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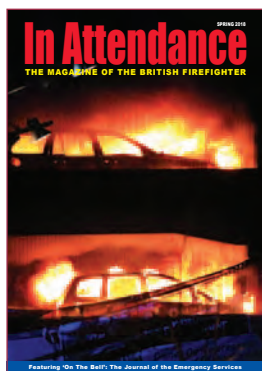
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Front cover:

This dramatic image from New Years Eve 2017 shows cars burning ferociously on different levels of the Liverpool Echo Car Park. The photo illustrates what a challenging and dangerous major incident Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service crews faced for some hours. Over 1,300 cars were destroyed.

See Page 8 for a full report.

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UK MANUFACTURER



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The Institution of Fire Engineers celebrates its centenary

2018 marks a very significant anniversary in international fire safety and fire service history in that it is 100 years since the founding of the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE).

The 1914 -18 First World War was drawing to a close when the suggestion to form a professional association of fire engineers was first brought forward. On 31st October 1918, ten Chief Fire Officers attended a meeting held at the Fire Brigade Headquarters in Leicester for the purpose of setting up such an organisation.

CFO Neal of Leicester Fire Brigade proposed a motion to form an Institute of Fire Engineers that was unanimously carried and the meeting went on to formulate some basic concepts of the structure of the IFE and how it might operate. A year later the membership stood at forty, including an international dimension with CFOs of Shanghai, Port Elizabeth and Rangoon, forerunners of the many overseas IFE Branches that exist today.

There is much going on in 2018 to celebrate the IFE's global professional contribution to fire safety, fire engineering disciplines and technical education. Events include a centenary torch relay around the globe that will conclude back in the UK at Edinburgh during the IFE's International Conference and other celebrations.

In Attendance magazine extends its very best wishes to the institution on its centenary and has no doubt that the IFE's professional involvement and contribution to fire engineering will continue to grow as it has done during the past century.

This edition of *In Attendance* carries a report of a major fire tackled by a hundred plus Merseyside firefighters on New Years Eve in the Liverpool Echo city centre seven story car park. The fire originated in a single parked vehicle on the third floor and quickly spread across that floor and up and down to engulf most of the structure destroying over 1,300 cars; none were left undamaged.

In the aftermath of what was one of the largest fires tackled by Merseyside FRS, CFO Dan Stephens said: "The fire could have been stopped before it spread if the building had sprinklers. They would have enabled firefighters to get water onto the fire before the heat release rapidly increased with running fuel fires and frequent explosions."



As 2018 unfolds, it is clear that two primary topical issues of recent times are still top of the fire safety agenda – the undoubted value of sprinkler systems, and the direct front-line effect on the Fire and Rescue Service of government funding reductions.

On Page 7 of this issue is the report on the Liverpool multi storey car park fire. In the aftermath of this major incident, the Liverpool Mayor criticised government cuts for affecting fire service operations.

Fortunately there were no serious injuries, but Mayor Joe Anderson pointed out that two years ago more fire engines would have been able to attend the 'containable' fire.

This followed London Mayor Sadiq Khan's claims made last year that Londoners have been "let down" after the Government rejected his request for new firefighting equipment. Home Secretary Amber Rudd turned down the Labour Mayor's £6 million bid for aerial ladders, drones and 1,200 breathing apparatus sets for firefighters following the tragic Grenfell Tower blaze.

The London Mayor also asked for a further £6 million every year from the Government to run the fire service and pay for staff - but was told the budget was his responsibility. Mr Khan said he

is now having to plunder City Hall reserves to pay for the equipment requested by LFB Commissioner, Dany Cotton.

Mr Khan said: "When you're in a situation where firefighters are risking their personal safety and lives to keep London safe, it's unacceptable for them not to have the equipment that they tell me they need. That is why I have authorised the expenditure of this money to procure the equipment. We are spending our reserves. You can only spend the reserves once. Unless the Government recognises the resources the London Fire Brigade needs, I worry about the future funding of the service."



He said Ms Rudd had "utterly failed" to acknowledge hundreds of millions of pounds of Government cuts to the London authority as well as direct cuts to the fire grant. "Londoners will feel let down by the Government's intransigence on this vital issue," he said.

Neil Wallington
Consulting Editor

High rise task force provides fire safety reassurance for residents

The tragic events that unfolded in the early hours of June 14th shocked the nation and our thoughts are still very much with the families of victims and those affected.

We are now more than nine months on from the Grenfell Tower fire and it's clear that this tragedy has marked a defining moment in relation to fire safety in high rise buildings across the country.

Dame Judith Hackitt's interim report into the review of building regulations and fire safety identified conflicts and confusion around fire safety legislation and building regulations. The safety and reassurance of the thousands of high rise residents has also been central to the action that has been taken in Greater Manchester in the months since the tragedy.

Following the Grenfell Tower fire, the Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham immediately set up the Greater Manchester High Rise Taskforce, led by Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett. The taskforce has brought together landlords of tower blocks in both private and public ownership, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) and representatives from every local authority to provide fire safety reassurance, building by building, across Greater Manchester.

GMFRS has carried out compliance inspections of every residential high rise – around 480 – to ensure they comply with fire regulations. Fire safety officers are continuing to work with local authorities, social landlords and private landlords to address fire safety concerns. Of those, 292 have agreed action plans and GMFRS is now carrying out revisits to ensure those action plans are in place, the necessary interim fire safety measures are being complied with, and to support decision-making around remedial work.

Area Manager Jim Hutton, Head of Protection at Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, said: "Following the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower, Greater



GREATER MANCHESTER FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Manchester took swift action to reassure local residents and take steps to ensure their homes are safe.

"The response to our approach from building landlords and owners has been extremely positive. The commitment and support from the relevant agencies and organisations has enabled us to swiftly and robustly inspect every residential high rise to ensure buildings comply with fire safety regulations and the right fire safety advice is in place."

Of the 480 high rises GMFRS has inspected, 69 blocks have cladding systems installed which failed the Government's large-scale fire tests and fire-officers have been working with the owners of these blocks to ensure the right fire safety measures are in place until the cladding is removed and replaced.

Of course some of the challenges faced here are not unique to Greater Manchester, which is why the taskforce has called for radical changes to legislation and regulatory guidance that will put fire safety at the centre of building, design and construction. Greater Manchester's recommendations to the

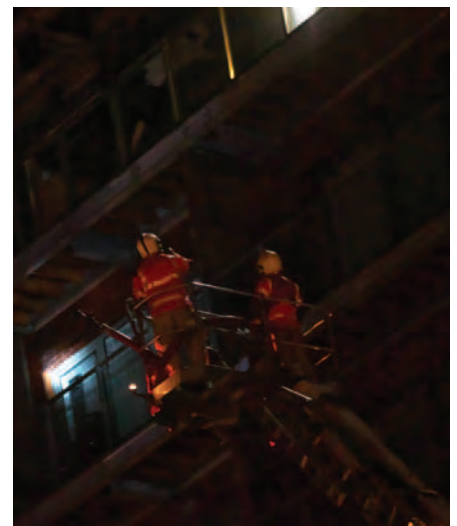


Hackitt Review included a call for the use of flammable materials in cladding systems to be banned, an overhaul of the planning system to make fire services statutory consultees, and a review into the competency of people who are considered 'responsible persons' under fire safety legislation.

World standard of fire safety

Greater Manchester's call for an overhaul of legislation and regulatory guidance follows extensive work by the High Rise Taskforce to ensure steps are taken at a national level to ensure a tragedy like Grenfell Tower can never happen again.

