



## “THE OLD HAND”

THE QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER FOR RETIRED MEMBERS  
DECEMBER 2017 (ISSUE 59) – FUNDED BY THE SPORTS AND WELFARE CLUB

### CHIEF FIRE OFFICER’S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

It gives me great pleasure to send Christmas greetings for 2017 to all of the retired members of Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service. It is remarkable how quickly the Christmas season has arrived. I barely seem to have drawn breath since I took over from Tom Capeling who retired in April of this year and here I find myself preparing for the season’s festivities.

It has been an extremely busy year for our Service and we have seen considerable success in our performance recording the lowest False Alarm calls from non-domestic properties and Fires in a non-domestic property for the last eight years. We are also the best performing Metropolitan FRS for Fatalities from all fires and the third best performing Metropolitan FRS for accidental dwelling fires.

There will undoubtedly be challenges for us in 2018. However, as you will all know yourselves this is, and always has been, one of the best Fire and Rescue Services in the country. This is down to the hard work of staff and the Elected Members who provide support and, given this fact, I believe we will be more than equal to any task that confronts us.

Finally, can I, on behalf of everyone here, extend to you and your families the seasons’ greetings and wish you all good health and happiness for the coming year.

Chris



### CAR DRAW SEPTEMBER 2017

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	1723	D Gibb	Retired	£8,000
2nd	2826	I Haswell	S	£2,000
3rd	4244	J Gray	SHQ	£1,000
4th	3380	J McMillan	W	£1,000
5th	481	D Gibson	Retired	£500
6th	3088	K Sweeney	Retired	£500
7th	3753	J Turnbull	F	£400
8th	3814	A Jackson	F	£300
9th	4775	M Houghton	Sth Tyne	£300
10th	3411	K Corbett	BTC	£200
11th	1289	K Moore	Retired	£200
12th	1087	J Jeffrey	Retired	£200
13th	539	C Kennedy	Sth Tyne	£200
14th	2471	D Barnes	T	£200
15th	872	J McCowloff	Retired	£200
16th	1880	A Downey	Retired	£200
17th	3173	A Irvine	TSC	£200
18th	2508	T Lyaal	Retired	£200
19th	4437	A Beardsmore	V	£200
20th	2200	M Scott	F	£200

Many thanks to the following recent car/prize draw winners who have made generous donations to the Firefighters Charity – John Hall, Gordon Jeffrey, Dave Farrow, Terry Kane, Peter Jennings, Ian Walker, Chris Tennick and Grahame Burnip.

### CAR DRAW NOVEMBER 2017

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	2247	G Canham	F	£8,000
2nd	2838	D Kelly	Retired	£2,000
3rd	212	S Hands	Retired	£1,000
4th	3970	D Farrow	Retired	£1,000
5th	2166	E Cook	Sth Tyne	£500
6th	23	C Ritson	Retired	£500
7th	4502	M Westgarth	BTC	£400
8th	4228	P Harrington	T	£300
9th	3289	D Webb	V	£300
10th	3767	J O’Neill	Retired	£200
11th	3765	A Lee	H	£200
12th	196	T Kane	Retired	£200
13th	127	J Flynn	Retired	£200
14th	3521	C Docherty	A	£200
15th	4285	M Phelan	G	£200
16th	3267	C Tennick	Retired	£200
17th	13	G Burnip	Retired	£200
18th	3699	P Jennings	Retired	£200
19th	1432	M Spence	Retired	£200
20th	3523	I Walker	Retired	£200

Another good result for our retired members in the September and November car draws with 20 of the 40 prizes totalling £15,100 going to the lucky winners!

## PRIZE DRAW OCTOBER 2017

PRIZE	WINNING NUMBER	NAME	LOCATION	AMOUNT
1st	1833	R Lowery	J	£7,000
2nd	111	R McLean	FBU	£500
3rd	1762	S Makin	Q	£200
4th	556	B Maugham	Retired	£100
5th	1984	M Wilson	S	£100
6th	76	A Robinson	SHQ	£100
7th	644	L Chape	M	£100
8th	1300	N Dinning	Retired	£100
9th	163	R Anderson	Retired	£100
10th	130	S Swan	Y	£100
11th	1049	D Harvey	Retired	£100
12th	1290	A Parsons	E	£100
13th	2008	S Wilson	Q	£100
14th	1789	A Patterson	N	£100
15th	2136	J Wallace	K	£100
16th	227	A Quintano	F	£100

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

## OBITUARIES

Name	Date of Death	Age
George Jobling	18/08/2017	81
William Burnett	07/09/2017	84
Sidney Harris	15/09/2017	89
Peter Rowell	11/10/2017	68

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

## RECENT RETIREMENTS

Name	Location	Date
Bruce Mahan	S	15/08/2017
Willie Thielmann	A	06/09/2017
Andy Charlton	G	06/09/2017
Phil Wright	Q	14/09/2017
Mick Snaith	G	04/10/2017
Damian Boyd	F	23/11/2017

Many thanks to the following members for their generous donations on their recent retirement – Phil Wright and Mick Snaith.

## FORTHCOMING RETIREMENTS

Name	Location	Date
Rhona Walton	A FS	31/12/2017
Dave Barnes	SHQ	31/12/2017
Neil Cooper	G	19/01/2018

## CONTACT DETAILS

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

## SPORTS AND SOCIAL TRIPS

Chester Zoo 19 – 20 May 2018  
£79 per adult  
£59 per child (3 – 15 years sharing with 2 adults).

## CLOTHING BANKS – UPDATE

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the first months collection for the Firefighters Charity. From the 10 locations over £650 has been generated. In fact the clothing bank at West Denton has been so popular that the company that manages the recycling of the items have placed an extra bank there to cope with demand. Keep your unwanted clothes and textiles coming as they are all going to a worthy cause!

## NDHQ

There is going to be a Fire Safety retired members night out arranged by Andy Kewbank. The meal will be at Sabatinis, King Street, Quayside on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 1945hrs. If you'd like to meet for a drink first then go to the Crown Posada, The Side (bottom of Dean Street) for 1900hrs. Everyone is welcome. To confirm numbers contact Andy on [andrew.kewbank@btinternet.com](mailto:andrew.kewbank@btinternet.com) or call 07932136179.

## THANK YOU

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

## SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB NAMECHANGE

At the recent AGM of the Club held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017 there was a proposal to change the name to Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service Sports & Welfare Club. The reason given for the proposed change was to bring the Club more in line with other Fire & Rescue Service Clubs throughout the UK and the name would more reflect the needs of its members. The proposal was seconded and carried unanimously.

## GROUP INSURANCE SCHEME –IMPORTANT REMINDERS

If you have a pre-existing medical condition you must inform the travel company prior to travel by ringing the Medical Helpline on 01689 892 262.

There is no limit to the number of trips you may take, but each trip must be no longer than 31 days.

The period of cover can be extended by payment of an additional premium paid to George Burrows 01403 327778. Please note that if you go skiing and are over 65 years of age the Brigade insurance does **NOT** cover you. If you wish you can remain a member of the travel insurance scheme until the age of 75. To do so, please contact Lindsey Davidson on 0191 4441558. The policy number is 5170010 and the emergency medical number is 00 44 23 8064 4633. To make a claim call 0345 122 3280.

If you are a member of the Group Life Insurance Scheme **please** remember that once you reach the age of 60 the life benefits are halved. At the age of 65 all life benefits on the present scheme cease however members can then take up the option of life cover of £9,750 for a premium of £6.25 per month up to the age of 70, note this is only available to members transferring from one scheme to the other.



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