

MAINPOWER ANNUAL REVIEW 2013





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<i>Powering our community every hour, every day, every year</i>	

Front cover: Canterbury gecko (*Woodworthia brunnea* North Canterbury). Photo/Trent Bell
Find out more about our environmental initiatives at Mt Cass, including with the Canterbury gecko, on page 13.

Inside front cover: High flying NZ Junior Elite BMX champion, eighteen year old Trent Jones, competes in Salt Lake City, Utah. Named top MainPower Youth Sports Scholar for 2012, Trent is No.5 in the Junior Elite Men's world rankings after an outstanding performance at last year's world championships in Birmingham, England. Photo/Daniel Franks

Inside back cover: North Canterbury's star breaststroker, Natasha Lloyd, also a 2012 MainPower Youth Sports Scholarship winner, demonstrates her winning style. Next January, Natasha will head to Alabama's Auburn University to take up a four-year swim scholarship. Photo/Supplied



MAINPOWER DIRECTORS 2013

Left Column

Gill Cox (Chairman)

Allan Berge (Managing Director)

Trevor Burt

Peter Cox

Right Column

Tony King

Judith Hoban

Stephen Lewis

Chairman and Managing Director's Report

A return to normality, but with the challenge of growth.

2012–2013 has seen the climate in the North Canterbury/Kaikoura region again display many of the attributes of normality as far as electricity distribution is concerned.

A normal winter and spring, followed by a dry summer, resulted in high irrigation demand tempered by availability of water, and more typical residential and commercial electricity usage patterns.

Earthquake recovery activities are now largely behind MainPower. However, as predicted last year, the challenge now is an explosion in residential subdivisions in Waimakariri and Hurunui. This growth, fuelled by the need for relocation for many Christchurch and Kaiapoi residents, has resulted in real pressure on our network planning and construction activities. We expect this to continue for the next few years. The result beyond that will be strong growth in lines revenue. This will, however, be preceded by a significant increase in capital expenditure to ensure the high network service levels that MainPower customers have come to expect. Accordingly, capital expenditure on the electricity network in 2012–13 was \$16.1m and is budgeted to be \$23.3m in 2013–14 and \$19.8m in 2014–15.

The increasing area of irrigable land—predicted to increase further with the extension to the Waimakariri scheme and the likely advent of the Hurunui scheme—places significant demand on our rural electricity network. MainPower is responding by progressively increasing the capacity of existing 33 kV and 11 kV networks to 66 kV and 22 kV respectively. The expenditure on this work in 2012–13 totalled \$4.3m, and is expected to be a further \$10.5m in 2013–14.

Another capital project that has seen significant planning and site development in 2012–13 has been the relocation of all of MainPower's Rangiora activities (including head office) to a site in Southbrook Business Park. It is expected the company will be fully relocated by 31 March 2014 at a net cost of \$13.8m. The investment will meet the needs of the company for the next 50 years and have the benefit of all Rangiora operations being on a single site in an appropriate industrial area.

The financial performance of the company in the year ended 31 March 2013 has been strong. Net profit before rebates and taxation was \$19.7m compared to a budget of \$16.3m, and a 2011–12 result of \$11.8m. Importantly cash generated from operations totalled a healthy \$17m for the 2012–13 year. This, together with additional borrowings of \$7.4m, has been used to fund total capital and development expenditure for the year of \$24.4m. At 31 March 2013 the company had total assets of \$265.7m; total liabilities of \$65.8m; and net

assets of \$199.9m—an increase of \$8.3m over the previous year. This very strong financial position provides a sound base for the company to respond to the growth challenges expected over the next few years.

Health and safety—in the workplace and for our community—is a primary focus for MainPower. Since the revelations of the Pike River tragedy, the focus of entire communities will be increasingly on this aspect of industrial performance. MainPower welcomes this. For our part we will continue to seek improved performance in this critical aspect of our activities. During 2012–13 MainPower recorded 14.5 days of lost time due to workplace incidents, compared with 13 days in the 2011–12 year. The only acceptable performance is zero lost time and zero incidents where our people are hurt. It was gratifying to have our people's efforts in this regard recognised with two national safety awards at the recent Electricity Engineers' Association conference.

