

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE



“THE OLD HAND”

THE QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER FOR RETIRED MEMBERS
DECEMBER 2016 (ISSUE 55) – FUNDED BY THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

CHIEF FIRE OFFICER’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

This has not been the easiest update to write, but after a great deal of consideration and discussion with my family I have decided to retire from the post of Chief Fire Officer of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service on the 9th April 2017.

I will leave with a very heavy heart but, after almost 29 years in Tyne and Wear FRS and more than five years as the Chief Fire Officer, I feel the time has come to move over and pass the responsibility and the privilege of heading this great organisation onto the next generation of leadership.

I have spent my whole fire service career in TWFRS, something which I will always be very proud of and it has been an absolute honour to be the CFO of this great organisation.

Tyne and Wear is one of the best fire services in the country thanks to the hard work and commitment of everyone in TWFRS and I would like to pay tribute to all of you, both past and present, who have made this possible over the years. I will miss everyone who I have known and worked with over the years when April finally arrives.

The fire and rescue service continues to face some challenging times in the years ahead but, given the professionalism of this service I have no doubt that Tyne and Wear will continue to be one of the best, if not the best, organisation in the country.

Thank you once again for all of your support over the years, in April I will join you all reading the ‘old hands’ with great interest in ‘our’ Tyne and Wear



Until then, please do have a brilliant Christmas and New Year

Tom

CAR DRAW SEPTEMBER 2016

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	4186	M Ward	BTC	£8,000
2nd	2855	I Robertson	Retired	£2,000
3rd	1660	S Robson	K	£1,000
4th	4008	J Orr	SHQ	£1,000
5th	3133	S Robertson	Retired	£500
6th	3141	S Wilson	C	£500
7th	4171	R Nicholson	Retired	£400
8th	531	T Hodgson	Retired	£300
9th	892	B Oliver	Retired	£300
10th	3800	D Ellison	Retired	£200
11th	649	J Simpson	Retired	£200
12th	3428	J Laws	Retired	£200
13th	3076	C Scrimshaw	Retired	£200
14th	1093	R Forster	Retired	£200
15th	1896	G March	Retired	£200
16th	761	B Patterson	E	£200
17th	3995	G Calder	Retired	£200
18th	854	C Gullon	Retired	£200
19th	3429	K Stronach	Control	£200
20th	1828	I Warbrick	Retired	£200

Many thanks to the following recent car draw winners who have made generous donations to the Firefighters Charity – Brian Oliver, Graeme Calder, Gerry March, John Robinson, Ian Robertson, Ken Smith, Roy Herron, Peter Wright and Dennis Scougall.

CAR DRAW NOVEMBER 2016

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	2343	D Scougall	Retired	£8,000
2nd	4037	I Rutherford	J	£2,000
3rd	4107	D Allsopp	W	£1,000
4th	2807	R Herron	Retired	£1,000
5th	1763	A Thackray	J	£500
6th	3949	L Emmerson	OHU	£500
7th	164	P Wright	Retired	£400
8th	3648	N Charlton	Retired	£300
9th	429	B Tully	Retired	£300
10th	547	J Young	V	£200
11th	1802	A Hood	Retired	£200
12th	1870	J Plant	Retired	£200
13th	2311	S Chalk	S	£200
14th	898	K Smith	Retired	£200
15th	732	D Parnaby	Retired	£200
16th	1533	T Havenhand	Retired	£200
17th	4081	K Wilkinson	J	£200
18th	3353	T Allen	E	£200
19th	2987	E Grimes	Retired	£200
20th	3537	P McMaster	Retired	£200

If you want to join or increase your numbers contact us in Support Services on 0191 4441560.

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	355	B Little	H	£7,000
2nd	1183	S Wardingham	K	£500
3rd	479	I Warbrick	Retired	£200
4th	1447	J Proud	G	£100
5th	40	J McConville	Retired	£100
6th	266	A Miller	Retired	£100
7th	1892	R Noble	Y	£100
8th	1654	A Nichol	SDHQ	£100
9th	1943	C McGuire	S	£100
10th	1944	G Newton	G	£100
11th	1994	M Hayes	Y	£100
12th	596	J Cook	F	£100
13th	410	D Irwin	BTC	£100
14th	1242	P Watson	FS North	£100
15th	643	R Rogerson	F	£100
16th	1592	A Jobling	N	£100

OBITUARIES

Name	Date of Death	Age
Mrs E Coyne	No details	
Lee Hope	19/07/2016	33
Terry Jennings	21/09/2016	77
Edward Thompson	30/09/2016	75
Thomas Hutchinson	20/10/2016	65
Bill Tippins	22/10/2016	82
Colin Dickinson	12/11/2016	60

Our deepest sympathy and sincere condolences are extended to the families of our departed friends and colleagues.

