

Friday, 19th September 2008

NZPFU
PO Box 38213
Petone
Wellington

Dear Derek

The explosion and fire at the Icepack Coolstore in Tamahere on the 5th April 2008 was one of New Zealand's largest. It is also infamous for the largest number of severe injuries to firefighters.

On that day, we as the firefighters involved became victims; we fell over and required picking up. Many people assisted us that day. From members of the public who performed rescues, to medical staff at a nearby BBQ, through to the ambulance and surgical teams at hospital.

Likewise the assistance we have received nationwide following the event has been overwhelming and humbling. As firefighters we understand the feeling of brotherhood. It is during times like these of adversity and extreme circumstance that this feeling is reinforced by acts of kindness and assistance from fellow firefighters nationwide.

It is with an immense sense of pride and gratitude that we wish to say a *collective big thank you* to all members the Fire Service both career and volunteer, national and international and to the many others who contributed to the Trust fund. Special thanks also to the union and staff for initiating, contributing to and managing this fund as you did.

We thank you for your commitment on our behalf.

David Beanland
Millie Lovell

Adrian Brown
Mero Neil

Cameron Grylls
Alvan Walker

Brian Halford
Dennis Wells

Thank you and kindest regards,


Adrian Brown

22 SEP 2008