On a personal note, congratulations to MainPower director, Judith Hoban, Dame Grand Cross of the Order of St John—a title she received earlier this year from Her Majesty the Queen in recognition of her longstanding commitment and tireless work for that organisation. Judith is only the eighth New Zealander to be awarded this honour.

Thank you to all who work for MainPower, for your commitment and your efforts during the past year: you have enabled the company to achieve the results reported here, and with a strong commitment to public and workplace safety.

Thank you also to our customers and community for your continuing support, and when outages have occurred, for your understanding.

Thank you to the Trustees of the MainPower Trust who hold the shares in MainPower on behalf of the community and our customers. Your on-going endorsement of our direction, and willingness to provide counsel on issues that directly affect your beneficiaries, is a real strength of our ownership model for electricity distribution in the North Canterbury / Kaikoura region.

And finally, thank you to my fellow Board members for the focus, wisdom and commitment that you have so willingly provided to guide the company to another successful year.



Gill Cox, **Chairman**



Allan Berge, **Managing Director**



Over recent years, our safety performance has improved markedly.

INCIDENT SEVERITY RATE HALVED
every year for the last three years

Nevertheless, we know there's still room for improvement.

Safety First

“Safety First is our core value. It’s paramount; it influences everything we do as a company. There can be no compromise when it comes to keeping our people—staff, customers and community—safe.”

Allan Berge, **Managing Director**

Innovation rewarded

Underground supervisor, Malcolm McClintock, took out the 2012 MainPower Workplace Safety Innovation Award with his Infoshare Proposal. Based on the premise of keeping staff safe by keeping them informed, Malcolm’s idea will see real-time safety updates digitally displayed at key locations company-wide, including our Kaikoura and Culverden depots. “Malcolm’s proposal really raises the bar in terms of internal communications around safety issues,” says safety and training manager, Stephen Albrecht. “It’s the sort of innovation we look for all year round from our staff but the award gives us the opportunity to formally recognise the best of the best.”



Stephen Albrecht, **Safety & Training Manager** and Malcolm McClintock, **Underground Supervisor**

Independent review

In early 2013, we commissioned an independent review of all our safety practices and procedures, and our regulatory and legislative compliance. It’s a massive task that will take 12 months to complete but one that again underscores our very real commitment to safety improvement and best practice.



National safety climate project

For the last three years, as part of this nationwide Electricity Engineers' Association project, we've sought to understand our staff's perceptions of their safety experiences. Now into its fourth year, the project has proved invaluable in achieving safety and productivity gains.

Quality assured

Our accreditation with several international quality standards—Quality Management, Environmental Management, and Occupational Health and Safety Management—is something we're very proud of and something we work hard to maintain. We know it gives our customers assurance that we are doing a great job.



Award wins recognise MainPower's safety focus

Winning this year's Electricity Engineers' Association (EEA) Public Safety Award brought the company's focus on safety into the spotlight. Our award-winning submission was for the redesign and network-wide installation of an insulator extension bracket on a particular type of rural high voltage supply line. The initiative, which followed a tragic incident in North Canterbury in early 2012, will help reduce the chance of similar incidents occurring across New Zealand. MainPower's post-incident public and industry-wide safety communications also contributed to the win. Like all lines companies, our job is to provide a safe and secure electricity supply for our customers, so having our achievements in this area recognised at a national level is particularly rewarding. MainPower's work towards improving workplace safety was also recognised by the EEA with a merit award for our entry in that category.



MainPower Chairman, Gill Cox (right), receives the EEA 2013 Public Safety Award from the Hon. Tim Groser



Our People

“Over the past year, we’ve continued to grow our workforce both to meet the demands of business growth and succession planning. We recruit the best, then provide them with development and training opportunities to become even better.”

