

Help Christchurch firefighters in need.
**Donate to the UFBA Benevolent Fund
Firefighters Earthquake Appeal.**

More inside...



PHOTO: Asher Trafford

Christchurch Emergency Resourcing Needs

The New Zealand Fire Service has been overwhelmed by offers of assistance coming from firefighters and brigades throughout the country. After discussions with UFBA Chief Executive Officer George Verry, the Fire Service's National Coordinator, Bill Butzbach, has released the following communication to brigades through Firenet.

We have received numerous, very generous offers by brigades and individual personnel around the country to help in Christchurch with the aftermath of the 22 February quake. Your support is sincerely appreciated.

At this time, the Christchurch Incident Management Team is satisfied that the appropriate level of NZFS personnel in regard to numbers and skills is deployed and mobilised in the city, in both operational and supporting roles.

The Christchurch disaster is a unique situation. It calls for the need to balance the number of personnel on the ground, and that of overseas contingents who are contributing the specialist skills we need at this particular time, with the ability of the city's infrastructure to accommodate those personnel and allow them to effectively carry out their work. This includes providing shelter, food and water, as well as transport and other specialised equipment and services.

Although Christchurch's needs are great, it is also important that we ensure we can retain optimum operational readiness and emergency response to any other major emergency that may occur at any time in any other part of the country. In short, our response must be measured and balanced.

All enquiries from stations and brigades should be channelled

through the nominated regional representatives listed as follows:

Auckland:	Regional Emergency Operations Centre (REOC)
Bay-Waikato:	Brent Mortenson / Helen Foster
Eastern:	Charlie Turei / Gina Dwyer
Western:	Rodger Calder / Kerry Stewart
Arapawa:	Ray Kennedy / John Jackson
Transalpine:	Duty Area Manager
Southern:	Keith McIntosh
Comcens:	Comcen Duty Manager

On behalf of FRM Saunders and the Christchurch Quake IMT, I take this opportunity to thank all staff: volunteer, paid and administrative, and especially the families of those personnel deployed to Christchurch. Your support has been quite overwhelming.

Bill Butzbach, National Coordinator

NHQ Operations Group



PHOTO: C. Price

UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal Going Global

Already the New Zealand Fire Service Commission and many brigades and individuals around the country have generously rallied around the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal. Now the UFBA is turning its sights toward the global fire and rescue community while continuing to promote within New Zealand.

“The international fire and rescue community has taken a huge interest in the disaster in Christchurch,” says George Verry, UFBA Chief Executive Officer. “We’ve received messages from around the world expressing good wishes for the firefighters affected by the earthquake.”

“Our firefighters are struggling for many different reasons. We’ve had a steady stream of applications for financial assistance, and we expect that will continue as our people, who have been hard at work, begin to assess how the quake has affected their families, their livelihoods, and their possessions.”

“We now have the capability of accepting credit card payments through our website, and we believe donations from overseas will put us in a position to do more for those in need.”

Bank of New Zealand (BNZ) has come on board to support the fund, and will be waiving all transaction fees so that 100% of funds can go directly to the firefighters in need.

When the first earthquake struck

in September, a joint welfare group consisting of representatives of both the New Zealand Fire Service and United Fire Brigades’ Association was set up to manage welfare initiatives.

That arrangement has now been reinforced and the welfare group will continue to work alongside the UFBA Benevolent Fund trustees to administer funds collected through the Firefighters Earthquake Appeal.

Donate to the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal

You can help the firefighters of Christchurch by making a donation. You’ll just need to go online and fill out the donor form - then choose whether you’d like to pay by electronic transfer, cheque, or credit card. If you can’t access the website, contact Jane on 04 237 2683 or jane@ufba.org.nz to request a paper form.

Electronic Payments may be made to the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal account, BNZ Account number 020500-0594888-02.

Cheques should be sent to UFBA Firefighters Earthquake Appeal; PO Box 56079; Tawa, Wellington 5249.

Or talk to your employer about making a **payroll donation**.

Go to www.ufba.org.nz to find out more.



PHOTO: Asher Trafford

Brigades Do Their Part to Raise Funds for Christchurch

Only a week after the devastating earthquake, fundraisers are already in full swing at brigades throughout the country. The UFBA has gotten wind of a few brigades that are raising money to contribute to the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal, and we're sure we'll hear of more. Thank you to everyone who has given so generously of time and money to support the members of our Christchurch fire family. If you're looking to do something to help, but haven't quite figured out what, perhaps the efforts of the Kumeu and Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigades will provide some inspiration...



Prime Minister John Key does a "doodle" of a fire truck for the Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade. The brigade has opted to auction the drawing off on Trade Me to support the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal.

But after the quake struck, SSO Simon Shields went to visit his mother who resides in Christchurch and witnessed the destruction there. So the brigade decided to put it toward the fundraising efforts of the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal.

Shields says after getting it framed, he intends to auction it off on Trade Me.

"John Key is our MP, and he's always been very supportive of our brigade," says Shields. "Usually he donates a morning tea, but I'm hoping this drawing will raise quite a bit of money for Christchurch."