Dame Judith Hackitt's interim report into the review of building regulations and fire safety, published in December, echoed Greater Manchester's findings that the system is not fit for purpose; a view replicated across the country.



Evidence submitted to the Hackitt Review highlighted local concerns and conflicts in existing legislation, calling for an overhaul of the planning process to give local fire and rescue services statutory consultee status for certain types of development, such as large scale projects. Therefore issues such as water pressure and layout, which can affect firefighters' ability to tackle a building fire, and other factors that will impact fire safety will be addressed early on in the design and construction of a building.



Other recommendations for improvements and changes include:

- a ban on flammable cladding systems;
- a national feasibility study into the retrofitting of sprinkler systems in high rise buildings, and other higher risk residential premises, which undergo major refurbishments;
- a major review into the competency of people who are considered 'responsible persons' under fire safety legislation along with the introduction of mandatory registration and a complaints procedure.

While the taskforce continues to work with Dame Judith Hackitt and await the final report of the review, Greater Manchester is working towards a world-class standard of fire safety that aims to put the expertise of their fire service at the centre.

Welcoming the interim report back in December, Salford City Mayor Paul Dennett said: "Locally, the fire service has inspected all residential high rises in Greater Manchester and continues to work with local authorities, housing providers and building owners to make sure the right fire safety advice is in place and people feel safe in their homes. Ultimately we are working towards a Greater Manchester standard of fire safety that puts the expertise of our fire service at the centre.

"But it's clear that changes need to be taken nationally to ensure a tragedy like Grenfell can never happen again.

The interim findings of this review are a positive first step on what is a complex but critical journey and we look forward to continuing to work with Dame Judith Hackitt and her team to progress this work."

The taskforce also continues to put pressure on government to provide clear guidance and the necessary funding to ensure buildings and residents are safe. This includes supporting housing providers and building owners with interim fire safety measures and the replacement of cladding systems, ensuring our fire and rescue service has the resources it needs to effectively enforce fire safety legislation, and protecting residents.

Paul Dennett added: "Greater Manchester has not shied away from addressing the fire safety challenges highlighted following the Grenfell Tower tragedy but we also need Government to step up and provide the funding and resources we need to swiftly and effectively carry out this work, particularly around the replacement of cladding systems and retrofitting of sprinkler systems. Public bodies and emergency services are already struggling as a result of budget cuts and austerity; Government needs to act now to remove any barriers to keeping people safe."

Putting GMFRS response to the test – Joiner Street fire

At 4pm on Saturday, December 30, a fire broke out on the ninth floor of a twenty-storey residential block in Manchester city centre. More than fifty firefighters quickly



responded to the blaze which had started in an open plan kitchen area, before spreading to the wooden balconies on several floors.

Crews worked in challenging conditions to tackle the fire that was changing rapidly. Fortunately, nobody was injured and the building's fire alarm system worked as it was designed to do with a smoke detector warning the occupant of a fire, who then evacuated. When the building-wide communal fire detection subsequently activated, it initiated a call to the fire service and triggered the safety features of the building installed for firefighting.

GMFRS worked closely with Manchester City Council and the building owners following the fire, to reassure residents and provide temporary accommodation for the residents of the seven apartments affected.

While a fire investigation concluded that the cladding systems did not contribute to the fire, it was found that the fire spread was down to the external timber balconies adjoined to each apartment. This was fed into the Hackitt Review and there have been discussions with the National Fire Chiefs Council about national guidance regarding wooden balconies on apartment blocks and whether further fire protection is needed.



**GREATER MANCHESTER
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE**

Huge fire in Liverpool Echo Arena car park destroys over 1,300 cars

A huge fire that broke out in a multi-storey car park in Liverpool on New Years Eve 2017 destroyed over 1,300 vehicles, forcing many people to spend the night in a temporary shelter.

Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service said the blaze at King's Dock - next to the Liverpool Echo Arena - was one of the worst it had ever dealt with. Twenty one fire engines and their crews were at the scene during the night tackling the blaze, and the fire service said it was guarding against the risk of the building collapsing. It is believed that the fire originated after a 16-year-old car caught fire on the third floor.

The Liverpool International Horse Show had been running at the Arena, which has a total capacity of 11,000. Liverpool Mayor Joe Anderson tweeted that everyone was safe and no animals had been hurt. He said some horses that were on the first floor of the multi-storey car park were moved inside the arena.

Some nearby apartments were evacuated and other residents were warned to stay



indoors and close windows due to the extensive smoke from the fire. People who had parked in the multi-storey described being "frightened" by the noise as cars exploded. The fire rapidly spread throughout the car park complex and emergency services warned them their cars would be lost to the blaze.

Kerry Matthews was visiting Liverpool for the night to celebrate the New Year and had left his vehicle in the car park. He said: "A firefighter said the whole car park was on fire. He said: 'What level is your car on?' We said six. "He said, 'Well you best go and have a couple of drinks to celebrate New Year because you're not going to get your car back'."

Kevin Booth, who also parked in the car park, described the the flames and the smoke as "unbelievable". He said: "People were saying that they would just wait and get their cars back. I thought, 'Have you seen the fire? Are you joking? It was frightening."

Merseyside Police said of the blaze: "Initial investigations indicate that an accidental fire within a vehicle caused other adjacent cars to ignite."

A spokeswoman for the Echo Arena confirmed that the Liverpool International Horse Show had been cancelled due to the fire and confirmed that all the people and horses are safe and secure.



Liverpool City Council opened a reception centre at Lifestyles in Park Road, Steble Street, for those unable to get home or needing temporary shelter and Aintree International Equestrian Centre also offered its stables to those needing accommodation for horses.

Days after the fire, Liverpool Mayor Joe Anderson revealed that the car that started the blaze had been converted to a "different fuel arrangement." Merseyside Police said of the blaze: "Initial investigations indicate that an accidental fire within a vehicle caused other adjacent cars to ignite."

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) have claimed the blaze is likely to result in claims worth £20m being paid out to insurance customers. In a statement they said: "Payments have already been made to some of the hundreds of people who lost their vehicles in the blaze on New Year's Eve, with a number of insurers bringing in extra staff to ensure claims are dealt with as swiftly as possible."

Security around the devastated car park was being stepped up to prevent any members of the public from getting inside - with hoardings set to surround the building. However, Liverpool City Council



"An Excellent Authority"

has said it will take 'many weeks' to remove the 1,300 plus vehicles that were parked inside the facility when the inferno took hold on New Year's Eve.

And Mayor Joe Anderson has said that the "freak" nature of the damage caused can be exemplified by the sight of a vehicle that was parked on the concrete car park's third floor, which actually crashed through the floor onto the level below.

He continued: "Frankly, it's likely that the car park will have to be demolished as the fabric of the building has been extensively damaged. So it's not safe yet even to enter the building, and we cannot have anyone risking their lives trying to do so, especially with the strong winds we're currently experiencing."

This Running Timeline text illustrates the developing situation at the Liverpool Echo Car Park Fire on New Years Eve 2017

ORIGINAL UPDATE: Firefighters are attending a fire at a multi-storey car park at Kings Dock, in Liverpool.

Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service was called at 4.42pm; crews were alerted at 4.43pm and on the scene at 4.50pm.

Six fire engines are in attendance and crews, wearing breathing apparatus, are tackling the fire using a 52 mil hose.

The fire is believed to involve a number of vehicles.

UPDATE: 6.05pm 31.12.17 There are now twelve fire engines at the scene.