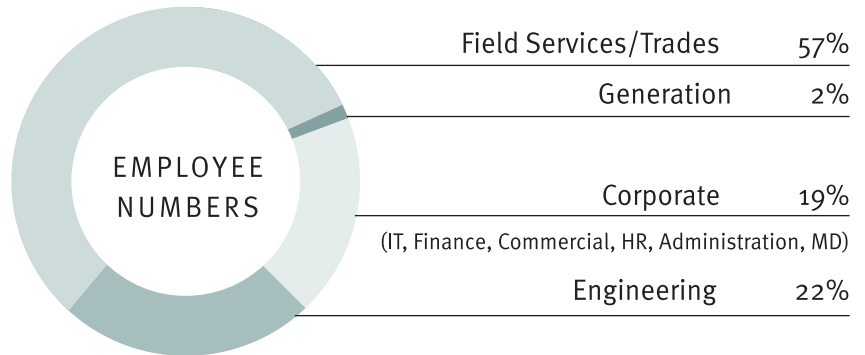
Sandra O’Donohue, **Human Resources Manager**

160
FTEs

84%
MALE

16%
FEMALE

46 YRS
AVERAGE AGE



EMPLOYEES BY AGE	
< 20 years	3%
< 30 years	11%
< 40 years	18%
< 50 years	31%
< 60 years	26%
> 60 years	11%

LENGTH OF SERVICE	
0 - 5 yrs	40%
6 - 10 yrs	23.5%
11 - 15 yrs	9%
16 - 20 yrs	4.5%
21 - 25 yrs	4%
25 - 40 yrs	17.5%
40+ yrs	1.5%



Hayden Wilcock

Trevor Shadbolt

Michael Day

From line mechanics and cable jointers, electricians to utility arborists, electrical engineers to designers, it takes a huge range of skills to look after the MainPower network. We're justifiably proud of our apprenticeship programme and the career pathways we provide. Here, two of our apprentices, and one long-timer who's just celebrated 50 years with the company, talk about what it's like to work for MainPower.

Hayden

Loburn lad, Hayden Wilcock, joined MainPower last August as an apprentice line mechanic.

"I left school at the end of Year 12. I was 17 and didn't really know what I wanted to do. Then, I read about a course at Christchurch Polytech (CPIT)—Electricity Supply Level 2. It sounded good, so I applied and completed it in eight months. It was pretty good. I learnt some engineering, welding, that sort of thing. And then I saw an advert for a trainee line mechanic at MainPower. I didn't really know what they did, so I went home that night, did a bit of research on the internet and thought,

'That'd be good'. So, I applied and got the job. I think part of the reason they took me on was that I'd completed the pre-trade course at CPIT. I really like the guys I work with, they are great. And the work is interesting. I'm learning new things all the time. I like the feeling that I'm doing an important job, especially when I go out on faults... keeping the power on, helping the community. It feels real good."

Trevor

2013 is a big year for MainPower's overhead supervisor, Trevor Shadbolt. In March, it was his 65th birthday and in June he celebrated 50 years with the company.

It was 1963, and Trevor was 15, when he came off a recently-sold Oxford farm to be interviewed by the then North Canterbury Power Board's general manager, Mr Alf Buckingham. "I think my farming experience helped me because Mr Buckingham wasn't actually meant to hire me until I was 16," says Trevor. "He was sizing me up, and once we'd established I was looking for a job, he asked me if I liked apples. I was a bit surprised but of course I said, 'Yes.' He replied, 'Well, there are a whole lot of apples on the ground out there; if you pick them up you can take some of them home.' So that was my test, my initiation if you like, to see if I could do what I was told."

Mr Buckingham must have liked what he saw. He told Trevor: “We’ll see you at the Power Board on the 24th of June.”

Trevor was elated. Not only did he have a job to go to but he was going to get a trade behind him. “It worked out well, really, really well,” Trevor exclaims. “In fact, I’ve never looked back.”

After three months as a junior worker Trevor was promoted to trainee line mechanic. Two and a half years later, and still only 17, he passed his linesman’s ticket examinations. However, the then MED couldn’t award him his certificate until he was 18. “I was a linesman but I wasn’t a linesman if you see what I mean!”

Fast forward twelve years and you’ll find Kaikoura depot-based Trevor as charge hand/foreman, looking after six or seven staff. “It was my first experience of being in charge of other people and I thoroughly enjoyed it.”

On his return to Rangiora two and a half years later, Trevor worked on a line crew, quickly took the lead role and six months later, was given the opportunity to go on a couple of supervisor’s courses. “I went to Dunedin and Hanmer Springs and when I came back they put me straight into a foreman’s role, looking after six men.”

And it didn’t stop there. “I had the opportunity to go for live line work and

I jumped at it. I happily gave up my foreman’s role. And I was only there for probably six months and I became a foreman for live line.”

