

Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade Annual Report

2011



Senior Station Officer
Tony Swain



Annual Report

Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade (Established 1965)

Year Ending 31 March 2011

It gives me great pleasure to present the 46th Annual Report of the Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership stands at 22. Rick Eng resigned on March 18 after 9 years of service. During his time with the brigade, Rick became a fellow of the NZFBI and was President in 2008. He was extremely well sought after as the UFBA representative on a number of working parties with the Fire Service. I thank you Rick for all your involvement over the nine years and wish you well for the future.

Nigel Le Grice rejoined on July 1 after transferring from Masterton, Dimitrios Zaloumis joined on May 3rd, Corey Walbran rejoined on February 7 and Gary Swain returned from leave overseas in October. Dimitrios was the first member of this brigade to attend the National Training Centre in Rotorua for his recruits course.

Current membership has a combined length of service of 280 years with the average 12.8 years. Five gold star members are still serving.

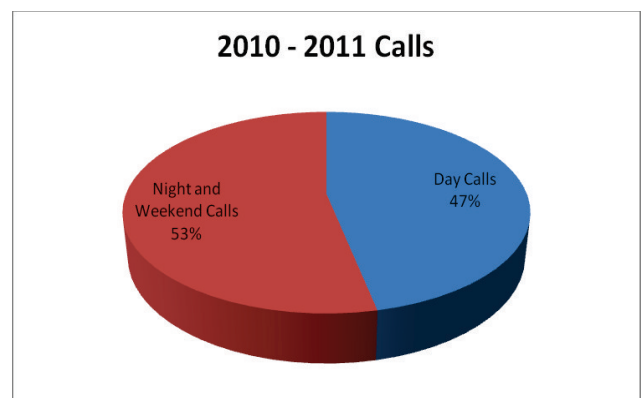
TRAINING

Again this year, much commitment was put in to Monday night training. During the year members also took advantage of weekend training courses to gain extra knowledge and skills. Two sessions at the BATB and use of the facilities at the Kilbirnie Training Centre enabled specialized training to be carried out on other occasions. I also congratulate those who are working through the TAPS, RFF, QFF and SFF course material and Quinn Le Cheminant who sat and passed two units of the NZFBI exams. Members are also putting in a lot of effort in keeping up with the green lights on OSM. 8 members also attended a chainsaw operators course. Each of the officers also attended a one day refresher seminar at the training centre.

Half way through the year Tim Cook was elected to training co-ordinator and an interim management committee was elected. It was also decided due to the training demands that Brigade meetings would be held on a bi monthly basis.

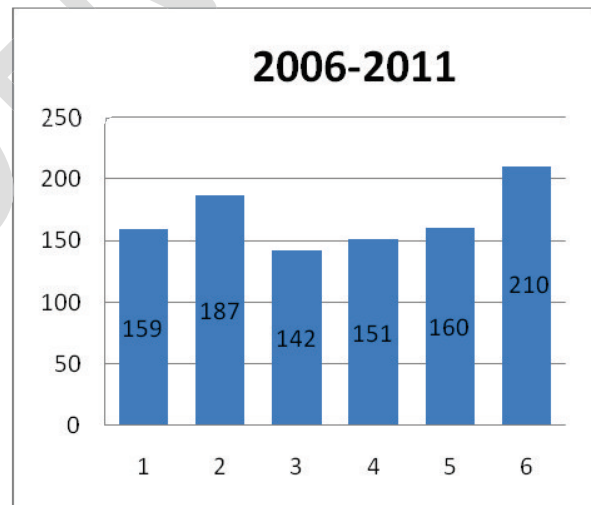
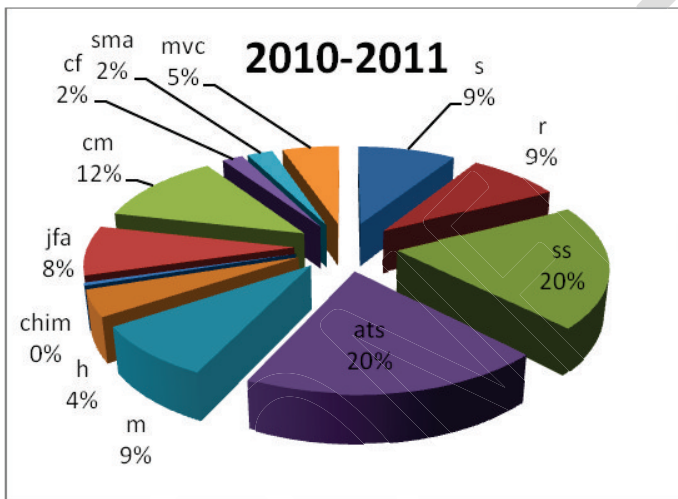
FIRE CALLS

210 calls were attended, compared to 160 in the previous year. This was the second busiest year for the brigade since it's inception in 1965. A significant increase in the number of special service calls due to a couple of adverse weather events which also resulted in an increase of cover moves along with an increase of false alarms. The call ratio of weekdays to nights/weekends worked out to be 47/53%.



