

Kaikoura earthquake response
Members supporting members



2016: A successful year of proactive UFBA advocacy



George Verry, UFBA Chief Executive Officer

As we head toward the Christmas and New Year break, it is hugely satisfying to reflect on the excellent advocacy and support services the UFBA has delivered to our members over the year.

At last year's UFBA Conference, Minister Dunne announced the proposed future structure for our fire services. Since then, the actions we have taken have involved many hours of work with DIA officials, the New Zealand Fire Service Commission and the FENZ Transition Team.

Our effective advocacy this year

The large number of actions we have taken to represent members' interests include:

- UFBA and FRFANZ signing a Memorandum of Understanding to work together
- A plain language analysis of the FENZ Bill
- A joint UFBA/FRFANZ member consultation roadshow covering 14 key areas of the country
- An online consultation survey inviting 4,350 individuals to 'have their say'

- A joint UFBA/FRFANZ submission on the FENZ Bill
- A joint UFBA/FRFANZ address at the Select Committee hearing on the Bill
- Signing a Transitional Advocacy and Support Agreement with NZFSC.

Through the actions we have taken, we are regarded by the NZFSC/FENZ Transition Team as a key stakeholder and partner as we work toward transitioning to a successful new organisation.

UFBA/FRFANZ co-design

UFBA/FRFANZ are taking a partnership approach with the FENZ Transition Team on the co-design of many facets of FENZ and its workings.

These include the volunteer relationship with FENZ, terms of engagement, support for volunteers (Volunteer Charter), dispute resolution scheme, gratuities and Local Committee pilots.

UFBA Advocacy Reference Panel

UFBA Director Bill Butzbach will spend considerable time working with the FENZ Transition Team over the next few months.

To provide Bill with a sounding board on various positions, issues or other considerations, we have established a UFBA Advocacy Reference Panel with Board Director Glenn Williams as Chair.

We will draw on the experience and expertise of members around the country (volunteer, career, urban and rural) to form the panel—the make-up of which will vary according to the needs at the time.

Select Committee Report

The report on the FENZ Bill from the Select Committee is due in the House by 5 January. We will keep members informed about progress with the legislation.

Thank you to our members

UFBA/FRFANZ have engaged with our members, listened to your views and concerns and effectively acted on your behalf during the fire services reform.

We thank our members—urban and rural—for your outstanding contributions during our consultation processes and for your considered input when requested.

This year's Conference in Christchurch with a record number of delegates attending was also a positive forum for open discussion and feedback.

We held our first meeting of the new UFBA Board on 8 December with new Directors Russell Anderson and Judith Stanley present and with President Alan Kittelty and Vice President Joe Manihera in attendance. Our continuing advocacy during the reforms was at the top of the agenda.

With enhanced membership confidence and engagement over the last 18 months, we believe UFBA and FRFANZ are well placed to achieve the best possible outcomes for members and their communities as we head toward the 1 July implementation date for FENZ.

Our best wishes for the festive season and for the challenges and changes coming up in 2017. *Thank you all again.*



Cover photo: Representatives of our fire and emergency services responding to the needs of Kaikoura—Chief Executive & National Commander Paul Baxter, Rescue Helicopter Pilot Regan Graham (Garden City Helicopters), SFF Wayne Hamilton (St Albans Station and helicopter crewman), CFO Ian Walker (Kaikoura), Reg 5 FRM Dave Guard, DCFO Craig Guthrie (Kaikoura), Reg 4 FRM Steve Turek and National USAR Manager (Acting) Jeff Maunder.

■ KAIKOURA EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE

Members supporting members

Following the severe 7.8 magnitude Kaikoura earthquake on 14 November, our members in the quake battered regions of North Canterbury, Marlborough and Wellington (which was also hit by a major storm the next day) responded immediately to meet the needs of their communities. Members from other areas were deployed to assist their colleagues while USAR personnel from across the country completed Rapid Disaster Assessments. The UFBA is very proud of our members who worked so hard to give support where required to help their fellow New Zealanders in need. Thank you all so much for your dedication and service.

Thank you from Kaikoura

Ian Walker, CFO Kaikoura Volunteer Fire Brigade, says he and the brigade are overwhelmed with the support from the Fire Service.



