

THE SIREN



NEWSLETTER OF

THE ASHBURTON FIRE MUSEUM

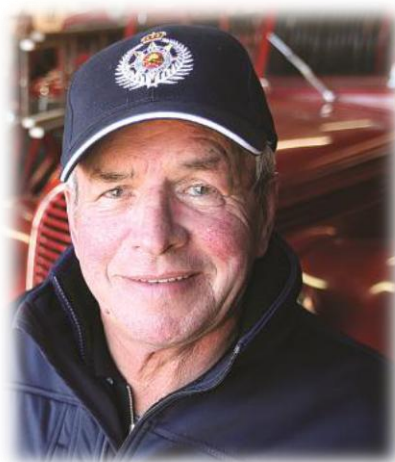
ISSUE FOUR NOVEMBER 2016



CHAIRMANS MESSAGE:-

Welcome to Issue Four of The SIREN.

Since the last issue, I am pleased to report we have been able to move forward in a very positive way with the support of the wider community and this enables us to move into the final planning and construction phase in our goal to extend and upgrade The Ashburton Fire Museum at The Plains.



Following great support from the business community and local fire-fighters we have instructed **Alpine Building Ltd** to prepare the kitset ready for construction. **Stu Tarbotton Contracting Limited** will prepare the site for the concrete floor and foundation.

Chilton & Mayne Architects are continuing their excellent contribution to our project and have been busy preparing the working drawings to go to Council for consent.

Jim Reed Builders Ltd will attach the two buildings giving us a total floor area of 500 sq meters. **Adam Martin Contracting** will form the driveway linking our new extension to Main Street at The Plains. **The Finishing Company** will do the interior paint refresh job on the existing shed. **Wilsons Bulk Transport** have kindly donated a container for storage.

The final push for funds to get us to construction was made possible by two major efforts organised by Officers and members of the Ashburton Volunteer Fire Brigade. They arranged for a Businesses Evening which attracted around thirty attending and they provided their support for the project by way of cash, services and product.

The highlight of the fundraising so far has been the very successful "FIREMANS BALL" which was very well-hosted and attended by a large crowd who enjoyed a great night. With an auction included in the evening (see details elsewhere), this proved a great money-spinner and a great exercise to bring people together for our cause.

It is hoped the Building Consent will be issued early in the New Year and construction can commence.

The communities continued support will allow us to design and fit-out The Ashburton Fire Museum at The Plains to a very high standard.

Enjoy the latest edition of The SIREN, packed full of acknowledgements and information.

Lastly, again my thanks to my hard-working committee for their efforts getting us to this stage of what is a very exciting project.

Dave Eddington, Chairman, Ashburton Fire Museum

Stalwarts raise cash for AFM



Fire-fighter Bill Clark and wife Denise put in the hard yards recently at New World and Countdown supermarkets peddling a raffle they put together with donated goods in association with the Netherby Womens Institute (WI).

Bill and Denise are passionate about the fire service and their connection with the Ashburton Brigade and also have a keen sense of doing their bit to help preserve the local brigades proud history.

Their efforts resulted in excess of \$500 to add to the AFM funding coffers.

Another aspect of their efforts, quite apart from raising the dosh, is that they helped build public awareness of the project to develop the collection over at The Plains.

Gratitude to supporter Jeff Harvey as well for the brilliant signs. Thanks mate.

We will also be calling on Jeffs expertise to conceive our brand new displays.

We are building up a head of funding steam

Goal
300

175
Raised





UFBA Conference PUMPING

The Ashburton Fire Museum was pleased to respond positively to a request to display the 1889 Steamer, The Pride of Ashburton, at the UFBA conference held at the RNZAF Museum at Wigram in October.

In company with several other vintage machines from Ferrymead, the Shand Mason looked stunning set up in the sunshine out front of the museum and provided their visitors with an additional attraction to what you'd normally expect at a military aviation museum. Our thanks to Bill Hart and Ken Peck who along with Bryce Chisnall as holder of a boiler ticket from The Plains, fired the old girl up and pumped water for all to enjoy.

Thanks also to Rooney Contracting Ltd who provided the loan of a truck and Westside Hire a trailer to transport The Pride of Ashburton.