UPDATE: 7.54pm 31.12.17 Two aerial appliances are now also at the scene, where firefighters, wearing breathing apparatus, continue to tackle the fire using a main jet.

UPDATE: 9.15pm 31.12.17: Firefighters continue to tackle the fire at Kings Dock car park, with the site of the incident having been divided into four sectors for firefighting purposes. Some firefighters are wearing breathing apparatus and an aerial appliance is in use as well as three main jets.

The area around Kings Dock is cordoned off and road closures are in place.

No one is believed to have been seriously injured in the incident.

Initial investigations indicate that an accidental fire within a vehicle caused other cars to ignite.

Surrounding buildings have been evacuated as a precaution. The public are asked to keep away from the area until further notice.

Residents and businesses nearby are advised to keep doors and windows shut as a precaution. Anyone with an existing condition can call NHS 111 if any ill effects are experienced.

UPDATE: 5.56am 01.01.18: The site of the incident has been divided into five sectors for firefighting purposes.

Equipment in use during the early hours of the morning includes aerial appliances, ground monitors and main jets.

Cordons remain in place.

UPDATE: 6.30am 01.01.18: The fire is ongoing but has been contained to the car park.

MFRS received support from brigades from the NW region through the early hours.

We are likely to be engaged at the scene for several hours and further investigation will follow firefighting action.

UPDATE: 5.46pm 01.01.18: The fire is now fully extinguished.

Firefighters have carried out a systematic search of the car park and are working with officers from Merseyside Police at the scene.

Fire crews rescued two dogs from a vehicle last night and four dogs from a vehicle today. The dogs have all been safely reunited with their owners.

Crews are working with structural engineers to ensure all persons on scene remain safe.

Firefighters will remain at the scene overnight.

UCLan holistic approach to providing emergency and crisis management

An Introduction to UCLan PROTECT

The vision of UCLan PROTECT is to shape the future of emergency management – plans, processes and skills development, and in doing so we regard ourselves as a leading provider of Higher Education courses and advisory services in respect of Crisis Management, Organisational Resilience and Emergency Management capabilities in the global marketplace.

UCLan PROTECT is part of the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) in Preston and was founded in 1828 as the Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge. Today UCLan is one of the UK's largest universities.

Since the official launch of UCLan PROTECT in September 2017 this innovative and holistic approach to providing emergency and crisis management continues to attract the attention of organisations world-wide, particularly those that are directly in, or supportive of, the High Hazard industries.

What is UCLan PROTECT focus

The focus of UCLan PROTECT has been on key strategic markets. These markets include the UK where there is a strong reputation of expertise and delivery as well as other markets in the Middle East, China and Asia.

Central to UCLan PROTECT's strategy is tailoring its capability of consultancy and training to organisations, based on the identification of their individual needs. A key principle of our offering is that our experts firstly fully understand the culture of an organisation through a partnership and collaborative approach. Once we have that understanding we then agree collectively and work collaboratively on the most appropriate development strategy for the organisation.

The breadth of our capability enables us to support all the key areas typically associated with Emergency and Crisis Management. The decision to provide a more holistic approach to Emergency and Crisis Management was as a direct result of the research we carried out within the High Hazard Industries.



What UCLan PROTECT has to offer

We are particularly excited about the availability of two new MScs from September 2018. Both the MSc in High Hazard Industries and the MSc in Organisational Resilience are a direct result of consultation with a number of key organisations to provide support in the future development of personnel who are current practitioners or are seeking to develop a career in this area.

Our MSc in Emergency Management in High Hazard Industries aims to upskill professionals who have a responsibility for preparing and/or responding to emergencies which impact upon high hazard industries such as the nuclear, petrochemical, oil refinery, pipeline, ports and aviation industries. The course will also appeal to professionals in the public services (Police, Fire, Military, Health, Municipalities, Government Departments, Civil Defence, etc.) who have high hazard sites which may impact in their areas of responsibility. The course covers emergency planning skills, emergency preparedness, command control and coordination, emergency response, psychological aspects of emergencies, recovery from emergencies and disruptions, environmental management within organisations and business continuity management.

Similarly, the MSc in Organisational Resilience is aimed towards professionals in the private sector (e.g. finance, leisure, retail, utilities, universities, IT based companies) and in the public sector (e.g. Municipalities, Health Organisations, Schools, Central Government Departments), who are concerned about business continuity, infrastructure resilience, cyber-security, organisational structures, CEO tenure, risk management, change management, reputation management and leadership. The course covers building a resilient workforce, resilient leadership, psychological aspects of emergencies, trends in cybercrime, business continuity management, recovery from emergencies and disruptions and digital forensic technology.

Through the application of technical expertise to practical, business and managerial situations, and the understanding, implementation and response to rapidly evolving policies, interventions, market opportunities, and of course to disruptions and crises or extraordinary incidents both of these courses are designed to upskill individuals to be competent and confident in this area.

The UCLan PROTECT offering builds on UCLan's long standing and broad portfolio of courses that support the need of the



blue light services and others working in similar environments, including Policing, Fire and Paramedic Services. UCLan is at the forefront of education in these areas and has worked closely with the relevant agencies and professional bodies, such as the College of Policing, to help embed academic qualifications into the development framework for their workforces.

Our current Course Portfolio, which is delivered flexibly, and in some cases as a degree apprenticeship includes:

- FdSc Policing
- BSc (Hons) Policing and Criminal Investigation
- BSc (Hons) Professional Policing
- MSc Counter Terrorism
- MSc Professional Practice (Early Action)
- MSc Criminal Investigation
- MSc Cybercrime Investigation
- MSc Financial Investigation
- MSc Intelligence Analysis
- MSc/ Professional Doctorate in Criminal Justice
- BSc (Hons) Paramedic Science (pre-registration)
- BSc (Hons) Enhanced Paramedic Practice (top-up) – for registered paramedics
- MSc Advanced Clinical Practice
- MSc Healthcare Practice
- Certificate of Fire Investigation
- Advanced Certificate in Fire Investigation
- FdSc Fire Safety Engineering
- BSc (Hons) Fire and Leadership Studies
- BSc (Hons) Fire Safety (Management/Engineering) (top up)
- BEng/ MEng (Hons) Fire Engineering
- BEng/ MEng (Hons) Oil and Gas Safety Engineering
- MSc Fire and Rescue Service Management
- MSc Fire Investigation
- MSc Fire Scene Investigation
- MSc Fire Safety Engineering
- MSc Oil and Gas Engineering
- MSc Engineering (conversion course)
- Professional Doctorate in Engineering



Short Courses and Consultancy Services

In addition to traditional academic programmes, the University also offers a range of emergency training courses and consultancy services, such as the examples given below.

Risk Management

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Creating Emergency Tests and Exercises

Creating Business Continuity Plans

Responding to Emergencies

Incident Management

Business Continuity Management

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NEBOSH General Certificate

NEBOSH International Certificate in Fire Safety and Risk Management

NEBOSH International General Certificate

NEBOSH International Technical Certificate in Oil and Gas Safety

NEBOSH National Certificate in Fire Safety and Risk Management

These are taught by industry experts in a learning style which blends academic lectures with short practical exercises and group work.

But that's not all – UCLan can also act as a critical friend to your organisation and provide you with emergency management consultancy services such as:

- Desktop Review of Emergency Plans
- Whole Service Review of Organisational Resilience
- Desktop Review of Business Continuity Plans
- Exercise Creation and Facilitation
- Incident Management Training

UCLan are also developing a model to allow the range of our short courses to be awarded CPD points. Consideration is also being given to Accreditation of Prior Learning and Accreditation of Prior Experience, to take into account student's prior levels of training and experience.