Hitting the Streets "Works a Treat" for Ngongotaha Firefighters

Ngongotaha Volunteer Fire Brigade had a sausage sizzle already scheduled for last weekend to raise funds for a fire camp, taking place later in the year. When news of the disaster came, Chief Fire Officer Paul Newcombe and his members quickly changed their focus

When the Christchurch earthquake struck, firefighters from the top of the North Island to the bottom of the South were chomping at the bit to get there, to be on the ground supporting their Canterbury counterparts in their time of need.

To deploy every interested firefighter in the country to Christchurch would be impossible and impractical. But there are other ways to help the members of our fire family who need it most, and brigades around the country are already setting the wheels of their fundraising campaigns in motion.

Kumeu VFB to Donate John Key "Doodle"

A week before the earthquake, Prime Minister John Key did a "doodle" of a fire truck for Kumeu Volunteer Fire Brigade fundraiser. The brigade had originally intended to auction it at their annual hoe down event.



PHOTO: P. Newcombe

Ngongotaha volunteer firefighters Andy Sloan (left) and Paul Osborne hit the streets to collect money for their colleagues in Christchurch.

(Cont. from page 4) to raising money for Christchurch firefighters. They continued on with their sausage sizzle, but also hit the town with buckets asking for donations.

“We raised a total of \$3692 after the expenses of the sausage sizzle,” Newcombe said. “And that money will all go to the UFBA Benevolent Fund Firefighters Earthquake Appeal.”

He also provided some advice for other brigades looking to raise money for the cause: “Standing on a street corner with a bucket works a treat.”

Newcombe said 11 members of the brigade took part - working between the hours of 9 AM and 4 PM and then taking a three-hour break before hitting the nightclubs, with donation buckets in hand.

“The generosity of time and money we’ve seen from the Ngongotaha brigade and other brigades and individuals throughout the country means a lot,” said UFBA Chief Executive Officer, George Verry. “There are many firefighters in Christchurch who are struggling for various reasons right now, and every donation counts.”



PHOTO: Asher Trafford

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS The latest on UFBA Benevolent Fund Claims...

Ten days since the big quake, and the Benevolent Fund has helped more than 90 firefighters and their families. UFBA Past President and Benevolent Fund Trustee Alan Cockburn has taken on something of a “roaming commission” — receiving claims and arranging payments. He is working on behalf of the Benevolent Fund to handle Christchurch claims on funds donated by UFBA member brigades and the New Zealand Fire Service Commission.

“To date,” Alan says, “The more than 90 families that have been assisted have typically no place to live, no ready cash, or they have to send children to distant relatives because they have no water, power, or sewerage.”

“We assisted 75 families after the September quake, but the number after this last major event will be much higher – reason enough for brigades to contribute.”

To Christchurch, With Love

The UFBA office has received many messages of support from fire and rescue organisations around the world. These messages are, and will continue to be posted on the UFBA website as they are received.

“From all of your brothers & sisters with TERC USA you are all in our thoughts and prayers.” - Wallky Byers, TERC USA Chairman

“The thoughts of the entire World Rescue Organisation are with you, our colleagues in New Zealand, and the people of Christchurch.” - Cameron Black, World Rescue Organisation

“Our thoughts go out to all the families of those who are missing or have lost loved ones. About 90% of the NZ army team that is here in Timor are from Christchurch, so yesterday was very long for everyone as they waited for information to come.”

- Dave Ackroyd, Hutt Valley Fire Police, currently serving for the NZ Army

“I have just seen the news regarding the shocking devastation in Christchurch and the surrounding area from the earthquake that hit a few hours ago. My thoughts go out to the people of NZ and I sincerely hope that you, your friends and family are safe.” - Mick Rogers, South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue, United Kingdom

Continued on page 6...



SEND A MESSAGE

Let your colleagues in Christchurch know you’re thinking about them by adding a message our online message board. Go to www.ufba.org.nz and follow the link on the home page. Then add your words of support to the comment box at the bottom of the page. We’ll make sure they get circulated to the firefighters of Christchurch.

To Christchurch, With Love (Continued)

“Our thoughts are with all the firefighters in Canterbury. Both my son-in-law and brother-in-law are in the Canterbury USAR team and I know it’s tough. God bless.” - **Ron Mark, Mayor of Carterton**

“I have been inundated with emails of support and good wishes for you, the members of the New Zealand Fire Service and our ARRO members who are part of the response locally, and those in the Australian USAR task forces in the arduous task they face. I have received emails from the rescue community from all over the UK, Republic of Ireland, Spain, South Africa and of course Australia who are following the unfolding events closely in the media. This has also included some of ARRO’s sponsors. Please pass on these best wishes from our colleagues around the world, as well as everyone here at ARRO, to both the management and teams in the field from the New Zealand Fire Service and UFBA.” - **Paul Jerome, Executive Officer, Australasian Road Rescue Organisation**

“We are all both shocked by the earthquake and its destruction of Christchurch, and at the same time impressed by the response of the locals and emergency management personnel. If there is any support you seek don’t hesitate in asking.” - **Russell Cook, Secretary of the Australasian Assembly of Volunteer Fire Brigade Associations**