After the live line work, came a stint as planning officer. Four years later—it’s now 2009—and another opportunity presents itself: the supervisor’s role for overhead line staff. “I was the successful applicant, and I’m still doing it, and I love it.” He now supervises a 35-strong team that includes foremen, leading hands, traffic management gurus and line mechanics. And, of course, trainee line mechanics.

Trevor says it’s been an amazing progression through the company. “People say to me, ‘How could you work for the same company for fifty years?’ But the beauty of it is that I’ve had such varying types of work throughout that time. And the people I’ve worked alongside, they’ve been like one big family to me. I think that’s what drives home the importance of safety in our work. That’s the culture here, keeping ourselves and our workmates safe, making sure everyone goes home at the end of the day.”

And what about the young guys coming through? Are they different to that 15 year old Trevor just starting out?

“Well, I think they’re quite happy that they’ve got a job, that’s the first thing.

And, yes, many of them are like me in that I wanted a job and I wanted to succeed further. That’s why I’m pleased that MainPower keeps this pathway open. I remember, I had to hire two trainee linesmen—the first job I ever did as a supervisor—and both of them are now trainee electricians. That’s the sort of thing I like to see, guys getting ahead. I always tell them to push themselves hard. Not to sit on their hands just because they see Joe Bloggs going for a job and they think he’s going to get it. I tell them to put their names forward, show they’re keen to succeed and get ahead. That’s what I tell all the young people, all of them. I don’t want them sitting around just saying this is my lot. I know what they’re capable of, what they can achieve because I’ve done it myself.”

As for retirement, Trevor won’t be going anywhere soon, well at least not until the company’s new premises in Southbrook Business Park are completed in 2014. “I’ve had some input into planning certain areas and I’d like to be there to see it operating.” After that, there are plans to travel overseas with Lorna, his wife of 46 years. There’ll be more fishing, some gold panning on his West Coast section and a bit of farm caretaking for his brother. “There’s plenty to do. It’ll be the start of another life and I’m really looking forward to it.”

Michael

Recently returned from a two-week block course at Transpower’s Blenheim training school, apprentice electrician, Michael Day, joined MainPower in late 2011. At the end of last year, as a first-year apprentice, Mike was named the Hamer CPIT Electrical Apprentice of the Year. He also took out the overall excellence award. It’ll be three more years of part time study before he completes his National Certificate in Electrical Engineering.

“I’ve been at MainPower almost two years. It’s an awesome place to work. I spent my first four months as a utility worker in underground and then the apprenticeship opportunity came up. It was good timing, for sure. And that’s one of the great things about working here; you get plenty of encouragement to move up. You can go in any direction really.”

Michael Day, **MainPower Apprentice Electrician and Hamer CPIT Electrical Apprentice of the Year**

MainPower's Executive Team



The executive team takes time to visit the construction site of the company's new premises at Southbrook Business Park. From left: Andrew Hurley, Generation Manager; Allan Berge, Managing Director; Peter Hurford, Engineering Manager; Dayle Parris, Commercial Manager; Warren Wright, Group Finance Manager; Sandra O'Donohue, Human Resources Manager; Wayne Lapslie, Corporate Services Manager.

Performance Highlights 2012–2013

\$19.7m
NET PROFIT
BEFORE REBATES
\$3.4m
ahead of budget

\$16.1m
NETWORK
INVESTMENT
UP 55%
on the previous year's
\$10.4m investment

\$8.2m
CREDITED
IN REBATES
to qualifying customers
via their line charges,
UP 9% on 2011-12

300%
INCREASE IN
NEW
CONNECTIONS

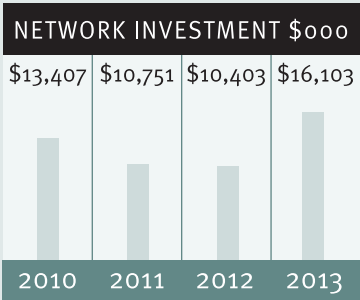


The Network

“Providing a safe and reliable power supply for our customers has been the focus of maintenance, planning and growth strategies since our beginnings in 1928. The past year was no different.”