ED AISBITT 1943 - 2016

We as a family would like to express our sincerest heartfelt thanks to the Tyne & Wear Fire Service during such a difficult time. We were all extremely touched and grateful for your presence and the Guard of Honour in Ed's memory. Ed would have been truly proud of the send-off you all helped give him. £400 was raised for MacMillan Nurses from the collection on the day.

Jenny, Annette, Andrew and Family

FIRE SERVICE ATTENDANCE AT FUNERALS

There has been in the past one or two complaints from retired members that having attended the funeral of a friend and ex Fire Brigade colleague, there was not a fire appliance in attendance at the church or crematorium. I would ask that those who complain bear in mind that the funeral is primarily a family funeral and not a Fire Brigade funeral. When we are informed of the passing of a retired colleague the family are contacted immediately and amongst other details it is ascertained when and where the funeral is to be held and the family are always asked if they would like a fire appliance to attend, as previously stated it is a family funeral and in some cases a family will turn down the offer and the family's wishes **MUST** be respected.

On very rare occasions an appliance en-route to the funeral may be redirected to attend an incident and obviously operational duties will take precedence.

So may I ask you when you are at the funeral of an ex colleague and no appliance is in attendance be aware of the possible reasons why not. When there is an appliance there just simply be proud that Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service have ensured the deceased is given the respect and remembrance he or she deserves.

(N.B. We are one of the very few fire Services in Britain that continue with this tradition).

SPORTS AND SOCIAL TRIPS

20-21 May 2017 Drayton Park & Cadbury World
£89 per adult, £65 per child (3-12 sharing with 2 adults)

Name	Location	Date
Jeff Murphy	W	31/08/2016
Russ Hands	SHQ	01/09/2016
Ian Longmore	K	09/09/2016
Martin Boyes	T	28/09/2016
Lance Mather	Q	13/10/2016
Norman Stephenson	K	16/10/2016
Dave Gray	W	23/10/2016
Peter Wilcox	FBU	31/10/2016
Christopher Stringer	Q	03/11/2016
Bob Foster	W	09/11/2016

Many thanks to the following members for their generous donations on their recent retirement – Martin Boyes, Dave Gray, Pete Wilcox.

FORTHCOMING RETIREMENTS

Name	Location	Date
Graham Smith	SHQ	01/12/2016
Shaun Thomson	E	05/12/2016
Jon Chadwick	OHU	31/12/2016
Eddie Cairns	Q	07/01/2017
John Young	V	22/01/2017
Warren Mulvaney	Q	07/02/2017
Gary Stubbs	G	08/03/2017
Malcolm McGuinness	T	19/04/2017

CONTACT DETAILS

To hear of retirement functions, funeral services, events etc. please register your email address – send to peter.stronach@twfire.gov.uk Please remember to inform us of any changes to your contact details.

SUNDERLAND & SOUTH SHIELDS NARF

The next meeting for the Sunderland & South Shields branch of NARF will be held on 11th March 2017 at 1300hrs in Service HQ Nissan Way, Barmston Mere, SR5 3QY.

NDHQ

The next North Division HQ night out is Tuesday 6th December 2016 at Aneesa's Buffet Restaurant, Forster Street, Quayside (behind the law courts). The meal is for 1945hrs or you can meet earlier at 1900hrs at the Pitcher and Piano. Everyone is welcome and if you would like to attend please contact Andrew Kewbank on 07932136179 or email Andrew.kewbank@btinternet.com.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Kevin Dodds for his recent donation to the Firefighters Charity in lieu of Christmas Cards.

GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME

LIFE COVER – Please be aware that you must inform us of any change in circumstances that may affect your insurance cover i.e. change of spouse/partner, residing outside of the UK (affects travel insurance).

TRAVEL COVER – There is no limit to the number of trips you may take in the year but each trip must be no longer than 31 days. The period of cover can be extended by payment of an additional premium to George Burrows 01403 327719.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES.**