"We've had career crews here on rosters and numerous offers of help from neighbouring volunteer brigades," he says.

"The expertise of USAR personnel was absolutely marvellous—they created safety in the town."

Ian adds that David Guard (NZFS Region 5 Fire Region Manager) and Dave Berry (NZFS Area Commander Canterbury) provided amazing support.

"I can't say enough about what all the management has done," Ian says. "The NZFS is an organisation that's going forward."

UFBA Benevolent Fund helps out quickly

Following the 2010 and 2011 Canterbury earthquakes, the UFBA Benevolent Fund provided financial assistance to UFBA members and their families in genuine hardship.



Again, our Benevolent Fund quickly took action following the Kaikoura earthquake on 14 November. NZFS Welfare Officer **Jim Ryburn** from Christchurch contacted affected brigades and fire forces in North Canterbury and Marlborough to determine the financial assistance that might be needed by firefighters and their families—volunteer, career, urban or rural.

Applications for assistance from brigade members that need our help are being immediately considered on a case-by-case basis by Benevolent Fund Chairman Alan Cockburn, Trustee Alan Burgess and UFBA Chief Executive George Verry. Grants are being paid promptly to families in need.

If your brigade or fire force has personnel in need of assistance following the Kaikoura quake, please contact **Jim Ryburn** at Jim.Ryburn@fire.org.nz or on 021 654 184.

Find out more about how the UFBA Benevolent Fund helps firefighters through tough times at www.ufba.org.nz/member_services/benevolent_fund

Giving hard working colleagues a break

From Nigel Lilley, CFO Rolleston Volunteer Fire Brigade

Volunteers from Rolleston were requested to relieve the worn out Kaikoura guys and gals, who had been working tirelessly for days following the quake.

They were in dire need of some much needed rest and time with their families and my team provided them with that opportunity.

The team had a three-day deployment and they were followed up by a further three-day deployment by an Ashburton crew. Their efforts

were focused on the Kaikoura area, as the only way in and out was by helicopter.

There was plenty to do—stabilise parts of buildings, clear paths, assist USAR and general township welfare—all the time maintaining fire and rescue cover.

Waiau was another heavily affected township and the brigade there also needed rest. They were assisted by day deployments from Kaiapoi, Rangiora, Lincoln, Woodend and Lyttelton.



Rolleston volunteers head off to Kaikoura, left to right, SSO Steve Trigg (who delivered the volunteers to the chopper base), SFF Ben Bishop, SFF Brendan Allcorn, SFF Sarah Lilley, SSO Graham Petersen and SFF Rob Henderson



United Fire Brigades' Association

WATERWAYCHALLENGE

EVENTS

UFBA Region 1 Waterway Challenge

Morrinsville Volunteer Fire Brigade hosted the UFBA's first Waterway event for the season on 3 December and a hugely successful one it was, especially for the host brigade teams.

Ten 2-Person teams and six 4-Person teams competed on the day, making it an enjoyable event for all in attendance.

Matamata Volunteer Fire Brigade, with 106 points, collected first place in the 4-Person team category, followed by Morrinsville and Silverdale.

Morrinsville's 2-Person team took out the top spot in their category with 88 points, followed closely by Ruakaka and Tairua.

The camaraderie shown by all teams to encourage the newer teams was outstanding. A brand new team formed out of Waiheke Island—who had not competed in 30 years—attended the event. It quickly became obvious they were serious about the competition.

"Skills really do improve as teams continue to compete. And even more can be learned from watching the competition."

Stephen Watters, Morrinsville

They put every effort into their game and collected a fourth place in one event.

The Waiheke Island team was blown away with the support provided by the Technical Panel and other teams—Matamata in particular.

UFBA Technical Panel member **Shayne Kennedy** says the event was well run and well received.

He urges teams to register for the upcoming Region 2, 3 and 4 events and is looking forward to seeing a great turnout at the UFBA National Waterway Challenge in Kamo from 2-4 March.

For full results and photos visit www.ufba.org.nz/events/2016 UFBA Region 1_1_waterway

Register online by 8 January for UFBA Region 2, 3 and 4 Waterway Challenges at www.ufba.org.nz/events/list/category/waterway_challenge Registration for Nationals opens 22 December.