Peter Hurford, **Engineering Manager**

**200%
MORE
CABLE
LAID IN 2012
THAN 2011**



**THREE YEAR
\$22
MILLION
NETWORK
UPGRADE
RANGIORA WEST**



Swannanoa substation

Rangiora West: Swannanoa substation upgrade

Increasing demand for power, in particular from growth in the dairy sector, has led to a major three year, \$22m upgrade project for the network west of Rangiora. This year, work included design for a new substation at Burnt Hill and making the existing Swannanoa substation 66/22kV ready: new 66kV lines have been installed, running from Bennetts to the Burnt Hill substation site, and design for replacement transformers completed. Weighing in at 36.8 tonnes each and with individual capacities of 23 megavoltamps, these massive structures will be manufactured by global engineering giant ABB, and installation is scheduled for early 2014. Upgraded network protection hardware and a new communications system to carry monitoring and control data between the area’s substations are also being designed and installed by our engineering team.

Kaiapoi North network reinforcement

Significant residential development on Kaiapoi’s northern edges was the main driver for a recent upgrade to the network north of the township: a new switching substation was designed and built alongside the Sovereign Palms subdivision, replacement underground cable was laid between Transpower’s Kaiapoi substation and Sovereign Palms, and new overhead lines were installed running north to Woodend. Think Silverstream, Sovereign Palms, Moorcroft Estate and Pegasus, and you begin to understand the magnitude of demand increase in this area.



Gerry Reeksting, **Utility Arborist**

Vegetation control

Each year, tree damage to the network is a major challenge for the company: unplanned outages are disruptive to customers, repairs are usually costly and public safety can be compromised. Our in-house team of six utility arborists—tree surgeons trained to work near live power lines—works hard to keep lines free from tree hazards.



Where difficult terrain prevents vehicle access, the team really comes into its own. Such was the case this year in a Conway River forestry block where trees were causing faults on the Waiau-Kaikoura line every time a storm blew through. The team moved by foot through a steep section of the block, with its trained climbers—using ropes and crampons—pruning and even removing trees to clear the lines. “In this instance, preventing these recurring faults also removed potentially hazardous working conditions for our Culverden-based fault men—they were exposed to a

certain amount of risk every time they accessed that part of the block for repairs in bad weather,” says operations coordinator, Kevin Smith. Community consultation is also central to the team’s operations: a remedial project in the Culverden domain last August involved liaison with the Hurunui District Council and the Culverden Community Board. Smith again: “We’ve got big power lines running right through the front of the domain. Rather than trimming every two years we’ve now removed those oaks that didn’t have any future of growing into good specimen trees,

ones that were repeatedly going to have their tops cut out because of their proximity to the lines.” Trimming and shaping the surrounding trees was also an important part of this job. It’s about being proactive rather than reactive, not simply waiting for incidents to occur.

“As arborists, we are incredibly mindful of the health of any tree and the environment in which it’s growing.”

“At its core, our work is about maintaining reliability and safety of power supply for our customers.”

Kevin Smith, **Operations Coordinator**



Renewable Generation

“Our goal of using the region’s renewable resources to generate energy for our community will create a great legacy for future generations. It will mean less reliance on fuels that contribute to climate change and less exposure to global commodity cost increases.”

Andrew Hurley, **Generation Manager**

4.1

GIGAWATT HOURS
OF ELECTRICITY GENERATED AT
CLEARDALE HYDRO SCHEME

127

HECTARES
(INCL NATIVE BUSH)
TO BE PROTECTED
AT MT CASS

A FOCUS ON
GENERATION
SCHEMES THAT
WILL SUPPORT
OUR NETWORK



Cleardale hydro generation

MainPower’s Cleardale power station is a 1 megawatt run-of-river hydro scheme located near Mt Hutt. Constructed in 2010, it has a life expectancy of over 50 years while reliably supplying power for up to 500 homes. Cleardale’s pelton turbine, operating from a gross head of 300 metres and a maximum flow of 450 litres per second, was manufactured locally in Christchurch by Hydroworks. Last financial year, Cleardale produced 4.1 gigawatt hours of electricity at an average availability of 97%, exceeding previous years’ production figures. Exploring mini hydro opportunities in our region that will support our network remains a priority.