For more information please visit www.uclan.ac.uk, or email us with your enquiry (UCLanPROTECT@uclan.ac.uk) and we will be pleased to discuss with you. Please ask for a pdf version of our brochure.

Please quote IA/18

Contact: Malcolm Knowles Business Development UCLan PROTECT, Preston, UK +44 1772 894096 or +44 7764 694702 mwknowles@uclan.ac.uk

The Tall Building Fire Safety Conference 2018



With more than 6400 buildings currently higher than 100 metres in cities around the globe, and all of them at risk from fire, greater knowledge of tall buildings is essential. The opportunity to network with professionals from around the world who agree with this statement is also vital.

With three days of presentations delivered by a line up of international speakers, all experts in their chosen disciplines, the Tall Buildings Fire Safety Conference 2018 is an essential event in the diaries of any professional whose role encompasses the protection of people, property and assets from the devastating effects of fire.

Globally, it is a rare week that facilities managers, insurers, architects, developers and firefighters are not dealing with a catastrophic, if not fatal, fire in a high rise building. During the first two days of the conference the programme will focus on four themes centred on challenges and solutions for tall buildings:

• **Day 1 - Tuesday 19th June 2018**

Fire Engineering, Design and Fire Testing in Tall Buildings

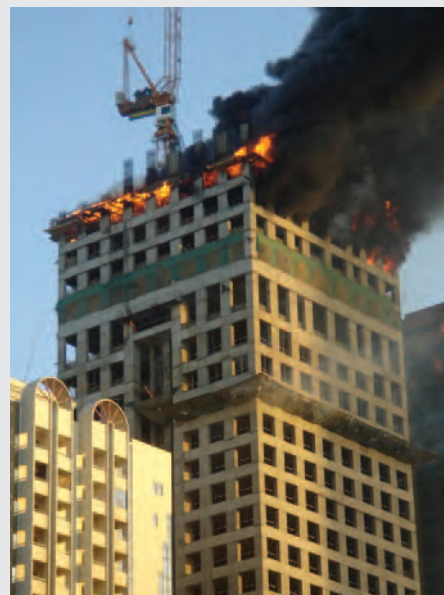
• **Day 2 - Wednesday 20th June 2018**

Fire Safety Management and Insurance in Tall Buildings

• **Day 3 - Thursday 21st June 2018**

Firefighting in Tall Buildings

The conference will be held at FIREX, Excel London, on the banks of the River Thames.



Mission Statement

To collectively advance the understanding of fire risk management in tall buildings, during design, construction, occupation and firefighting operations. This will be achieved by group scrutiny of available research data, relevant innovative products and development of a guidance document for fire safety in tall buildings.

Terms of Reference

1. Membership of the group will be formed primarily by staff representing owner/management of tall buildings;
2. Membership of the group is also open to key stakeholders involved in fire safety within tall buildings;
3. The group will meet twice a year at suitable venues convenient to the membership;
4. The group will be administered by Horizonscan (organisation of meetings speakers, minutes, etc);
5. Membership of the group is voluntary, and any expenses incurred are down to individual members;

Steering Committee:

Chair: Paul Coster (Canary Wharf)

Secretary: Russ Timpson

Prof Ed Galea (Greenwich Uni), Paul Stewart (London Fire Brigade), Tom Gilbert (BB7), Curtis Massey (Disaster Inc US), Jim Creak (Means of Escape)

Regional Representatives:

Australia – Justin Francis

Singapore – Randy Tan

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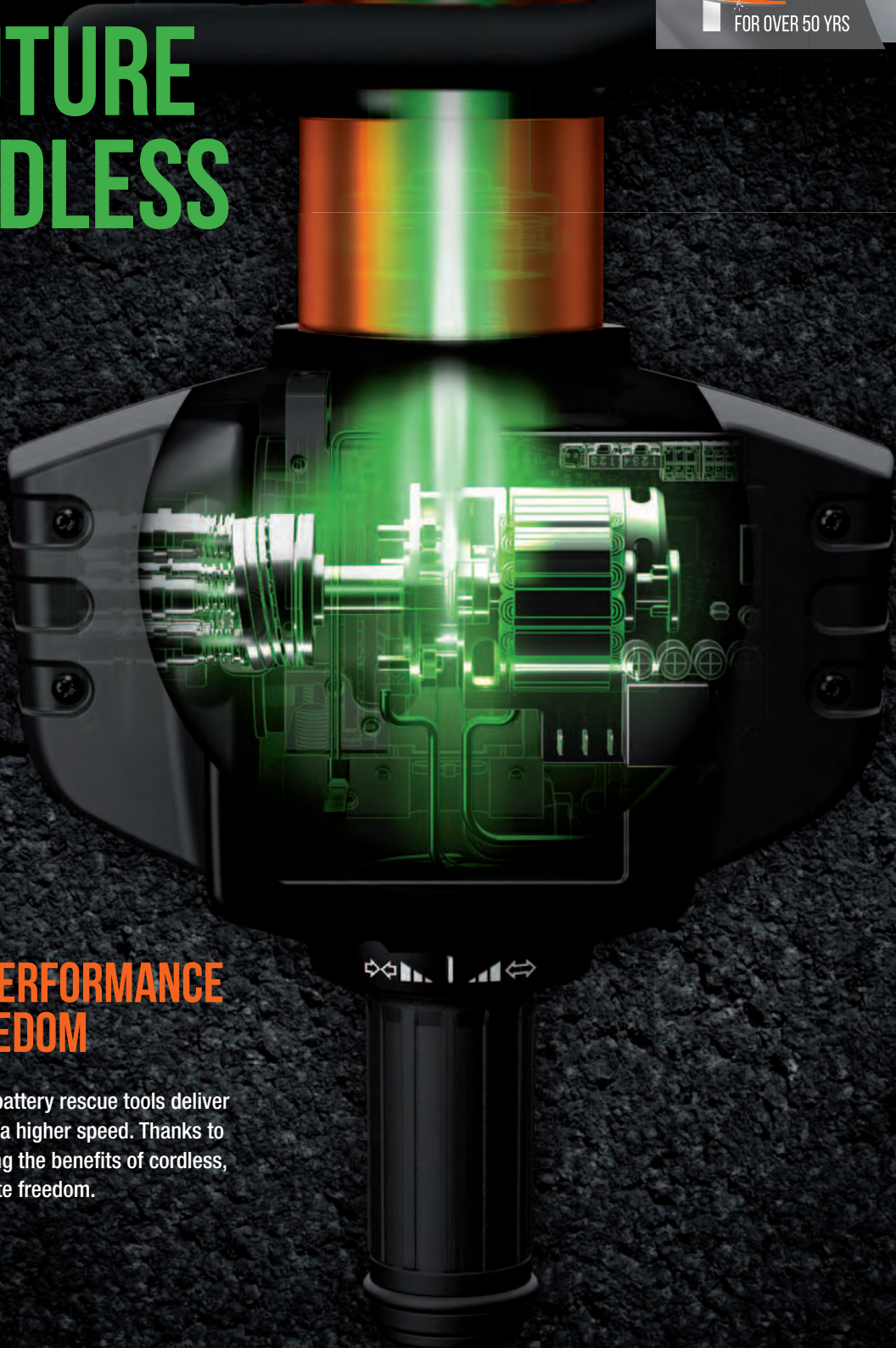
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Service uses innovative method to install sprinklers

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service has used an innovative technique to reduce the time and disruption involved in retrofitting sprinkler systems in high rise buildings.

