

## **Baxter Fire Brigade – History Detail**

### **1944 - February 11**

First meeting held at Baxter Public Hall. 30 members present. Mr H Lee elected Captain. Membership fee 1/6. Mt Eliza FB donated 25/- as well as 5 knapsacks.

### **1944 - February 25**

Six cross roads was the meeting place in the event of a fire.

### **1944 - April**

A dance was conducted on 25th March to raise funds profit 32-13-3. Funds raised purchased 25 knapsacks. Another 3 knapsacks were purchased from government grant along with 12 beaters and an axe.

### **1945 - March**

Purchase of fire fighting unit consisting of a low down hand pump on skids with a 120 gallon tank along with 24ft suction hose & 60ft delivery hose.

### **1945 - June**

Mr W.Glover made avail ground 30' x 30' for fire station. Documents signed re lease of land 2 Jul'45 – land was later purchase 1949 –site of present station  
Fire bell for proposed station purchased.

### **1945 - October**

67 members, 1 call for the year. Bank balance 85-18-9  
Brigade building , with 70pounds from government grant, size 30' X 20', walls be of cement sheets 9ft in height & roof of corrugated iron, be built as soon as possible  
Another 60' hose, Y coupling & 1'' stop clock be purchased.  
A one off community dance competition held to raise funds – MC & judged by members of the Baxter Fire Brigade.  
Brigade annual ball was conducted-these continued for many years

### **1945 - November**

Bell tower purchased cost 30/-

### **1946 - January**

Mr W.Glover paid 1/- per mile for use of his dodge truck for calls to fires. Country fire Authority approached re purchase of suitable lamp (Tilley lamp for preference) for use at the fire station.

### **1946 - October**

CFA approached re insurance for member's cars attending fires.  
For members offering their vehicles for use at fires, a 5 gallon petrol ticket was supplied.

### **1946 - 27 November**

First meeting held in brigade building.

**1947 – November**

Equipment on hand include– 33 knapsacks, 5 buckets, 2 hand pumps(1 partially assembled), 2 coils hose ¾ in x 120 ft, 1 20ft length suction hose, 1 100gallon,1 120 gallon with stand pump, 9 beaters.

**1948 - January**

Electric light installed in brigade building 2 lights, 1 power point inside & 1 Outside.

**1950 - January**

A new 16inc bell was erected on tower

**1950 - January**

Boundaries approved.

Moorooduc rail crossing along Three Chain road to Golflinks rd along Robinson rd to west road along west road to junction of Larnach road hence as the bird fly's to Moorooduc rail crossing.

New Austin fire fighting power unit delivered on 14/2/50, truck no MG 672

Mileage 4100 – social held in Baxter hall to celebrate the occasion.

**1950 - March**

The old fire bell affixed to fire truck.

**1950 - May**

Brigade meets 1st Thursday in each month with practise held following Sunday.

**1951 - August**

Request was made to get hydrant plug at 6 cross roads to facilitate filling of fire truck

**1957 - January**

Radio obtained –Baxter call sign VL 30 F 10

**1959 - February**

Siren purchased for use as a fire waring alarm.

**1961 - October**

12 Fibreglass helmets purchased.

**1962 - January**

Live reel for the truck obtained, financed by Mr T.Borthwick.

**1962 - September**

Baxter joins two bays group of fire brigades

**1963 - October**

Flashing light obtained for vehicle

**1964 - October**

8 pairs white overalls purchased

**1965 - April**

Sliding door for fire station erected.

**1966 - September**

Accommodation for fire truck required so that present building could be used for social purposes

**1968 - March**

Baxter joins Western Port Group

**1968 - May**

VHF radio be purchased

**1969 - Apri**

Proposal for brick building

**1970 - January**

CFA be asked to take over the brigade

**1972 - January**

Look into telephone interceptors

**1973 - February**

Six helmets purchased

**1973 - April**

Old station demolished to make way for new station

**1973 - November**

First meeting held in brick station

**1974 - April**

Station officially opened by Chief Officer A.Pitfield.

**1978 - January**

Brigade attended channel 0 studios and participated in "Almost anything goes". (Finished last).

**1978 - November**

Kombi Van purchased from Frankston FB

**1979 - May**

New siren installed

**1981 - April**

Brigade has 63 registered members 67 turnouts for past year

**1982 - January**

Acco 1710 B delivered

**1982 - May**

Turn out coats & Boots (10) purchased from MFB

**1982 - September**

15 CFA type overalls purchased.

**1982 - November**

Brigade shields for brigade service introduced.

**1983 - February**

Brigade members attended Ash Wednesday fire

**1983 - April**

2 X scanners donated to brigade after ash weds fires by Baxter Technical School.

**1983 - October**

Fire Monitor purchased & fitted on vehicle

**1984 - April**

Celebrations held for 40th anniversary of brigade

**1984 - May**

2 Breathing Apparatus (BA) sets allocated to brigade – first rural brigade to be issued.

**1985 - February**

E1800 Mazda Deluxe proposed - door knock arranged to raise funds. **1985 - October**

Proposal to extend brick station to level of truck bay.

**1986 - December**

Pagers introduced

**1988 - February**

Building committee formed to extend station

**1989 - January**

UHF radios fitted to vehicles

**1989 - April**

Fireman of the year awarded for the first time

**1990 – November**

CFA supplied 5 new helmets- very heavy 800 gms-1.1kg.

**1991 - January**

Trailer pump arrived. Engine bay floor sealed.

**1991 - 19 May**

Station extension officially opened by ACO B.Dobson

**1991 - August**

Position of brigade president discontinued.

**1991 - November**

New BA sets obtained from CFA.