Warren Palmer, **Linesman**

Boyle River micro hydro scheme

In collaboration with the North Canterbury Alpine Trust, our generation engineers are currently exploring the possibility of installing a 15 kilowatt micro-hydro turbine at the Boyle River Outdoor Education Centre near the Lewis Pass. The idea is to reduce the community-based education facility's energy costs while providing an educational experience in renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies to the hundreds of children that use the centre each year.



Environmental monitoring on Mt Cass

Baseline gecko monitoring is just one part of a much broader environmental management plan developed in association with our wind farm proposal at Mt Cass, east of Waipara. 127 hectares of land, including pockets of native shrubland and forest, will be protected by MainPower and a comprehensive pest control programme implemented. "Basically, the gecko study is about understanding current populations and then looking at how pest control might improve these long-term," says generation manager, Andrew Hurley. "The Canterbury gecko is in decline, so we see this as a fantastic opportunity to make an important contribution to its recovery." At the beginning of last summer, as part of a two-year monitoring programme, an independent

herpetological (lizard) consultant installed a grid of artificial cover objects (ACOs)—one every 5 metres, over four 1,800 square metre tracts of land (the equivalent of one rugby field). Essentially, these corrugated layers of bitumen-impregnated cardboard provide the geckos with a preferred alternative to their usual rock crevice homes. At the end of summer, it's relatively easy for the scientists to count the lizards that have taken up ACO residence and then, using mathematical modelling, calculate a baseline population figure for the entire site. Our environmental monitoring doesn't end there, however: equally detailed studies of bird populations, ground water quality and vegetation are also underway.



Canterbury gecko. Photo/Trent Bell



Gecko monitoring, Mt Cass

Doctors Hills wind farm investigations

For the last eight years, we've been monitoring the wind resource at Doctors Hills near Waikari. Results indicate there's sufficient wind to support a small wind farm with an installed capacity of up to 5 megawatts, enough to power 1300 homes. That's almost one-third of all homes in the Hurunui district. Feasibility studies have been completed and a decision on next steps for this project will be made later this year.



“Our continued focus is on network infrastructure investment: \$23.3m is budgeted for 2013–2014, and a further \$73m over the following four years. The magnitude of this reinvestment programme will necessitate additional debt funding, which is well within the company’s financial ability given the strength of its balance sheet.”

Financial Snapshot

“In financial terms, 2013 was a very positive year for MainPower. Operating revenue of \$73.7m was up on budget by \$1.7m and up \$14m on March 2012, a reflection of increased growth within the region and the performance of the company’s subsidiary, Vircom EMS.”

Warren Wright, **Group Finance Manager**

OPERATING PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION \$000 (after deducting qualifying rebates)		
2013	11,461	
2012	4,179	
2011	5,998	
2010	3,307	

REBATES CREDITED TO QUALIFYING CUSTOMERS \$000		
2013	8,251	
2012	7,579	
2011	8,076	
2010	7,627	

GIGAWATT HOURS SOLD (GWHs)		
2013	552	
2012	517	
2011	539	
2010	516	

CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES \$000		
2013	17,044	
2012	16,357	
2011	10,075	
2010	11,606	

Our Community

“MainPower is a community-owned organisation so having a leadership role in that community is important to us. Every year, we contribute over half a million dollars to initiatives that support the social, environmental and economic future of the region. Without fail, we continue to be amazed at what our community is achieving.”

Dayle Parris, **Commercial Manager**

Water safety priority in Kaikoura

In a first this summer, over 360 Kaikoura children participated in a MainPower sponsored learn-to-swim programme that has already benefited almost 5,000 North Canterbury students since its establishment in 2011. Based at the community pool on Kaikoura’s Esplanade Road, the programme—which focuses on water safety and survival skills—provided ten consecutive lessons for each Year 1 to 8 student. St Joseph’s School new entrant teacher, Judith Ford, was impressed: “I think it’s great—with the coaches right there in the water, you could just see the children’s confidence growing. They improved more in those small groups than if it had just been me standing on the side. It was a very positive experience for everyone.”



The initiative is administered by long-time MainPower partner, North Canterbury Sport and Recreation Trust. According to the trust’s operations manager, Rosie Oliver, the Kaikoura initiative got off to a flying start. “Over the previous 18 months, we’d successfully delivered this programme to primary schools across North Canterbury, so we were absolutely delighted to be able to introduce the programme to Kaikoura. The uptake by the schools was phenomenal.”