Fire Engineer Stuart Ruckledge has been leading the service's Community Sprinkler Project since 2016 and he continues to work with housing providers of more than forty high rise buildings in Staffordshire. Here Stuart explains how he is spear heading a ground-breaking method of sprinkler installation.



"While working with one of our housing providers at a high rise block of flats in Lichfield (David Garrick Gardens), we were finalising the installation when we questioned using the existing dry riser pipe work to feed the sprinkler system rather than installing a second pipe right next to it.

"The British Standard 9251:2014 for residential sprinklers doesn't reference using dry risers, to say that you can, or can't, utilise them."

There are a number of advantages to using this approach, including:

1. Improved firefighter safety - with the pipe being full of water there is no need

for firefighters to check valves on each level are closed before tackling a fire

2. Less disruption to the residents as it negates the need to drill holes through every floor level, causing building vibrations and noise

3. Reduced time to complete the installation, it can take a day to drill through two to three floors in a high rise building

4. Reduced overall installation costs, making this solution more affordable to building owners saving approximately £5,000 to £10,000 per high rise building

Stuart added: "Increasing firefighter safety is a huge benefit. According to Curtis Massey (www.fireengineering.com/articles/print/volume-168/issue-4/features/high-rise-firefighting-reassessing-our-methods.html) it takes a fire crew on average 20 to 25 minutes to advance a fire hose onto the fire floor from the time they arrive on scene and walk into the lobby. This is due to the implementation of national high rise firefighting procedures. Using the dry riser in the sprinkler system means it is already charged with water and crews can simply connect their hose to the system and have immediate access to water should they need it.

"It is important to remember that firefighters should never face a fully developed fire within a sprinklered compartment. The fire would be suppressed, or even extinguished, leaving minimal firefighting intervention needed in a cooler and less smoky environment.

"In order to utilise the dry riser there are several considerations that should be addressed. Firstly, the dry riser system must have been well maintained and the sprinkler system is to be fed from a tank, the plumbing must prevent water running back into the mains supply and causing contamination. Dry risers must be pressure tested every six months."

All residential buildings over 18 metres are fitted with dry risers so this solution can be used within these buildings. However, Stuart explains that using a dry riser in this way does not make it a wet riser, merely a dry riser that is now wet and provides additional firefighting facilities.



"Although both dry risers and wet risers have the same British Standard (BS9990:2015) they have different requirements. Buildings that measure 30 metres or more are required to have wet risers, which must be able to supply 1,500 litres of water every minute for 45 minutes to provide an outlet pressure of eight bars at the highest floor level.

"So filling the dry riser with water does not make it a wet riser, it simply provides additional firefighting measures. BS9251:2014 (B.3 on p23) identifies that additional performance, reliability and resilience measures can include the installation of fire and rescue service inlets to supplement the water supply. This is effectively what the dry riser becomes."

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service insists that all residential sprinkler installations in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire must be completed by a third party accredited installer, such as FIRAS by Exova Warrington Fire, LPCB by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) or IFC Certification Ltd."

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service continues to work with fire suppression industry stakeholders to improve standards, regulations and design methods to improve the fire safety both for the community in Staffordshire and nationally.



Oxygen Masks for Animals Campaign



Animals which struggle to survive after inhaling smoke in Shropshire house fires now have a much better chance of survival after a successful campaign to stock all county fire engines with pet sized oxygen masks.

Two Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service employees who helped to support a fundraising campaign backed by the public have been praised for their efforts.

Watch Manager Martin Huckle and support officer Emily Hodson, who work at Shrewsbury Fire HQ, received an award from Assistant Chief Fire Officer Dave Myers for their “innovative thinking” and charitable work in aid of the campaign which touched the hearts of Shropshire people.

Martin helped to co-ordinate the campaign after being contacted by Hectors Greyhound Rescue, of Gobowen, which held a charity walk to buy the first two mini oxygen masks specifically designed for cats, dogs and smaller animals.

Since the campaign was launched less than two years ago, a total of 28 masks costing £90 each have now been placed on all Shropshire's fire appliances, paid for by donations.



Telford Crew Manager Louise Fletcher with her pet Chihuahua, Cloud, raised funds to buy five of the masks.

Emily, who joined Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service as an apprentice and lives in Telford, was praised for organising a

bring your pet to work day to raise money for three charities, including Smoky Paws which provides the pet masks.



Watch Manager Martin Huckle and Technical Support Officer Emily Hodson receive an award from Shropshire's Assistant Chief Fire Officer Dave Myers for raising funds for pet oxygen masks for firefighters.

Telford firefighter Louise Fletcher (pictured) also raised funds to pay for five pet oxygen masks, among the first to go onto fire appliances.

Firefighters have used them to revive cats in house fires in Ellesmere and Shrewsbury, and sheep and spring lambs in Whitchurch.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service is one of the first brigades in the UK to have the masks on all fire appliances.

Martin, who regularly gets calls from other brigades for advice on the pet oxygen masks, said:

“Small animals inhale smoke four times faster than we do and can collapse very quickly. Human oxygen masks, which we used in the past, just don't fit properly and these pet sized masks are much more effective in reviving them and saving their lives.”

UKRO Challenge Cardiff 2018

On Thursday September 27th 2018, The United Kingdom Rescue Organisation (UKRO) Challenge crosses the Severn Bridge into the dragon's lair of South Wales.

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service is proud to host the UKRO Challenge 2018 and has a long and successful history in competing at regional, national and world level; with the Bridgend Extrication Team crowned world and UK champions in 2016 and 2017.

The event, running until Saturday 29th September at the iconic Roald Dahl Plass in Cardiff Bay, is a chance for up to 500 emergency services personnel to compete and share techniques in a challenge environment across five rescue disciplines:

- Vehicle extrication
- Trauma care
- USAR
- Rope rescue
- Water rescue

The UKRO Challenge is an annual event, which has greatly assisted in the improvement of rescue standards and technical skills within fire and medical professionals. UKRO is a charitable organisation, which aims to drive the national agenda on road death reduction, by pushing vehicle extrication to its professional pinnacle and showcasing other rescue disciplines.

This year's event will introduce a Safety and Engagement Village and trade area, providing an opportunity for the UK's Fire and Rescue Services to showcase their dedication and commitment to public safety. The 2018 Cardiff Challenge will

also bring added value for competitors and attending Service personnel, with a comprehensive suite of education workshops and training events linked to the five rescue disciplines.

Extrication teams will be exercising their techniques in the centre of this challenge, working on more than 70 brand new vehicles, provided by Ford UK, whilst the trauma teams will be immersed in a rescue environment, supplemented by a large digital screen and props to put their skills to the test.

Rope rescue teams will be operating on bespoke towers, pitting their abilities and skills overlooking Cardiff Bay Marina.

Elsewhere, water rescue teams will be jumping into the rapids at the International White Water Centre to showcase their SRT skills and then into the open waters of the Bay.

USAR teams will be faced with four scenarios; covering Breaching and Breaking, Lifting and Moving, Shoring and Technical search, with the addition of other specialist skills.

To coincide with the challenge, The National Fire Chiefs Council Autumn Conference will also be held in the Welsh capital, just a stone's throw from the challenge venue. Fire and Rescue Chiefs from across the country will be showing support for their teams, eager to exhibit the skills their service personnel possess.