Photos: Kirsten Bolton



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Australasians coming up in NZ!

The UFBA will host two major Australasian events in 2017—the **Australasian Rescue Challenge (ARRO)** in Hamilton in July and the **Australasian Firefighter Championships** in Carterton in November.

UFBA General Manager **Ceara Owen-Perry** says these two events will provide outstanding opportunities for New Zealand teams to participate—both as competitors and spectators. “Our teams now consistently feature in the top four at these events.”

The UFBA sponsored **Geraldine, Rolleston and Rangiora** to attend the ARRO Challenge in Warragul, Victoria this year. Geraldine won Best Team Leader, first place overall and placed second in Time Critical and Entrapped. Rolleston collected third place in Entrapped and Rangiora was third in Controlled.

“The knowledge and skills teams gain from competing at the Australasians benefit their local communities at real-life emergencies,” Ceara says.

“I encourage teams around the country to start training now for their local UFBA events for a chance to go to the Australasians.”



UFBA Events Calendar

21 January	Region 2 Waterway, Carterton
4 February	Region 4 Waterway, Wanaka
18 February	Region 3 Waterway, Ross
2-4 March	National Waterway, Kamo
11 March	NZFBI Field Day, Lower Hutt
16-18 March	UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop, Wellington
25 March	South Island Combat, Alexandra
8 April	North Island Combat, Palmerston North
28-30 April	Greymouth 150th Jubilee
5-6 May	National Firefighter Combat, Wellington
26-27 May	North Island Road Crash Rescue, Feilding
June (TBC)	South Island Road Crash Rescue
20-23 July	Australasian Rescue Challenge, Hamilton
11-12 August	National Drivers Challenge, Feilding
14-16 September	UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop, Wellington
27-29 October	2017 UFBA 139th Annual Conference, Auckland
16-18 November	Australasian Firefighter Championships, Carterton

Firefighter Combat Challenge World Finals

A Kiwi team again headed over to Montgomery, Alabama in the United States for the Firefighter Combat Challenge World Finals in October.

Running as members of Team Hobbit New Zealand, the team this year had eight competitors.

Notable achievements

Entry to the Lion’s Den is achieved by hitting demanding times by age group—this is the target for the most serious FCC competitors.

In the first run on the first qualifying day, **Deane Mark** achieved his Lion’s Den time. Later **Ian Campbell** also qualified for this exclusive club. Congratulations to these outstanding competitors from Te Awamutu.

Tanja Grunwald from Whanganui also excelled with a second placing in the +40 women category.

Tom Reid a ‘legend’

Tom qualified for finals day in the 60+

Individual class. He also ran a tandem race with Jacques Bretton to qualify for the finals and a relay event with some “really old” firefighters—with a total of 200 years experience!

Tom dedicated his Individual finals run to his good friend Tony Moylan, who sadly passed away the day before. He and Tony go back to 1988 when they started running together—in 2005 they won the National Waterway title.

Putting down a personal best time of 2:06.53, Tom was awarded the bronze medal. His tandem team ran a time of 1:59.88, placing second.

Hard work is truly rewarding

Team Hobbit now has some new members to add to the many old Hobbits from past



Back row, left to right: Neil Gardiner (Takaka), Tom Reid and Scott Cubitt (Christchurch Airport), Deane Mark and Ian Campbell (Te Awamutu). Front: Anna Alexander (Te Awamutu), Geoff Curle (Sumner) and Tanja Grunwald (Whanganui).

events. They are well known around the Combat community and the organisers appreciate the great effort they put in each year to attend.

It’s a lot of hard work but it is truly rewarding to follow your sporting dreams.

Strengthening leadership and governance

The latest UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop was held in October—100 per cent of respondents to a satisfaction survey rated the content of the course and the delivery by the two presenters and their engagement as excellent/above average.

All would recommend the workshop to their brigade members or other brigades.

Key UFBA strategy

A key objective in the UFBA Strategic Plan is to build strong and sustainable brigades.

Chief Executive Officer George Verry says promoting and providing leadership and governance development is just one of the strategies the UFBA has put in place to achieve this objective.

“Strengthening leadership and governance skills leads to the successful operation of brigades,” George says. “Leadership is a quality that every firefighter can demonstrate in their brigade and in their personal life.

