

Tribute to fallen firefighters
September 11 Memorial Climb



Update from UFBA Board of Directors & Officer



On Sunday 31 August 2013, the UFBA Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer met with the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of all the Provincial Associations in Wellington.

“As always this was a particularly useful meeting for all attending,” said George Verry, Chief Executive Officer of the UFBA. “All parties presented on their recent activities, provided information on new initiatives, as well as on issues affecting their brigades and personnel”, he said.

In recent months, the UFBA has commissioned reports to

review aspects of its strategy and operations. The first of these has been an external review by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).

The UFBA presented a summary of the content of the draft PwC report at the Provincial Associations meeting. Key aspects were the current governance and operating structure of the UFBA, the current funding model for the New Zealand Fire Service and an updated assessment of the value of the New Zealand Fire Service volunteers.

An important overall theme of the discussions was the

challenge for the UFBA and Provincial Associations to engage more closely with brigades and their 10,500 members. All attendees agreed that this was a fundamental issue in the plans currently being developed to strengthen and enhance the UFBA’s advocacy on behalf of members.

The PwC report is currently being finalised and the UFBA looks forward to sharing information from the report at the UFBA Conference.

NRRM Project - leading integrated fire and emergency services for a safer New Zealand

The UFBA, NZFS, NZFPU and NRFA are working on a new joint initiative, the National Risk Resource Model, to deliver on Vision 2020 for a safer New Zealand. It’s a modelling tool to more effectively assess the risks presented to our communities.

At the heart of the National Risk Resource Model (NRRM) is a series of computer models that use robust datasets reflecting New Zealand community profiles. These include demographics, climate, industrialisation, and geography. It uses this information to produce assessments of risk and the necessary resource profile to treat those risks.

The purpose is to produce accurate and objective insights about risk profiles that will be used to inform decision making about resource allocation. When NRRM is active, it will be used to improve our community risk management and fire outcomes as it uses a richer and more detailed model than previously.

Bill Butzbach, Director of the UFBA, praised the project for enabling the

UFBA along with other key stakeholders to have a fair input into the project’s development. He said “It’s a robust process, allowing key stakeholders to have an equal say in the project’s direction whilst taking into account the needs of paid and volunteer staff alike.”

The NRRM project outputs are expected to be available for use in annual planning for the 2015/16 financial year and will be made available to Fire Region Managers, Area Managers, Principal Rural Fire Officers, and Planning and Performance Managers.

Operational staff need to have the right resources, in the right place, at the right time, to work effectively. Using NRRM will help to get this right.

“Our presence on the project steering committee ensures that the practical needs of the brigades and their communities are at the forefront of project considerations.”

Bill Butzbach, UFBA Director

EVENTS

September 11 Memorial Climb

Now in its sixth year, the stair climb honours and remembers all firefighters, both in New Zealand and overseas, who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Over 70 people took part in this year's Memorial Climb in Auckland, arranged by Tony Scott from Auckland Airport Brigade. The climb mirrored stair events taking place across America on 11 September to remember the 343 FDNY firefighters who died at the World Trade Centre in 2001.

Each participant in Auckland wore a black band on their leg to honour one of the 56 New Zealanders or one of the 343 New York firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Held at 125 Queen Street, competitors raced against the clock in three timed events in the morning, wearing BA and full Level 2 equipment.

A Memorial was held at 2.30pm, where the names of fallen New Zealand firefighters were read. This year was particularly special as it saw two FDNY firefighters from New York read the fallen firefighters from 9-11.

New also this year, there were two beams of light in the evening from the Viaduct to mimic the Tribute in Light that occurs annually on 11 September in New York. These striking beams were visible across Auckland.

For more information, visit www.fireup.co.nz.

Timed events

- 01 Straight stair climb - ascending 26 floors
- 02 Tandem stair climb - each firefighter carrying a hose pack up 13 floors
- 03 Weighted climb - carrying two hand weights up 26 floors



EVENTS

Are you coming to Tauranga?

The NZFBI have arranged a Field Day on Thursday 30 October 2014, the day before the UFBA Conference, so that you can combine the two events.

Take this opportunity to get out in the field and learn about bulk fuel storage facilities and the associated fire suppression systems and procedures with a visit to Tauranga Port & Bulk Fuel Handling Facility.

All attendees will gain 5.5 hours of Continuing Professional Development approved by the

Institution of Fire Engineers as well as a Certificate of Attendance.