About the venue

Roald Dahl Plass, named after the much-loved children's author, is in the heart of Cardiff Bay and home of The Senedd (Welsh Assembly building) and prestigious performing arts venue, the Wales Millennium Centre.

Surrounded by restaurants, bars and shops, this once thriving coal port, turned amphitheatre, lends itself as the perfect host for a variety of events including the UEFA Champions League Final 2017 Supporters' Village and UKRO Challenge 2018.

The outdoor venue provides a 360 degree viewing platform for supporters and spectators, allowing them to see up-close what their emergency services can deliver.

The Service, along with partners at Cardiff Council and Ford UK, look forward to welcoming teams to enjoy the hospitality of Cardiff and its people.

For more information, or to register your team to compete at UKRO Caerdydd 2018 Cardiff, visit: www.ukro.org/2018-Cardiff-Caerdydd and follow @UKROCaerdydd on Twitter for updates.

Companies wishing to support the Cardiff 2018 Challenge and future challenges should contact: ukro2018@southwales-fire.gov.uk



**Her UKRO
CAERDYDD 2018
UKRO Challenge
CARDIFF 2018**



Tribute to trailblazer Heather Smart

To celebrate International Women's Day we pay tribute to a real trailblazer – Ballyclare woman Heather Smart, the first female firefighter in Northern Ireland.

It's been a momentous week as Heather marks her retirement from NIFRS after 27 years' service. Reflecting on her career she says, "I didn't consider myself to be special. I was just keen to prove that I could do the job that I had set my heart on.

"I had always admired those women during WWII who took up manual labour and dangerous jobs that had previously been thought of as a 'man's job'. It was hardly surprising that I set my heart on what was considered the ultimate man's job.

"When I joined what was the Northern Ireland Fire Brigade in 1991, I was looking for a job that would challenge me, one that promised to be different every day and which required a degree of physical activity.

"Growing up my parents never set any limits on what I or my two sisters could do - but I do think that they were a little surprised by my choice of career. On the day of my passing out parade they were happy and proud of me and if they had any misgivings about the risks involved in being a firefighter, they never imposed those on me.

"People are always keen to ask about the training and whether or not I found it difficult. As a new recruit, I knew how important training was but it was just something that you got on with as you had to know how to face all eventualities. I didn't really think too much about it and like everyone else I had some good days and bad days. Having the support and friendship of my fellow recruits definitely made things much easier - and it's been lovely to see so many of them go on to forge very successful careers within NIFRS.

"As the first female firefighter there were challenges to overcome. The physical aspect of the job wasn't an issue but there was a different culture in those days. Some people were more accepting, than others of a female firefighter. It's a very different situation today as we now have 64 female firefighters.

"I would like to say a special thank you to Arthur Plumpton who was my first Station Officer. He was scrupulously fair



and treated me no different to my male colleagues which was exactly what I wanted. He was very accepting of having a woman in the watch and I could not have had a better start to my career.

"The most satisfactory aspect of the job for me was the feeling of a job well done, that I had helped someone in need and really made a difference. I can look back on many memorable incidents - especially those particularly tricky rescues using the aerial appliance. Another highlight is the day I passed my Leading Firefighters exam!

"The Fire & Rescue Service has been a big part of my life. The friendships and the camaraderie from colleagues is second to none.

"I would definitely recommend the job of a firefighter - and not just to women. If you feel that this is the job for you,

you've just got to go for it and don't let anyone tell you otherwise. The job is what you make it and there are plenty of opportunities available.

"Would I do it all again? Without a doubt! I could have been more ambitious but then I wouldn't have been able to enjoy the friendships and good times I experienced with my colleagues over the last 27 years. To Red Watch, Knock - thanks to you all!



Holmatro presents new range of cordless rescue tools

Under the name of EVO 3 Holmatro launches its next generation of cordless rescue tools. The full range consists of battery-powered cutters, spreaders, combi tools and telescopic rams. Compared to the previous range the new EVO 3 tools offer much more speed when it counts, i.e. when placed under high loads. Combined with the exact same forces as

found in Holmatro CORE Technology hose tools this leads to an optimal performance on new car construction.

Improved technology inside

On the outside Holmatro EVO 3 tools look the same as their predecessors. However, on the inside a lot has changed to optimise performance and speed.

- New brushless motor
- Powerful and energy efficient
- Specially built for the application
- Direct-drive pump
- No gear transmission between motor and pump, no mechanical energy loss
- Electronic Speed Control (ESC)
- Keeps tool speed at a constant maximum level, even at high loads or when the battery voltage drops
- Sealed circuit board
- Cast in resin, the electronics inside the tool are fully protected against moisture and dust. This is on top of the IP 54 protection rate against dust and splashing water.

Designed for freedom

Like their predecessors, Holmatro EVO 3 tools are designed to offer the rescuer ultimate freedom. Their inline control handle with 360° access, centrally located at the back of the tool, enables easy operation in any position. And the battery on top of the drive unit is always within reach, even when space is limited.

More information and video:
holmatro.com/evo3



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Protecting local communities

New fire station officially opened at Grangetown

Cleveland Fire Brigade officially opened the newly rebuilt Grangetown Community Fire Station on Friday 16th March which forms part of a multi-million pound programme to bring buildings up to 21st century standards.

The state-of-the art Grangetown Community Fire Station, which cost £3 million to build, replaces the previous building on the same site located at Slip Road Church Lane/Trunk Road which was 48 years old.

The single story, four bay fire station houses three fire engines and will deliver prevention, protection and an emergency response service to Grangetown and the surrounding areas. The station also boasts a community room which is available for local groups to use.

The impressive new station forms part of a major re-building programme, partly funded by Government grant, to ensure that the Brigade can continue to provide



the very best fire and rescue service to the people of Teesside.

As well as the official opening of the station, there was a tour of the station, prevention, protection and emergency response displays and the presentation of the Long Service Medals and Awards to staff who had served for more than twenty years in the fire service.

Councillor Jan Brunton Dobson, Chair of Cleveland Fire Authority said, "I am delighted to be officially opening another brand new Fire Station which will help deliver essential services to our local community.

"It is absolutely vital that we invest in new state-of-the-art facilities so that the people of Teesside can rest assured they have the very latest fire and rescue equipment to help keep them safe."

Ian Hayton, Chief Fire Officer said, "This is the third brand new fire station we have built. These new facilities are important, not only in terms of emergency response to incidents for the area but also as a community hub.

"The building will vastly improve the accommodation for firefighters, will enable them to continue to deliver safety services and enable the community to have a meeting place from which individuals, groups and organisations can work together.

"It's also fantastic that we can celebrate and reward our staff at this event for their work, commitment and long service to Cleveland Fire Brigade."

In response to recent climate related catastrophes, swift water and flood rescue training is now essential for minimising risks to both life and property.

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Water rescue unit launched

Cleveland firefighters are equipped to tackle flooding incidents throughout the UK with the launch of a new water rescue unit.

The fully-fitted support vehicle includes an inflatable boat, ten and five person rescue sleds, two inflatable walkways, decontamination spray units and first aid which includes oxygen therapy.

The unit has the capacity to carry out of water rescues in a flood environment for up to four days and be self-sustainable for up to ten hours a day. It can store food rations to keep a crew of six going for up to 72 hours.

There is also convertible office space for an incident command centre and crew welfare.

Alan Brown, Flood Tactical Advisor for Cleveland Fire Brigade, said:

"The unit is equipped to deal with any type of flooding event. It can be utilised to rescue people from homes in flooded streets and communities, bring in supplies and support other emergency services in all aspects of water rescue as seen in recent years in Cleveland and across the country in York, Cumbria, Somerset and Berkshire,

"Crews are equipped to assist in rescues from both ice and mud. It has already been operational in recent rescues on the River Tees.

