

ARATUNA FREIGHTERS LIMITED TURNS 30 YEARS OLD.

It's been a big weekend of celebrations for Aratuna Freighters staff and owners Durham and Lorraine Havill and son Andrew and Monique as Aratuna turns 30 years old.



In 1985 the company had one truck and now in 2016 it has grown into a major trucking company with links throughout the South Island.

The pride in Durham's face when he talks about what Andrew and Monique have contributed to the company's success just shines.

Durham's a very modest man and puts his success down to his wife Lorraine his family and a good ethical approach to life.



All four of the family are still very much involved however Andrew and Monique are picking up the reins which will allow Durham and Lorraine to perhaps take a break and follow some other opportunities.

And now back to Aratuna Freighters Limited 30th birthday.

Today all four Havills are still fully involved, they have a team of 74 and carry fuel ,frozen products ,general freight, bulk freight and livestock all over the coast to Nelson, Christchurch Dunedin and Invercargill along with the North Island these astute coasters have built and branded a top transport operation in one of the more complex areas of New Zealand.

They started with one truck and trailer in 1985 and over the years developed a strong base of loyal customers whilst also vastly improved and increased the number of vehicles since inception. They have had the opportunity to extend their services to scores of customers with dedicated service and affordable prices.

Aratuna Freighters Limited can proudly say that the clients are delighted with the service they provide and Durham and Lorraine are very proud of the team they have built and not afraid to say so.



The team encompasses passionate professionals who are always happy to help each other achieve the goals in order to exceed customer expectations. The Havill family pride themselves on providing a quality customer service

When it comes to trucks Durham Havill says the really important thing when dealing with a truck company is the quality of the relationship. “Our relationship with NZ Trucks has been good all the way down the line,” he says.

New Zealand Trucks has been supplying new Iveco trucks, parts and service support to Aratuna Freighters for over a decade. Seventeen of Aratuna Freighters’ trucks are Iveco – three are MP4500 models and the remainder are Stralis trucks.



“We started with an Iveco MP 4500 truck back in 2004,” recalls Durham Havill. “Our drivers like Iveco. They’re a really lovely truck to drive. Their fuel economy is very good. We also like the automatic gearbox, because it doesn’t give us any trouble. Our Iveco trucks work extremely hard going over the Arthur’s Pass area. They’re very hard pulls and the trucks stand up to it.”

“We like NZ Trucks back-up service, which is excellent,” says Durham. “The whole team has been very co-operative. They do everything in their power to make sure they get a part here fast. We have a great relationship with Straun Syme, who sells us the Iveco trucks. He’s a straight-up guy. We enjoy dealing with him. We also deal with John Mason – he’s excellent too. You couldn’t get a better Service Manager. He’s got a good knowledge of the Iveco trucks and he’s been very co-operative with our own Workshop Manager, Ben Wakeford.”

Ben has undertaken specialised Iveco training courses alongside NZ Trucks’ own staff.

“This was critical for us,” says Durham. “They showed Ben as much as they know themselves. We’re 250 kilometres away from Christchurch, so we need to be as self-sufficient as possible. We have four staff in our own workshop who take care of most of the routine servicing. The odd time we’ve had issues with the cylinder heads NZ Trucks sent a top mechanic over to the Coast for a couple of days to make sure we got going again. We don’t want our trucks off the road a second longer than necessary, because we’re very busy. When a truck is down it costs us money.”

Aratuna’s trucks can be seen all over the South Island and even in the North Island.

Happy Birthday Aratuna Freighters Limited.