She certainly did live up to her name at Wigram and made us all proud to have one of the very few survivors in the world in full operating condition.



WATER ON at Wigram



Where it all started . . .

Construction of the first building to house the AVFB's vintage collection at The Plains in the mid 1970's.





APPLIANCES FEELING SOME LOVE . . .

Ken Peck and Peter Mac delivered the AFM's 1971 ERF to local restoration company Panelcraft on Thursday November 17. Owners of Panelcraft, Duncan and Debrah Ross agreed a while back that they would bring the old truck back to its former glory. A number of their crew are giving up their personal time to help on the project which will see the ERF rubbed right back and treated to a smart new coat of paint along with replacement of window rubbers and bits and pieces to enhance the finished product. Thanks at this point to Jim Reed who has accommodated the ERF on his property for some time, Rooneys Earthmoving for helping out with some temporary batteries to shift the unit, and a huge thanks goes out to the always obliging Newlands family who have a proud history with our brigade and always step up to assist. When approached for a "couple of half-life batteries" for the ERF, Robert Newlands immediately chimed in with an offer to dispatch his techs up to Panelcraft to take a look at the appliance and fit it with two appropriate brand new batteries as a gift from **Newlands & Co.** Absolutely brilliant. Thanks **Robert, Karla** and of course **John and Lorraine**.

Panelcraft are bringing on board their various product suppliers to help out. One of those companys is **R J Paterson Ltd** of Christchurch, leading suppliers of refinishing products to the automotive industry.

We look forward to kitting-out the appliance fully in it appropriate era equipment, and plan to have **Duncan, Debrah** and the **Panelcraft** crew officially hand over the finished product to the AVFB members on a Wednesday evening training night.

Our thanks go out again, to the members of the Fire Services Historical Society based at Ferrymead who gifted this truck to represent the sister appliance which served with the AVFB here in Ashburton.



We had a Ball . . .

The Ashburton Racecourse was the scene for the highly successful Firemans Ball, . . . and already there's talk of "let's do it again sometime."

Around 250 people turned up to enjoy a great themed occasion, a chance to put the glad rags on, have some fun . . . and help a worthy cause.

Entertainment was provided by the excellent band Double Talk from Timaru, Sheryl Higgs and Al Bradley, - more than just a great band, they worked the room and really connected.

Comments have flowed freely about what a great job everyone did, from the decorating and lighting, to the food and service from the crew.

An auction on the night comprising goods and services from a number of local businesses and individuals, brought our nett profit for this effort to almost \$17,000. Please note our supporters for this occasion and give them your continued support. Thanks to everyone who contributed or bought tickets. A winner for sure !





A great night had by all.

The FIREMANS BALL

Our grateful thanks for the following who sponsored goods and/or services for the FIREMANS BALL.

Silk Estate – Toni and Peter May

Chantelle Quinn – 24 Catering

Heartland Design and Print

Ben Wakelin – BW Lighting

A to B Rentals - Keith Drummond (courtesy van).

Steel Tech Access Ltd – Scissor Lift

Karen Jones for the Ceiling Silks

Lewis Adams – waste removal/cleanup

Judith Edgar – event assistance

Casey Rose – Bar Tender Extrordinaire and License Duty Manager

All the fire-fighters and friends who helped make it happen !

Auction items were supplied by:

Bill and Denise Clark - Batch at Tekapo

Bedrock Grill Allenton - Sarah Davidson

Aeroview Function Venue

The Wanaka Lodge

Milbrook Golf

Cardrona Distillery

Sparrows Ltd

Masterguard

Essence Magazine

Robilliards Jewellers

Capelli Hair

New World



Dominoes Pizza

DNA Hair

Chicago Joes Clothing–
The Arcade



ASHBURTON FIRE MUSEUM SPONSORS

Donations/ Sponsorship could be Cash, Products and Services

Major \$25,000 PLUS Community Fund Trusts



Platinum \$10,000 Lump Sum or 24 monthly payments

Gold \$5000 Lump Sum or 12 monthly payments



Silver \$2500 Lump Sum or 6 monthly payments

Bronze \$1000 Lump Sum or 2 monthly payments

SPONSORS and SUPPORTERS

MAJOR FUNDERS: \$25,000 PLUS

Ashburton Trust/Lion Foundation: \$75,000

Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury: \$25,000

Platinum Supporters: \$10,000 plus

GOLD Supporters: \$5,000 plus - \$24,999

Brendon & Michelle Price

Ashburton Rotary Club

Phillip Kenny Real Estate

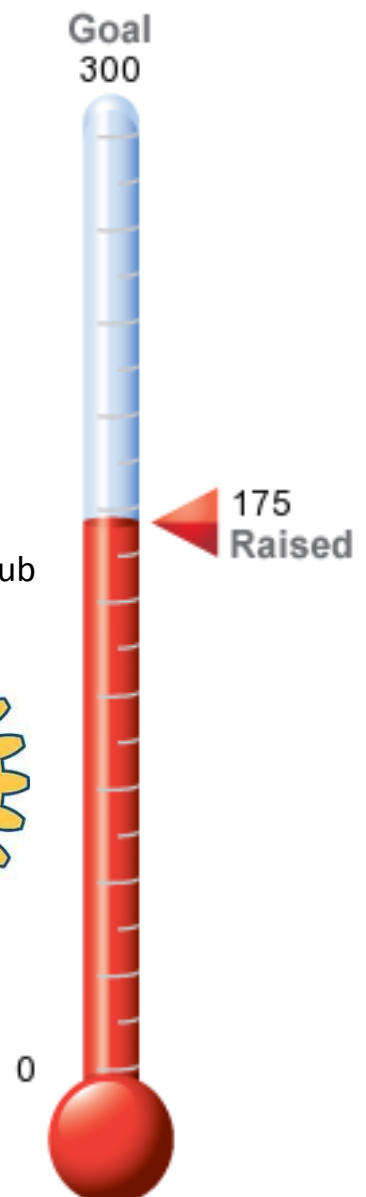
Chilton & Mayne Architecture

Silk Estate Toni and Peter May,

Wilson Bulk Transport, Laser Electrical

Fire Services Historical Society

Panelcraft Auto Restoration



SILVER Supporters: \$2,500 - \$4999

Adam Martin Excavating, 24 Catering - Chantelle Quinn

BRONZE Supporters: \$1000 - \$2499

Jo Goodhew MP, Brian Glassey, Rural Transport Ltd, Canterbury Longrun Roofing, Wrights Drycleaners, Phillip Bean, JFK Homes, Pendarves Rural Fire Force, Newlands Auto Electrical, Julie Williams Catering, Mike Cairns Groundspreading, Ben Wakelin (BW Lighting), D. H Bird, John Hannan, Seed & Field S.I. Ltd, BNZ, Smallbones, Allister Stevens, Talleys Ltd. Tom Gundry Freight, BP Ashburton, Spraymarks, Midland Seeds Group.

Media Partners:

Ashburton Guardian, NZME (NZ Media & Entertainment) Hokonui FM.



Mid Canterbury 92.5 & 96.5 FM

Just before going to press, we learned that unfortunately our latest application to the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury was unsuccessful. We were not altogether surprised as on delivery of the application to Timaru, we were advised that ours was one of five applications received that funding round for fire heritage projects around the region.

We are still thankful for the support from the CTM&SC and also intend to place a further application with the Ashburton Trust/Lion Foundation in the New Year.

The AFM's JEEP appliance has been receiving some attention to put it into roadworthy order. Bill Hart delivered the machine to Larry Watson at Canterbury Vehicle Compliance recently and a thorough check revealed some work required particularly in the area of brakes which is not uncommon with a vehicle that has sat for some time.

The Jeep has swapped places with the Dennis F8 over at The Plains and our mechanics on the team are going to "put it to rights".

Thanks Larry Watson for your support at CANTERBURY VEHICLE COMPLIANCE.

Get well Bruce

Our good mate and steam-guru Bruce Hill who is officially the operating custodian of the steamer, has been having some extensive work done on his own “boiler tubes” recently.

Don't overdo things Bruce, you have a great nurse in Lanae there ! Looking forward to having you back with the team and also making your sweet music with Lanae, shortly.