Places are limited, so make sure you book today. Contact louise.winspear@ufba.org.nz.



Events calendar

September

- 11 Memorial Stair Climb, Auckland
- 13 NZFBI Field Day, Eltham
- 13 Canterbury AGM
- 20 Wellington AGM
- 20 Nelson/Marlborough AGM
- 27 Canterbury Combat Challenge

October

- 4 West Coast AGM & Conference
- 18 Canterbury Road Crash Rescue Challenge
- 30 NZFBI Field Day, Tauranga
- 31-2 UFBA Conference, Tauranga

November

- 15 50th Celebration Harihari
- 21 125th Celebration Geraldine
- 22 40th Celebration Browns

NOTICES

Sometimes telling stories can get you into trouble but not here...



Have you made a nomination for the 2015 New Zealander of the Year Awards?

The awards recognise, encourage and reward New Zealand's most vital asset - its people. They aim to honour the achievements of individuals, organisations and community groups who inspire us and act as role models to the wider community.

Does someone stand out for you as having gone above and beyond? Nominations are being sought for exceptional

New Zealanders, so nominate someone you know or a brigade that stands out for you. There are six categories to choose from, including New Zealander of the Year and Local Hero.

The deadline for nominations is fast approaching, so don't miss out. Nominations close on 30 September 2014.

For more information, visit www.nzawards.org.nz.

New to the Conference this year

31 October - 2 November 2014



We have a packed schedule for you for the UFBA Conference in Tauranga from 31 October - 2 November. Come and learn about the latest in the fire and rescue industry, have a vote on the issues that matter to your brigade and celebrate your hard work with other brigades across the country.

The role of firefighters is continually evolving and changing. We see how brigade members are expected to have a wide range of personal tools to assist with fire duties. These skills are far reaching - from basic administration, to leadership and sometimes complicated Human Resource skills.

The UFBA recognises your changing needs and so, new to the Conference this year, we've arranged an inspiring line up of workshops. Come and be

entertained and educated on topics that are relevant to you.

'Sustainability' is the theme of this year's Conference and will be the basis of the workshops. Based around how to better manage the firefighting environment, through mental and physical health, you will come away with lifelong tools to apply in everyday situations, both at home and at work.

Registrations for the Conference close on Friday 26 September, so make sure you're registered! The UFBA will fully-fund one person from each brigade to attend, so make sure your brigade is represented.

Register before 26 September:
www.ufba.org.nz/events/ufba_136th_annual_conference

Workshops

Come to the UFBA Conference - choose one or two workshops on the day.

01

Conflict resolution and listening skills

Damian D'Cruz from Mind Spring

Managing internal issues and conflict effectively is key to strong leadership and maintaining a happy, healthy brigade. Through real life examples, Damian will show you how the brain deals with stress and anger. Learn a set of tools to defuse situations and deal with the real issue before your emotions take over.



02

Peak performance neuroscience

Grant Schofield from Vitality Works

Are you currently working at your peak? Do you keep your cool in high pressure situations and make effective decisions? Learn techniques for motivating others, and for living a smarter, more engaged and meaningful life.



03

Change management

John MacTaggart from CI Services

Implementing change in brigades is hard. Is it for the better? Will your team get behind it? Refusals to engage in change can be challenging.

Learn two interacting models on change management and problem solving so that you can learn how to better involve your team and generate positive change for your brigade.



Volunteers - good for the community and your business



The NZ Fire Service's Employer Recognition Programme publicly acknowledges the importance of employers who support volunteers and the self-employed who volunteer in brigades. Their support is vital for volunteers to be able to respond to emergencies at any time, wherever and whatever they are doing to protect communities.

The NZ Fire Service has engaged Premium Research to undertake nationwide research to better understand the perspective of employers and what meaningful recognition would look like to them.

Starting with an online survey this month, it will be followed by in-depth interviews with a smaller sample made up of small to large employers and self-employed volunteers.

This research will provide an insight into the ways that the NZ Fire Service can build on their current approach to recognising and supporting employers



who allow their employees to respond to call outs during working hours. It is also intended to set the scene for a new way of engaging with employers and will inform the development of a new Employer Recognition Framework.

Watch out for the outcomes of this research via the UFBA news and FireNet.

Honours

Celebrations at Government House



The UFBA would like to congratulate the six firefighters who receive the Queen's Service Medal this month in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Among them are the Collings brothers, John and Tony, from Taihape Volunteer Fire Brigade.