The new unit is based at Thornaby station. Cleveland Fire Brigade has a rescue craft permanently moored at the Tees Barrage which provides rapid response to reports of incidents on the river.

Misting system prevents fire in home



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**
Working together to improve community safety

A portable misting system installed by Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, in partnership with mental health charity Suffolk Mind, prevented a significant fire in a South Cambridgeshire home.



The misting unit is designed to suppress a fire to prevent it from spreading throughout a property, similar in principle to a sprinkler system. A portable misting system is a self-contained unit and works differently, as it also helps with keeping property damage to a minimum while suppressing the fire.

A unit installed at a home in Sawston activated when a fire started in a bin from a discarded cigarette. Not only does the misting system activate to suppress a detected fire, but the Service's Combined Fire Control is alerted allowing crews to be sent immediately. When the crews from Cambridge attended they found the fire had been fully extinguished by the misting system.

Group Commander Kevin Napier, in charge of community fire safety at CFRS, said: "This incident highlights the effectiveness of portable misting systems and how they can help save lives. This fire was stopped after the system quickly activated and the occupant of the property was safely evacuated by the crews. The damage to the property was minimal and the occupant was able to return home within 24 hours.

"We have been working with local authorities and housing providers to identify those most vulnerable residents in our communities and to assess their homes to ensure they are as safe from a fire as they can be. Some residents will present a higher risk, for example those in need of in-home oxygen therapy or are confined to a bed. Working with our partner agencies we hope to install misting systems to properties where the most vulnerable people are living.

"These systems not only help ensure vulnerable residents are protected if a fire starts in their property, but they also help ensure crews are not faced with a fully developed fire, which could spread to other properties, potentially putting more lives at risk."

Andrew Moore, Team Leader at Suffolk Mind, added: "As a mental health charity, Suffolk Mind supports people to make a life that works. To do this, we work in close partnership with various organisations, such as CFRS and housing association BPHA. This collaboration led to the installation of a portable misting system in one of our supported houses in Sawston.

"The fire activated the misting system which put the fire out and saved the resident's property and potentially their life. Using the latest technology, and a person centred approach, Suffolk Mind is able to support people to live safely in their own homes, whilst promoting independence where possible."

CFRS has already installed four other units in vulnerable resident's properties around the county, with the view to adding more in the coming months.

Group Commander Napier concluded: "We are committed to doing what we can to ensure those residents most vulnerable from a fire in the home across the county are protected from fire. Installing these systems is part of the wide ranging activity our staff are completing every day to ensure there are no preventable fire deaths in Cambridgeshire."



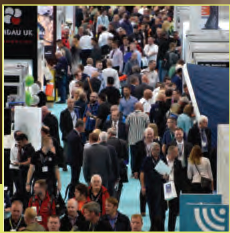
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Firefighters' marathon effort for Grenfell survivors

London Fire Brigade firefighters are set to run the London Marathon in full firefighting gear, for us and Grenfell survivors.



A group of 18 firefighters who attended the Grenfell Tower blaze are set to run the Virgin Money London Marathon in a bid to raise vital funds for The Fire Fighters Charity and groups supporting local people affected by the fire.

The firefighters were amongst the first to arrive on the scene of the Grenfell Tower fire on 14th June 2017. Seventy one people are now known to have died and it is the worst residential fire London Fire Brigade have ever dealt with.



Nine of the firefighters are from the Red Watch at North Kensington Fire Station and the other nine are from the Red Watch at Paddington Fire Station. The Paddington crew are taking part in the marathon in full firefighting gear, including breathing apparatus, meaning they will be wearing an extra 30kgs of weight. In total there will be 53 London firefighters running the marathon, that number includes the 18 running for Grenfell.

The North Kensington firefighters are raising money for Kids on the Green, a project designed to provide a calm space for families, teens and children affected by the blaze. The firefighters from Paddington are fundraising for The Fire Fighters Charity and two others, The Harrow Club W10 and The Rugby Portobello Trust.

Crew Manager Martin Gillam from Paddington Fire Station said:

"This was a hugely traumatic event for everyone involved, both physically and emotionally. We are fundraising for the Fire Fighters Charity which has provided ongoing support to firefighters who attended the Grenfell fire and supports thousands of firefighters across the UK each year.

"We're passionate about making sure money goes to the people who need it most so we're also fundraising for two small charities, the Harrow Club and the Rugby Portobello Trust, which are dedicated to supporting local people in the Grenfell community.

"We are running in full firefighting gear and breathing apparatus, which is no mean feat as it adds an extra 30kgs of weight, which is roughly the same weight as a Dalmatian dog! It will definitely slow us down but we're determined to finish the race as quickly as possible.

"We are grateful for any donations, however small, as the money will go straight to those who need it most."

London Fire Commissioner, Dany Cotton, commented:

"I stood alongside firefighters as the fire took hold at Grenfell Tower, so I know all too well the absolute horror they dealt with last June. It takes some courage to do what they are doing, to yet again face this tragedy and to try make some good come out of it.

"I am very proud of these firefighters who represent the true essence of what

it is to be a London firefighter – grit, determination and the sheer drive to help other people in the face of adversity.

"I really hope that people support their fundraising efforts. The Grenfell community deserves all of the help and support it can get and The Fire Fighters Charity continues to provide counselling and support to our staff, many of whom were left traumatised by Grenfell."

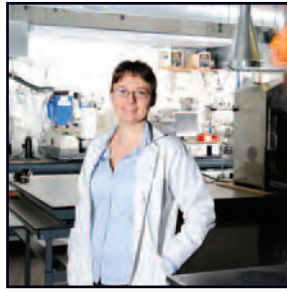
You can support Paddington Fire Station's fundraising efforts by visiting:
www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/a21run4grenfell



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From our roots supporting bereaved families of firefighters killed during the Blitz, to a modern day service that provides life enhancing health and wellbeing support to the whole fire community, we are proud to support our everyday firefighting heroes.





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The response that we have had to the degree programmes and short courses from across the High Hazard Industries, both in the UK and from across the blue light services has been extremely encouraging. As a result, we are pleased to announce that the MScs in both Emergency Management for High Hazard Industries and Organisational Resilience will be available in September 2018.

We are also delighted to announce that we are developing a model to allow the range of our short courses to be awarded CPD points. Consideration is also being given to Accreditation of Prior Learning and Accreditation of Prior Experience, to take into account students' prior levels of training and experience.

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NFCCDrone

Urban Search and Rescue Team host inaugural NFCC Drone Conference

In November 2017, Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) hosted the very first National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) Drone Training day followed by the NFCC Drone conference.

During incidents requiring the services of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle/System (UAV/UAS), otherwise referred to as Drones, MAWWFRS will deploy its Urban Search and Rescue Team members, along with a second qualified pilot, to operate the Drone. It was fitting therefore that the task of organising the hosting the inaugural NFCC Drone Training day was given to the MAWWFRS element of the Wales USAR Team.

Emergency Services delegates, from all 999 Services across the UK, along with representatives from the military and government, attended the two-day event at Carmarthen Show Ground and Dyfed Powys Police Headquarter, on the 22nd and 23rd of November, to share knowledge, experiences and good practice associated with this innovative development in emergency response.