Wilsons Bulk Come On Board

We are delighted to announce Wilsons Bulk Transport as a GOLD SUPPORTER of the Ashburton Fire Museum. We approached Jonathon Ward, Managing Director of Wilson Bulk early on and suggested the supply of a shipping container would be a much-appreciated contribution. We have quite a bit of material held in reserve and a fair bit of stuff stored over at The Plains and difficult to keep out of the public view. Along with a heap of other kit and bits and pieces stored at Ashburton Fire HQ, we really needed a solution. Wilsons recently dropped a very decent looking 20 foot container in the Fire station yard in Burnett Street and we can now begin to get everything organised. The container is intended to be incorporated as an adjunct off the main new building at The Plains in the fullness of time.

Brian, you are a champ !

Well known local identity, Brian Glassey (that's him with the brilliant customer service and fifty years of service at Mitre 10 Mega), recently dropped an envelope in to one of our AFM committee members with a message that “he operated a little trust and thought the fire museum to be a very worthwhile cause.”

We were blown away to open the envelope and discover a cheque for \$1000.

A wonderful gesture Brian,
quite out of the blue,
and we proudly make you a
BRONZE SUPPORTER of the
Ashburton Fire Museum.

Welcome on board Brian.

You're part of the family now !



It's All In The Family

The Ashburton Volunteer Fire Brigade is very much a family organisation.

Not only literally insofar as there are a number of Ashburton families that have offered up several generations for service to the brigade and the community, but the organisation is tight-knit and everyone has each others backs. That sense of family extends throughout the fire service and we are fortunate and delighted to have the enthusiastic support of other fire museums around New Zealand. As readers of The SIREN will be aware, our 1971 ERF appliance was donated by the **FIRE SERVICES HISTORICAL SOCIETY** based at Ferrymead. And we've been wonderfully supported by our friends from the **Dunedin Fire Brigade Restoration Society** who recently supplied a good deal of uniform kit, BA set components, and various items to assist us kit out our appliances including two large wooden-truss ladders, one of which will find a new home atop the ERF to complete its restoration. Thank you to Tom Churchill of Dunedin FBRS who arranged the generous donation of these items. Huge thanks also go to Opzeeland Transport for bringing the two large ladders home from Dunedin for us. Cheers Guys.

OPEN DAYS AT THE PLAINS

We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to assist manning our museum during open days at The Plains Village at Tinwald.

The open days for the Summer Season 2016/17 are as follows.

Sunday December 11

Tuesday December 27

Wednesday December 28

Sunday January 8 & 22

Sunday February 5 & 12

Sunday March 26

Sunday April 15



It's not all Fire Engines !!!

Come In John Hannan

A shout-out to former AVFB fire-fighter John Hannan who served back in the 1960's before heading away north.

John actually lived above the old fire station for a while and there are many tales, some embellished with the passage of time, relating to goings-on back in the day. Suffice to say, he must have had difficulty getting to sleep at times, - it was a fairly enthusiastic time often peppered with pranks and practical jokes.

Moving to Wellington was a pretty drastic step to avoid the hi-jinks.

It obviously can't have had any lasting detrimental effects though, as John is an enthusiastic supporter from afar, sending us regular contributions to our building fund. Thanks John, . . . somewhere we have a picture of your competition days with the brigade. We will dig it out and publish it. Cheers and thanks for the on-going support mate.

You can't have too many Bills

When you yell out "Hey Bill" over at The Plains Fire Station, chances are you'll get a chorus reply. We have several (and have room for more !!!), our latest recruit being a fine gentleman by the name of BILL HART. He has a big HEART too, especially when it comes to taking care of vintage fire brigade gear. Bill Hart is no stranger to fire stations, having served with the Lincoln Brigade back in the 70's and early 80's. These days he's a Mid Canterbury local and has taken to our museum collection like a duck to water.

So when you are over at the museum and see a handsome chap matching the picture herewith, stop and say gidday and "chew a bit of fire-fighting fat."

Great to have you on-board Bill.

May your stay be a long and happy one.





Ashburtons 1971 ERF DJ 8817, first served at Christchurch Central along with its sister which we have acquired to represent the types service in Ashburton. It is pictured above in its early days at Central and below, now restored and with the Fire Services Historical Society at Ferrymead. With the expert restoration of the folks at **Panelcraft**, ours will also look as good as new when our new building opens.