“The UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop is the ideal course to enhance vital life skills.”

Tenth workshop

To continue to grow the level of leadership resource, the tenth UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop took place in Wellington from 6-8 October bringing the total number of graduates to 153 personnel around the country.

As well as strengthening skills in brigades, workshop graduates are also providing an excellent consultancy resource for UFBA advocacy processes.

“The Leadership and Governance Workshop is definitely beneficial to anyone wanting to develop or enhance their leadership skills. It provides skills that will assist in dealing with staff and the public we serve. I would recommend this to all Fire Service personnel.”

Bradley Quinn
Glenbrook Industrial Fire Brigade

Fire services reform

George says many graduates have made themselves available to help out with our member consultation during the fire services reform.

“Their leadership and guidance makes a major contribution to the tremendous response we get from both brigades and individuals when gathering feedback.”

UFBA/FRFANZ are now working in partnership with the FENZ Transition Team on co-design proposals relating to the fire services reform.

“To achieve the best outcomes for our members and communities we plan to call on Leadership and Governance workshop graduates for their assistance when necessary,” George says.

Connecting firefighters

The UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop connects and engages firefighters from across the country as well as enhancing their skills and knowledge.

“I urge all brigades who are members of UFBA—volunteer, paid, urban, rural, defence or industrial—to consider making nominations,” George recommends.

“I feel the UFBA Leadership and Governance course was extremely beneficial and the information I have taken away from it can be used in everyday life, not just Fire Service related.”

Kerri Pring
Kirwee Volunteer Fire Brigade



Photo: Loralee Hyde



UFBA Leadership and Governance Workshop Graduates October 2016

Above left to right: Tom Rahui (Glenbrook Industrial/Howick), Damian D’Cruz (Presenter), Michael Burr (Ngunguru), Rosie Baker (Kaitaia), Phillip Mackay (Fairlie), Katelyn Polkinghorne (Waitara), Robbie Boyd (Woodend), Michael Tovine (Maungaturoto), Rex Wilson (Paihia), Graeme O’Dea (Greymouth), Shayne Robinson (Woodend), Antony Pedersen (Mangonui), Kerri Pring (Kirwee) and John Klaphake (Wellington Operational Support).
Left: Bradley Quinn (Glenbrook Industrial) and Tim Connell (Takaka)

Apply now to strengthen your skills

2017 Workshops in Wellington: 16-18 March / 14-16 September

Strong leadership is key to us working together to deliver vital services to our local communities. Enhance your leadership skills at this fully interactive 2.5 day workshop.

- Learn from leading experts in the field—Damian D’Cruz and Jane Huria
- Develop new leadership and coaching techniques
- Gain valuable insights into the key elements of governance
- Strengthen your professional development
- Great for your personal life, career and fire services.

UFBA manages and covers the cost of travel arrangements, accommodation and meals. Find out more and download a nomination form at www.ufba.org.nz/events/leadership_governance_workshop_Mar17. Spaces are limited. If you are interested in attending or nominating someone for a 2017 UFBA Leadership & Governance Workshop, email Victoria at victoria@ufba.org.nz

SERVICE HONOURS

Congratulations to the following members who received 50 Year and Gold Star medals in October and November. Thank you for your dedicated service to the Fire Service and your communities.

50 Year Medals

Balclutha BUNTING Fraser
 Invercargill MUIR Bevan
 Kaitaia MCKENZIE David
 Matata DOBSON Brian
 Tuatapere HIBBS Rex

Gold Stars

Balfour BLACK Darryl
 Clinton HARRIS William
 MACKIE Brent
 Cromwell DIXON Rob
 Darfield RICHARDS Michael
 Dipton HARRIS Adrian

Dunedin	POWELL Geoffrey	Middlemarch	BARNES Stephen
	WAFER Justin	Ngongotaha	OSBORNE Paul
Glenavy	DIREEN Wayne	Oxford	FELSTEAD Kevin
Governors Bay	GEbbie Mark	Richmond	TALBOT Jeremy
Hawera	FAIRWEATHER Michael	Rotorua	MACKAY Shane
Invercargill	THORNBURY Gary		WILLIAMS Rod
	TOHIARIKI Julian	Stokes Valley	MERCER Stephen
	WILSON Brent	Thames	WALKER Brian
Mahurangi East	JONES Kevin	Tiwai	CRAWFORD Phil
	WYATT Douglas	Wainuiomata	BROSNAN Kevin



Rex Hibbs from Tuatapere Volunteer Fire Brigade was presented with his 50 Year Medal in October by President Russell Anderson

Photo: Fairfax Media NZ / Southland Times

NZFBI FIELD DAY

South Island Urban Search and Rescue



Firefighters from around New Zealand took the opportunity to visit the South Island Urban Search and Rescue Task Force base on 27 October prior to the UFBA Annual Conference in Christchurch.