“The devastation that Christchurch and indeed NZ has been subjected to will be etched in the minds of rescuers and the community for a long time to come...It should never be underestimated the comforting reassurance that the presence of a Fire Service rescuer has to members of the public, other agencies and local officials...It is unfortunate that Christchurch can no longer be the venue for the World Road Rescue Challenge / Australasian Road Rescue Challenge as I know the effort you and your team have been putting towards

this event which was proving to be a show stopper for your town. I am amazed at the quick response by the UFBA to honour its commitment to the challenges. It just goes to prove that Fireys are ‘can-do’ people.” - **Steve Rothwell AFSM, Assistant Commissioner Rural Operations, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service**

“We Japanese firemen whose task it is to protect people’s lives and property show great sympathy and condolences to those who have lost their lives. We also show our respect to the New Zealand fire related people who are serving day and night, and wish a fast restoration.” - **Shigemitsu TAKAGI, Japan Firefighters Association**

Important Notice On UFBA Events

The recent earthquake in Christchurch has affected the level of resources and personnel available for upcoming events. As such, the UFBA is in the process of reassessing its events schedule. The dates and locations of events may change, and members will be advised as soon as changes are confirmed. In the meantime, we suggest that you check the UFBA website regularly for updates:

www.ufba.org.nz. Email events@ufba.org.nz if you have any questions.



PHOTO: C. Price

March Service Honours

Congratulations to the following recipients of UFBA Gold Stars for the month of March:

Wayne Colin Cooper, Carterton

Laurence Bradley, Kaikoura

John Kelso, Mangakino

Robert Emmett Garvey, Hawera

Mervyn Craig Watt, Hawera

Richard Kuysten Auckland, VFPU

James Donald Hazlett, Ranfurly

Congratulations also to Brian William Vincent of Opunake, who will receive his 50-Year Service Medal this month.

REMINDERS TO ALL BRIGADES:

Claim Your Brigade's Old Conference Nameplate

Brigades have until March 31 to request their old conference nameplates, after which time the office will dispose of them. Contact events@ufba.org.nz to put a request in.

Celebrating a Centennial, Jubilee, or Other Special Event?

Be sure to let the UFBA know about it. We'll add your event to our website calendar so that the information is available to all brigades. Submit your event information, including date, time, location, and details to rolls@ufba.org.nz.

Have a Story to Share With the Wider Firefighter Community?

If you have an idea for a newsletter article, contact the UFBA office or email news@ufba.org.nz.

Receive the UFBA Newsletter Straight to Your Email Inbox

Just sign up as a member of the UFBA website, and you'll automatically start receiving electronic copies of the newsletter.

Sign up at www.ufba.org.nz/user/register.

NZFS Five-Minute Quiz

The topic for this month is NZFS Operational Instruction FLI-1, Driving NZFS Operational Vehicles. Answers are available online at www.ufba.org.nz/nzfbifive_minute_quiz/march_2011 and will appear in next month's newsletter.

- 1) State what the driver of an operational vehicle must carry at all times?
- 2) If your license has been suspended, disqualified or restricted in any way, who must be notified?
- 3) In an emergency situation can a firefighter drive an ambulance under lights and siren?
- 4) State the maximum permitted speed for a heavy operational vehicle on the open road responding to an emergency.
- 5) State the maximum permitted speed in a 50km/h zone while responding to an emergency.
- 6) State the maximum permitted speed in a temporary speed zone (road works, school zone, etc.) while responding to an emergency.
- 7) State the speed required at intersections controlled by lights, stop signs or give-way signs.
- 8) State when a NZFS driver can use a hand-held cell phone.
- 9) State the maximum number of BA cylinders that may be transported in a NZFS vehicle other than a BA Tender.
- 10) How many persons are permitted to be carried in a NZFS vehicle?

ANSWERS TO THE FEBRUARY QUIZ:

Following are the answers from the quiz that appeared in last month's newsletter. The full quiz is available online at www.ufba.org.nz/nzfbifive_minute_quiz/february_2011.

- 1) Pre-mixed & Diffusion
- 2) The chemical breakdown of a substance into flammable gases due to heat.
- 3) The temperature at which the air/fuel mixture will ignite spontaneously without the application of a spark or pilot light.
- 4) 100C
- 5) 2% - 80%
- 6) 2% - 10%
- 7) A reduced Lower Flammable Limit (LFL), an increased Upper Flammable Limit (UFL), widening of the flammability range.
- 8) Entrained air, nonflammable products of combustion (carbon dioxide, water vapour etc), unburnt fuel, pyrolysis products.
- 9) Incipient, growth (including flashover), fully developed, decay.
- 10) The ignition source is not directly exposed to the flammable atmosphere.



Have you been affected by the earthquake?

If you need assistance, please get in touch. You can contact the Welfare Society Office on 0800 653 473 (0800 OKFIRE) Between 9-3 week days.

Or call:

Kevin Crozier - 021 149 2925 / Home 03 3288911

Erroll Tapiki - 027 286 6194



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United Fire Brigades' Association
86 Main Road
Tawa, Wellington 5028
Phone: 04 237 0265