



Frank Mackereth

Frank Mackereth is a person who has loved helping people over the past 50 years.

Frank arrived in Silverdale on the 1st January 1959 from his home town of Okaihau in the Far North

The next day he commenced a 5 year apprenticeship with Neil Gatman Ltd in Silverdale.

On the 25th January 1959 he joined the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Brigade. Frank spent many of his lunch hours and after work servicing and maintaining the two fire engines one of which was a 1935 Ford V.8 and the other a 1956 Bedford.

In those early years Frank also assisted in forming the Silverdale Youth Club.

In 1962 Frank was promoted to Senior Fireman and In 1963 was promoted to Station Officer (Training Officer)

Frank was part of a Design Team for new appliances, in the years 1964 a 1964 TK Bedford, in 1970 for a Ford D600, and again in 1971 for another Ford D600.

He was also part of the Design Committee for the construction of new Fire Stations at Silverdale and Manly.

1965 Frank was promoted to deputy Chief Fire Officer and in 1970 became the Brigade Representative on the Silverdale Fire Committee with the Waitemata County Council and the Insurance Council.

In 1978 Frank was involved in raising funds and purchasing a C.F. Bedford

Van and Hurst Rescue Equipment (Jaws of Life)

In the late 1970s Frank completed an apprenticeship in Plumbing and Drainlaying which he still does today part time.

In 1981 Frank started employment as Station Keeper at Silverdale Fire Station looking after Manly Fire Station as well, and maintaining land that was purchased at the northern end of Orewa.

This meant completing a 12 week Basic Course at Mt Wellington.

In 1995 saw Frank as Team Leader when a Community Safety Team was introduced and in 2002 Frank was promoted to Chief Fire Officer of the Silverdale Volunteer Fire Brigade.

Frank was appointed as the Northern Volunteer Representative on the Regional Operating Committee which later changed to the Regional Management Team

He was also appointed to the Auckland Region Volunteer Representative on the Operational Safety and Health Functional Committee.

In 2006 Frank started working with the Auckland Region and National Headquarters staff on redeveloping the Silverdale Fire Station which was halted in 2007 but is now back on track again with plans about to be lodged with the Rodney District Council.

In 2008 a reserve was dedicated to Frank by Kensington Park called the Frank Mackereth Reserve for his dedicated service to the Hibiscus Coast.

And at present Frank is part of the Auckland Logistics Team while still carrying out some Station Keeper duties.

Frank has recently been recognised by the Fire Service with his second Gold Star---25 years for each Gold Star and is only one of 65 people in New Zealand and only one of three in Auckland....What an achievement!

Frank has served the Hibiscus Coast Community and the Fire Service for the past 50 years with most of those years as a Volunteer.....and he intends to keep going for as long as he can.

Frank, the Rotary Club of Orewa congratulates you and they have much pleasure in presenting you with Rotary International's highest award..... A Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of a job well done.

