIDAY HOMES CONDITIONS OF OCCUPANCY

A reminder to all members that are using the holiday homes.

Check in times are 1.00pm. Entry prior to this time is not permitted unless it has been pre-approved with the office prior to your arrival. Even if you check on your phone app and see that the home was not booked the evening before it does not mean that members can go in early. When the houses are free it is a time when caretakers can take regular maintenance checks.

Check out times are 11.00am. Please ensure that you have cleaned the homes by 11.00am and have vacated the premises leaving them clean and tidy. The limited times between members checking out and others checking in is needed so that the homes can be checked over and any issues put right.

We have a strict no animals allowed policy in all our holiday homes.

Please respect these rules.

firefighters helping firefighters - awhi atu awhi mai

KIWIS OFF TO HELP CANADA

Fire and Emergency New Zealand are deploying firefighters and incident management specialists to help contain wildfires in Canada. A number of these people are Welfare Society members.

National Manager Rural Kevin O'Connor said 80 people drawn from Fire and Emergency NZ, the Department of Conservation and Forestry contractors will fly to Vancouver to start what is expected to be a five-week deployment in the province of British Columbia.



Total area burnt this season in Canada sits at 1,202,645 hectares, and is increasing at about 800 hectares per day. There are currently 226 wildfires burning across Canada. British Columbia is the worst affected with over 474,000 hectares burnt already and 135 fires currently burning.

The New Zealand crews will join over 3000 people and 200 planes that are currently engaged in the response effort in British Columbia.

We wish our people well over there and look forward to their safe return to home soil.

THINKING OF TAKING A BREAK

Are you thinking of taking a break away and looking at booking a holiday/convalescent home? If you are just a wee reminder from the office that if you wish to book 12 months in advance you can do. You can book your whole holiday in one go. You do not have to go online everyday to book the home 12 months in advance.

For example if you wish to book a home from 21 August until 27 August 2018 you can go on-line on 21 August 2017 and book the full six nights in one hit. Even though the finish date goes over the 12 months in advance allowance.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US



On the 23rd of September 1987 the New Zealand Firefighters Welfare Society was officially made a Friendly Society under the Friendly Society and Credit Unions Act 1982.

So on this day the Welfare Society will be celebrating turning 30 years old. This is a great achievement and one that can only be met by having great members.

HEALTHCARE 99



Some exciting changes to Healthcare 99.

Besides the traditional full coverage (Option A) and Hospital Only (option B), Healthcare 99 will now offer Option A1 which will pay out 75% of what Option A would pay. The contribution rate is less making this option more affordable. Healthcare 99 will also offer Option B1 with a lesser contribution rate for a 75% pay out of what Option B would pay. Members now have 4 choices, Option A (full coverage), Option A1 (75% of full coverage), Option B (hospital only) and Option B1 (75% of hospital only).

Healthcare 99 engages an Actuary every year to ensure that we are providing the best service we can for members. The Actuary also compares Healthcare 99 with other schemes. It is safe to note, that in value for money, Healthcare 99 rates very highly.

If you would like to know more about Healthcare 99 then visit our website www.firefighters.org.nz

2017 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB



Registration is now open for the 2017 Memorial Stair Climb in Auckland on 11 September.

The Firefighter Memorial Climb is not a race event. This is an event where firefighters can remember fallen colleagues. It is an untimed event and you are encouraged to climb with your mates, shift or brigade.

Registration for this event can be done through the website below.

<http://secure.eventsuite.co.nz/firefighters-climb/>

Once again this year two FDNY Chiefs will be attending the climb, with one being retired Chief of Department Chief Hayden. Chief Hayden headed the North Tower Command on 9/11.

DON'T FORGET TO DOWNLOAD OUR APP

To download this app, if you are an Apple user go to the App Store and search NZFFWS and install. If you are an android user then go to the Google Play Store and search up NZFFWS and open to install.



To access the holiday homes you must be a registered and current financial member of the New Zealand Firefighters Welfare Society. Bookings can be made one year out from the current date. This makes planning your holidays easier and convenient as it can be done at anytime of the day.

Other features of our app is the shift calendar. This helps members with their accommodation planning also.

WELFARE MEMBER - REBECCA WOOD



Rebecca Wood is a member of the Firefighters Welfare Society and this month is lacing up her boots to take on the world as a member of the 2017 Black Ferns.

In announcing her selection in May 2017, Coach Glenn Moore said "he'd been impressed with Rebecca's depth of character and resilience as well as her skill.

Becky is a firefighter and she has a lot of courage. She was someone we had on our radar last year. She's fairly new to the game, but leading up to this her talent and character really stood out."

The Women's Rugby World Cup is being played in Ireland from 9 to 26 August. In our pool we have Canada, Hong Kong and Wales. As we go to print the Black Ferns have been successful in the two pool games so far with very impressive victories. Semi-finals are set to kick off on Thursday 22 August. All these games are to be shown live on Sky Sport. Make sure you all tune in to wish Rebecca and her team all the best.

Everyone at the Welfare Society are right behind you and your team Rebecca.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following Welfare Society Members who have been awarded their 50 year medal or their gold star.

50 Year Medal

Noel Brock
Michael Bull
Eric Robinson
Frank Simpson

Gold Stars

Peter Aitken
Matt Bickers
Kerry Gordon
Mark Kinzett
Brent Marshall
Richard Seccombe
Iain Speirs