Over three generations, their family has given an incredible

238 years of service to the brigade. Tony has served 46 years, including 19 as CFO before retiring and John has been the Senior Station Officer since 1967.

Congratulations to all, the UFBA are very proud that your contributions are being recognised and celebrated.

Queen's Birthday Honours

Mangaweka	NOBLE Rex Frederick
Paeroa	RACKHAM William James
Taihape	COLLINGS John David COLLINGS Tony Noel
Whakatane	SHANKS Donald Robert
Whitianga	RUSSELL Walter Douglas

Service honours

Congratulations to the following members who received 50 Year Medals and Gold Stars last month. Thank you for your dedicated service to the Fire Service, your community and country.

50 Year Medals

Waikouaiti HARKNESS Ian

Gold Stars

Brunner	GOULD Brian WOOLHOUSE Mark
Hutt Valley	BOUZAIID Glenn MCNABB Steve WARNOCK Allan WILLS Bryan
Marton	HAUSMAN Murray
Tirau	PHILLIPS Jim
Waikouaiti	SMITH Paul

Getting to know... Shayne Kennedy



Positions: UFBA Challenge Official & Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Silverdale Volunteer Fire District

Shayne Kennedy volunteers as an Official at UFBA Challenge events, monitoring and recording participant's progress according to the competition rules. Shayne also holds the position of Deputy Chief Fire Officer for Silverdale Volunteer Fire District.

1. When did you join the Fire Service?

I joined the NZFS in 1998 and have made steady progress through the ranks, moving to SO in 2005 and DCFO in 2010.

It all started with a good mate of mine, Peter Morgan, who I was playing rugby with at the time. I stayed with him for a while and he convinced me to join at the age of 33. Since then, I have never looked back!

2. If you could change anything about the UFBA, what would it be and why?

I actually think that the UFBA are getting it right now. Prior to the present regime, there was definitely an autocratic note about the UFBA - communication was poor and it seemed people were in it for the wrong reasons (e.g. old school ties).

Now, with the introduction of the Board and a more streamlined Executive, it seems to be working. Especially the communication, I think it's a lot better and more consistent.

3. How did you get into being an Official for the UFBA Challenges?

I competed in Waterways Challenges for a few years and then felt that it was time to give something back.

I registered to be a volunteer and was chosen by the Challenge Technical Panel to be an Official for Waterways. I've since progressed to be an Official for the Combat Challenge too. I've been a UFBA Challenge Official for the last 2 years and an Official at Provincial Challenges for the last 7 years.

How would you describe yourself in three words?

Passionate, responsive, informed.

Who inspires you?

People who battle through the worst that life has to offer, people with resilience and fortitude.

What can't you live without?

ASH - those who know my wife will understand.

What skill would you most like to have?

To know when to be quiet around ASH!

Tell us something about Shayne Kennedy that we don't know...?

I am a South Islander and proud of it. When I meet up with the Challenge Officials from down that way we tend to have a blast!

4. What have been the main highlights for you?

Seeing my brigade, Silverdale, come second in the 2013 National Waterways Challenge and then fifth in the 2013 Australasian Championship!

The UFBA Challenges are all about the competitors. When it gets to the finals it's all about them getting the best out of themselves and their teams, that's a highlight for me.

Also, the Officials that I've met over the years. These guys give it their all - they are there for the competitors and for the sheer enjoyment of the Challenges. These people are totally dedicated - sometimes arriving days beforehand to set everything up.

5. How do the UFBA Challenges add value to brigades and benefit individuals?

The things you learn, the people you meet, the ideas you bring back to the brigade - it's a win-win situation for you and your brigade!

It's all about developing skills, improving your thought process and ability to plan ahead. The result is real team players and generally people who are the first to put their hand up.

6. Do you have any words of wisdom for members considering competing or volunteering to be an Official in a Challenge?

Either is fantastic - the people you meet, the fun you have, the different places you get to travel. (Officials are fully-funded by the UFBA so all travel, accommodation and meals are paid).

Come along and enjoy it - new blood is always welcome!

New!



FIRE SHOP

NEW THIS MONTH

Wooden children's toys, baby firefighter's bibs, baby fire engine socks, merino beanies and more!



www.ufba.org.nz/shop

Connect

We'd love to hear from you. Share your news or information, contact: news@ufba.org.nz

Engage

Be the first to hear about news and events. Take part in online polls and our forum. Register at: www.ufba.org.nz

Consult

We're committed to representing and supporting you. Get in touch: info@ufba.org.nz