Organised by the New Zealand Fire Brigades' Institute, the Field Day provided the opportunity for the Task Force to demonstrate its capabilities to attendees, giving them an insight into how it operates from deployment to 'make-up'.

Members of the Christchurch and Timaru Task Forces participated in the day, hosted by Team Leader Paul Burns.

The day began with a tour of the facility and demonstrations of equipment and resources available including using a sniffer-dog for search and rescue operations, electronic listening devices, line rescue, information technology and the provision of amenities required when on deployment.

Paul presented on the 2011 Christchurch Earthquake response. Mitchell Brown, who was a member of the National USAR

Management Team at the time of the 2011 Japanese Tsunami, presented on the response to that disaster.

NZFBI Field Day Coordinator **Scott Lanauze** says the Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces form a vital part of modern-day fire services response capability in New Zealand.

"Having the opportunity to take a closer look at this operation was worthwhile for those who could attend," Scott says. "Attendees also received certificates of attendance which incorporated CPD hours from IFE."

The NZFBI Council decided to run a half-day event in Christchurch as an alternative to the usual full day, in order to accommodate the travel needs of the attendees while ensuring the length of the Field Day was appropriate for the



Attendees at the NZFBI Field Day in Christchurch watch a demonstration of sniffer-dog capabilities

Photo: Scott Lanauze

venue and topic.

"We've received some good feedback on the format of the day as it was the right amount of time for the right amount of content," Scott says.

"We'll keep this in mind for future events to ensure we increase the level of participation in our Field Day programme."

See more photos of this NZFBI Field Day at www.ufba.org.nz/news/south_island_usar

SPECIALS!

The UFBA Fire Shop has selected items on sale! Check out the specials now at www.ufba.org.nz/shop

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Awhi atu awhi mai*

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Birth of a Child Benefit	Counseling
Gift Baskets	Disaster Fund
In Hospital Visits	Child Adoption Assistance
Home Visits	Funeral Assistance

www.firefighters.org.nz

Field Day

Understanding fire detection systems

Pertronic Industries, Lower Hutt

Saturday 11 March: 8.30am. Concludes at 1.15pm with lunch

Pertronic Industries developed its first automatic fire panel in 1986 and has since continued to research and develop fire detection technologies at its factory in Lower Hutt.

Learning outcomes

- Principles of smoke detection technology
- Fire Map: Graphical PC based displays for building fire alarm systems
- Review of the New Zealand Standard for Fire Detection and Alarm Systems (NZS4512:2010)
- Overview of Conventional fire detection systems
- Overview of Analogue Addressable fire detection systems
- Overview of Aspirating Smoke Detector technology

Register now to secure your place!

- This Field Day is limited to 24 participants
- The cost is \$30 per participant—this includes lunch

For full details, terms and conditions and to register through the online Field Day registration form, visit www.ufba.org.nz/events/NZFBI_fire_detection_systems

Thanks for all the work you do!

UFBA thanks all our members (and their families and employers) for all the hard work they have done and the time they have given this year to protect and support their local communities. We are proud of all brigade and fire force members for their service and commitment to fire and emergency services, their communities and our country.

The UFBA office closes at midday on 23 December and reopens on 9 January. Our best wishes for 2017.

<h3>Engage</h3> <p>Keep up to date about news and events. Take part in online polls and our forum. Register at: www.ufba.org.nz</p>	<h3>Consult</h3> <p>We're committed to representing and supporting you. Get in touch at: membershipsupport@ufba.org.nz</p>	<h3>Connect</h3> <p>Are we sending your UFBA newsletters to the correct address? To update your brigade's postal address, email: news@ufba.org.nz</p>
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