



Flag Flying High

Always looking for chances to make Rangiora a better place, a few months ago the Rangiora Lions Club saw an opportunity.

Late last year the Rangiora Police Station on High Street which had become vacant for a number of years due to earthquake strengthening issues was tagged to be demolished to make way for a carpark.

Lions Club member, Quentin de Hamel spied the large flagpole that was located in front of the building. It seemed a shame to lose such an asset.

He approached the Executive Director of the Canterbury Country Cricket Association, Peter Devlin, and with the permission of the Council, the flag pole has been removed and reinstated at the MainPower Oval Cricket ground on East Belt.

“We always wanted a flag pole” says Mr Devlin. “We never installed flag poles when the pavilion was erected, and we have never had the funds to justify such things since”, so he jumped at the opportunity to have a purpose built tapered seven metre flag pole erected on the grounds.

For the Lions Club it was an opportunity to re-cycle a valuable and important part of any town. “There is something about a flag that puts a smile on faces and stirs a sense of pride and community”, says de Hamel.

From uplifting the pole, transporting it to the new site, the building of a suitable foundation, the restoration of the pole, and the eventual erection of it. “It’s been the ultimate in re-cycling”, says de Hamel.

“It has been a fun project to undertake” said de Hamel. “It has just been a matter of co-ordinating lots of different steps”. “It has been



very rewarding to achieve so much with such a simple idea". "It has been great to be able to keep a flag pole in the community where it can carry on celebrating events and milestones for many years to come". "We have even managed to balance a cricket ball in the top of the pole to celebrate its new location", says de Hamel..