Speaking at the event, Wales USAR Team Manager and Station Manager Noel Thompson said: "It is a huge honour to host the inaugural NFCC Drone Training and Conference Event, as it presents us with a challenge to set the benchmark for future UK wide events. The methods in which UAV/Drones are being put to work at incidents is continually developing, therefore a gathering of minds at such events as this one is exciting.



Drones first became operational within Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service in October 2015. Since then, the Drone Team have progressed considerably, as we continue our journey within the Emergency Services sector and gain vast experience with every call we attend, by working with colleagues, partner agencies and other Fire and Rescue Services in the UK.

Over the past year, the Drone team have been working alongside colleagues from National Police Air Service St Athan and the Coastguard helicopter crew, based at St Athan, to develop procedures that allow both aerial vehicles to operate in the same airspace, at the same time, whilst not conflicting with each other.

To date, MAWWFRS have seventeen Civil Aviation qualified pilots, seven of which are Night Rated and the Drones are now fully embedded within MAWWFRS's Urban Search And Rescue Team. This partnership has allowed our drone pilots to gain vast experience through collaborating with USAR team leaders, during search and rescue patterns, and with the USAR search and rescue dogs at incidents and exercises. This close relationship has highlighted how dogs and drones, working together, can cover and search vast areas of land at a much faster rate than humans alone."

The NFCC Operational Lead for Drones Group Manager Tim Murrell of Lancashire Fire and Rescue said, "The NFCC Drone Group is only in its second year, yet there is no doubt the drone sector is one of the fastest moving areas the Fire and Rescue Service has ever been involved in. Each month sees a new and more capable drone coming to market and we continue to support a growing number of FRS' deploying teams. Drones have the potential to improve situational awareness, enable effective decision making and reduce risks to responders. As drones improve, our training and techniques will also improve.

The Fire and Rescue Service lead the way in developing new training and procedures for the effective use of drones

in emergency situations. Deployments can range from missing person searches to water rescues and industrial fires. A national drone capability has now been established which is co-ordinated by National Resilience Fire Control. Work is beginning on producing common ways of working with other sectors and national events to attract a large multi-agency audience. Collaboration is commonplace in the drone world - most Fire and Rescue Service drones deploy on behalf of partners, and some drone teams use mixed agency crewing systems to maximise the return from what can be a significant investment.

The NFCC Drone Group is working hard to standardise emergency service pilot training along with establishing guidance for search and rescue. We continue to build a sector-wide safety case which has already realised significant exemptions at major or life-threatening incidents. The professionalism and expertise of FRS drone pilots are now being recognised internationally and we will seek to influence the future direction of drones in the UK in order to save lives."

Station Manager Sean Lloyd of MAWWFRS said, "Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service is one of the few UK fire and rescue services that operate both the DJI Inspire and Aeyron Sky Ranger Drones. Operating two different models allows us to choose the best drone for a specific incident and provides a continued resilience for MAWWFRS.

So much has been achieved since drones became operational. We currently deploy the drones to incidents such as wildfires, large scale fires, fires in roofs, chemical incidents, rescues from water, fires at height and USAR incidents building collapse. We also search for missing persons in collaboration with the police. I have no doubt that so many more opportunities await ahead, so watch this space.

The opportunity to meet with experts in this ever-developing field, specifically those who operate within the emergency service, is invaluable. I'm thoroughly looking forward to the 2018 conference."



This edition looks at the development of pumping and aerial appliances over a period of 40 years

1. This 1927 Dennis 18hp Light Pump went new to Coventry Fire Brigade and is now part of the Fire Services National Museum Trust's collection

2. 1957 DENNIS F21/ METZ Turntable Ladder
This 125ft ladder version served with Rochdale Fire Brigade

3. 1958 BEDFORD J Type Water Tender
New to Fife Fire Brigade with grp bodywork

4. 1963 AEC/ MERRYWEATHER Turntable Ladder
One of the new generation hydraulic TL's for London Fire Brigade





- 5. 1968 LAND ROVER 109 Firefly
Bodywork and fire engineering by HCB and Angus
- 6. 1970 AEC MAUDSLAY Pump
New to Leicester City Fire Brigade
- 7. 1976 DENNIS/ F123 SIMON SS220 Hydraulic Platform
In service with Cleveland County Fire Brigade
- 8. 1979 DODGE G16C/ MAGIRUS DL30 Turntable Ladder
In service with Wiltshire Fire Brigade

IFE launches new Firefighter Safety Database at centennial year opening event



As part of its 100th anniversary celebrations, the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) launched the new Firefighter Safety Database at Leicester's Central Fire and Rescue Station.

The database is the innovation of the IFE's International General Assembly which comprises representatives from each of the institution's forty two international branches. The IFE developed the database alongside the National Operational Learning (NOL) arm of the UK's National Operational Guidance (NOG). The aim is to provide information gathered from around the world, on incidents where firefighters died or where their safety was seriously compromised. By sharing this information they hope to greatly reduce casualty rates at future incidents.

The database launch formed part of the IFE's centennial year opening event, held in its birthplace of Leicester. Hosted by Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service and attended by some of the UK's most distinguished figures in the fire and rescue sector, The event concluded with the unveiling of a centenary plaque by City Mayor Sir Peter Soulsby. Sir Peter



(L-R) Neil Gibbins, former IFE CEO, Dennis Davis, Life Fellow of the IFE, Peter Wilkinson, Chairman IFE Board of Directors, Dr Graham Cory, IFE CEO, Martin Shipp, IFE International President, CFO Rick Taylor, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service and George Almond, Life Fellow of the IFE, with the centenary torch outside Central Fire and Rescue Station. Photo courtesy www.thestudio17.co.uk

also started the IFE's centenary torch relay in which the torch will travel to IFE branches around the globe throughout 2018, tracked in an online journal on their website.

Sir Peter said: "With its commitment to enhancing professional standards and technical competence, not least through its internationally-acclaimed fire-related qualifications, the IFE in 2018 has vindicated the hopes and aspirations of its founding fathers; which are as vitally important today as they were 100 years ago."

Rick Taylor, Chief Fire and Rescue Officer at Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "We were delighted with the Institution of Fire Engineers' decision to celebrate its 100th anniversary with us here in Leicester – the birth place of IFE, where it all began in 1918.

"This is a fantastic achievement, and the IFE should be proud of everything they

have accomplished for all fire and rescue services in the UK during this time. The new centenary plaque will be displayed for many years to come and will showcase the achievements of the IFE to anyone that visits Central Fire and Rescue Station. We hope the event was thoroughly enjoyed by all."

Dr Graham Cory, IFE CEO, added: "A hundred years ago, the Institution's founders, including the then Chief Officer of Leicester Fire Brigade, formed the IFE with the purpose of promoting the science and practice of fire engineering. To mark the occasion with the launch of the Firefighter Safety Database emphasises our commitment to increasing understanding and therefore professional competence.

"The database represents an invaluable learning resource, containing information on incidents where firefighters either lost their lives or where their safety was seriously compromised. Through sharing this information, we hope to significantly reduce casualty rates at future incidents."

The Firefighter Safety Database can be viewed on the IFE's website www.ife.org.uk/Firefighter-Safety.

The institution will be continuing its centenary celebrations throughout the year with events held around the globe, concluding with its annual International Conference and Centenary Ball in Edinburgh on 31st October – 1st November 2018.

To read more about the IFE's centenary visit:
www.ife.org.uk/centenary.



Sir Peter Soulsby, City Mayor, unveils the IFE centenary plaque with CFO Rick Taylor, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue, (left) and Dr Graham Cory, IFE CEO (centre). Photo courtesy www.thestudio17.co.uk

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