

## The Buxton Fire Brigade's quest for a fire-fighting Truck

In September 1957 BFB started petitioning for a firefighting vehicle or, failing that, at least a portable water pump. Actually, the brigade started asking (and kept asking) for a water-carrying vehicle from March 1947, but 10 years later the need was becoming acute. As was the need for a shed – somewhere other than the back of the General Store for storing equipment. After years of asking for a fire truck, suddenly one was provided – on condition that it was garaged. The Brigade hurriedly obtained land and built a garage.



## Buxton Fire Brigade Our Appliances



### 1966 Willys fire truck GSK-016 (left)

While Marysville and Acheron Brigades each had one, not many brigades in the area did. Then the brigade heard a 'Willys' was becoming available and yet again petitioned Region 12. Region asked, "If we get you this truck, where will you keep it?" – the brigade had no land, no shed – and brigade replied, "If you get us this truck, we'll find something, we'll build something." Region trusted and provided. The Willys was a 3-seater single cabin 4WD. With rails on the back it could carry 2-3 additional firefighters – for short distances. Those who couldn't fit on the fire truck had to make their own way to the fireground.

### 1976 Austin fire truck JGF- 023 (left)

The Austin had six cylinders and was an easy-going, good honest unit – but it was only 2WD and very, very slow. It had an excellent pump and a 400-gallon tank. The old Willys Jeep found its way to Golden Square Fire Brigade around 1981, where it served them well for quite a few years.

### 1986 Isuzu Tanker MYZ-564 (right)

The Austin had proved itself very reliable but Buxton Brigade was soon content with its replacement, a new 2WD Isuzu.



### Isuzu Medium Tanker MAE-957 (above)

In October 1996 an Isuzu 2.4D 4WD replaced a Hino Tanker that for a short time replaced the 1986 Isuzu Tanker. Class A Foam was retrofitted in April 1997.

### Isuzu Light Tanker XV26CE (right)

After many years of assessing a replacement appliance, the Brigade purchased a new Light Tanker using a VSESP grant and its own savings in 2019.



In 2008, after 30 years of saving, Buxton Brigade bought a **Land Rover Defender WEA-047 with Slip-On (left)**.

As with many Brigades, Buxton acquired useful pieces of firefighting equipment, such as a tank trailer (bottom right), quick-fill trailer (right) and a town trailer (bottom left). Over time these were disposed of or passed on to others.