“...with the coaches right there in the water, you could just see the children’s confidence growing.”

Judith Ford, **new entrant teacher, St Joseph’s primary school, Kaikoura**



\$500k
COMMUNITY SUPPORT
2012

Over \$500,000 spent in support of our community last

2,966
CHILDREN
SAFER IN THE WATER

This year, almost 3,000 of the region’s children have participated in our learn-to-swim programme.

120
HOMES INSULATED

This winter, more than 120 families are warmer thanks to our home insulation retrofits.



Improving Biodiversity in the Hurunui

What do the Waikari Bowling Club, the Waikari Domain Committee and the Waikari School/Waikari Fire Brigade have in common? All are reinstating areas of indigenous vegetation and all received a grant from the MainPower Hurunui Natural Environment Fund in 2012. The fund—established in partnership with the Hurunui District Council—supports community initiatives aimed at improving the district’s biodiversity. The school and fire brigade have been working together to restore a small gully between Waikari hospital and the fire station. Originally full of rubbish, the land has been cleared, a path marked out and native specimens planted. The idea is that once the plantings are established, native birds and insects will begin to re-populate the area.

Our youth, our future

We continue to be passionate about helping the young people of our region succeed. Whether it’s our primary school sports coaching initiative, our in-school education resource (the 5Es of Energy) or our Year 13 end of year prizes for excellence, we’re there making a difference. And last year, we awarded three very talented young sportspeople MainPower Youth Sports Scholarships. Eighteen year old BMX rider Trent Jones took out the top scholar spot, with seventeen year old swimmer Natasha Lloyd and sixteen year old BMX rider Tahlia Hansen named runners up. Already competitors on national and international circuits, these NZ reps have the 2016 Rio Olympics firmly in their sights. We’re proud to be helping them on their way.



Natasha Lloyd



Warming up the community

“Warm, healthy homes with minimum environmental impact, accessible to all in our community.” With a vision like that, it’s perhaps no surprise that not-for-profit organisation Community Energy Action (CEA) is MainPower’s chosen partner when it comes to providing energy efficiency housing solutions for our region’s residents. Thanks to insulation retrofits we funded and CEA completed, over 120 qualifying homeowners and their families are anticipating a much warmer and healthier winter than they’ve had for a while. We’re also proud supporters of CEA’s Energy Advice Service. Whether it’s free telephone and email advice or a complimentary whole-house energy audit, it’s about making a real difference to people’s lives by “decreasing power bills without increasing vulnerability to winter ills”.

“We would like to thank you so much for the insulation of batts in our home plus the help you gave us with much needed finance. After this was done in June we have noticed the difference to the warmth in the house, especially the bedroom area...”

Powering our community every hour, every day, every year

Our region is growing fast: new homes and schools, bigger business, more jobs and fresh ideas. And every day—around the clock—MainPower is right there with you, providing electricity where and when it's needed.

05:03

Our customers and their annual power usage:

29,500
Residential

5,500
Commercial

950
Irrigators

35
Larger Users

240,000
megawatt hours

125,000
megawatt hours

71,000
megawatt hours

114,000
megawatt hours

(An average household uses between 10 and 12 megawatt hours of power each year.)



Ngai Tahu Dairy Farming, Eyrewell





**Kaikoura
Primary School**



10:56

New World Supermarket, Rangiora





Two Rivers Cafe, Cheviot



Greystone Wines, Waipara Valley





O'Sullivan Household, Rangiora





19:30

Ohoka Rugby Club, Mandeville





A huge thank you to our photographic essay contributors for giving us access to their places and for being part of our story (which, of course, is also their story): Jo Bach, Phil Columbus and Kade Leaf of Ngai Tahu Farming - Dairy, Eyrewell Conversion; Bruce Pagan and the Year 6 children of Kaikoura Primary School; Robin Brown, Nathan Hurley, Kerry Tull and Phil Keen of New World, Rangiora; Debbie, Samantha and Georgina Anderson of Two Rivers Cafe, Cheviot; Dom Maxwell, Gavin Tait and Joe Neenan of Greystone Wines, Waipara Valley; Greg, Samantha, Emily and Callum O'Sullivan; and Nathan Parsons and the boys from Ohoka Rugby Club.



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