Fire Call Statistics.

1. Property	19	13	7. Herbage	9	4
2. Rubbish	28	23	8. Chimney	1	2
3. Special Service	42	17	9. JFA	17	6
4. ATS	41	46	10. Cover Moves	25	12
5. Medical	18	15	11. Car Fires	4	1
6. MVC	11	12	12. Smoke Alarms	5	9



SOCIAL

There was no honours evening this year. Christmas function was held at a restaurant in Petone. Chad O'Hara was awarded the Noel Quinn Trophy. Members also got together for the occasional BBQ and social get together.

EQUIPMENT

Wet weather PPE was supplied along with a variety of other equipment including a laminating machine, purchased with brigade funds and donations.

STATION

A BBQ cover/shed constructed.

APPLIANCE

A first in the history of this brigade took place in July with the delivery of a much awaited brand new Iveco Type 1 appliance. This is the first brand new appliance ever to be based at Newlands, replacing the trusty Hino that had served the brigade since 1996. Members spent many hours training on the new appliance and designing the locker layout prior to going into service at 1530 hrs on June 14th. Within 9 minutes of it entering it attended its first call out driven by SFF Rick Eng under the command of SO Ralph Francis. The appliance was officially handed over by Fire Region Manager Ian Pickard on the 18th August at a special function at Newlands Fire Station.

PROMOTIONS

Promotions such as station visits, attendance at school galas and community events displays were well attended and a lot of fire safety promotional material was distributed.

Although not as busy as last year installing smoke alarms members are still kept fairly busy visiting residents homes to install smoke alarms.

Again this year, Reece Buck has done an outstanding job with our web site. Tim Cook attended the UFBA Conference in Wellington as the Newlands delegate.

Anzac day saw the brigade well represented at the parade and commemoration service at the Johnsonville RSA. The afternoon was capped off with enjoyable and somewhat entertaining BBQ and social function for members and their families.

Newlands also put together a team which competed at the Sky Tower stair climb in Auckland, raising money for the leukemia foundation.

CONCLUSION

The demise of the yellow watch appliance at Johnsonville has increased our daytime calls and has put pressure on our daytime response. On only 2 occasions during the year we failed to respond week day calls. Once was lack of crew and the other saw 7 members respond to the station but none were drivers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who are able to attend call outs during the weekdays. I know some of you go to a lot of effort to ensure daytime availability.

My very special thanks to our secretary Gill, again another outstanding job in keeping the brigade functioning with her meticulous accounts and minute taking. To our life and honorary members, thank you for your support and it is always pleasing to see you involved with the various activities associated with the brigade.

To the Newlands brigade members, and families, special thanks for the time and enthusiasm you have put into the brigade during this very busy year. Without your dedication and support the brigade would not function.

Again many thanks for all your support and I look forward to presenting the 47th Annual Report.

Tony Swain
Senior Station Officer
OIC Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade

Newlands Volunteer Fire Brigade
Brigade Attendance Statistics 01 April 2010 to 31 March 2011

	Attended	Approved Leave	Absent	Total	% Attended	% Accounted For
SSO Tony Swain	44	1	0	45	98%	100%
SO Ralph Francis	21	24	0	45	47%	100%
SO Neil Natta	44	1	0	45	98%	100%
SO Grant Nicholas	23	22	0	45	51%	100%
SO Frank Simpson	27	18	0	45	60%	100%
Supt Officer B Bambery	38	7	0	45	84%	100%
SFF Tim Cook	42	3	0	45	93%	100%
SFF Steve Flett	17	26	2	45	38%	96%
SFF Nigel Le Grice <small>Joined July 1</small>	15	17	0	32	33%	71%
SFF Craig Tuffin	22	20	3	45	49%	93%
QFF Chad Ohara	22	18	5	45	49%	89%
FF Jeff Aukuso	16	24	5	45	36%	100%
FF Reece Buck	33	12	0	45	73%	100%
FF Paul Fleming	32	13	0	45	71%	100%
FF Jason Francis	43	2	0	45	96%	100%
FF Corey Walbran <small>Joined Feb 7</small>	5	1	0	6	11%	13%
FF Quinn Le Cheminant	41	4	0	45	91%	100%
FF Renee Moffitt	40	5	0	45	89%	100%
FF Craig Swain	22	22	1	45	49%	98%
FF Gary Swain	20	24	1	45	44%	98%
FF Dimitrios Zaloumis <small>Joined May 3</small>	26	12	0	38	58%	84%
FF David Chapman Taylor	27	17	1	45	60%	98%