



THE SALAMANDER

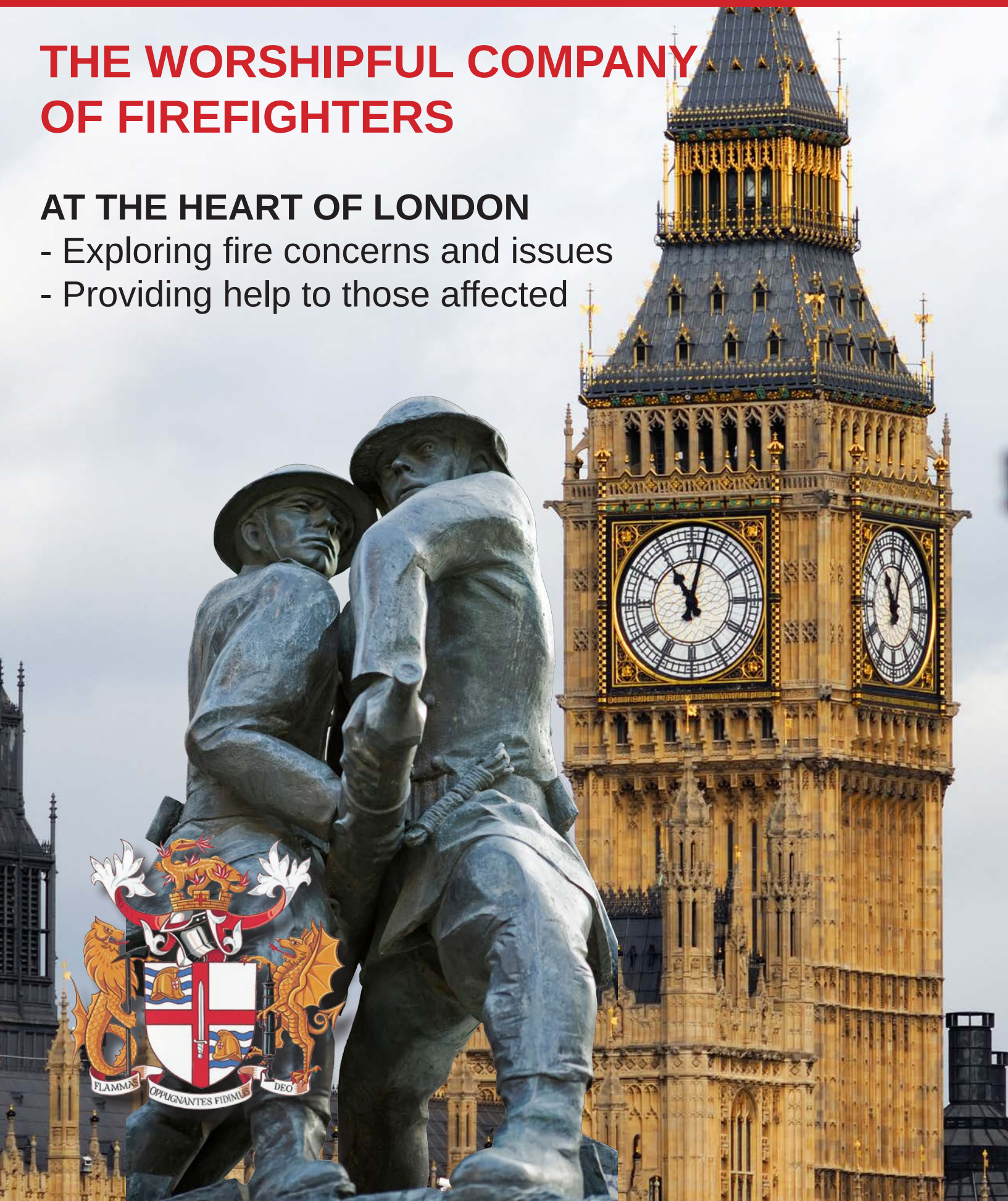
SERVICE | FELLOWSHIP | HARMONY | HONOUR

JULY 2017

THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF FIREFIGHTERS

AT THE HEART OF LONDON

- Exploring fire concerns and issues
- Providing help to those affected



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COVER IMAGE:

National Firefighters Memorial, Sermon Lane, London, England with a background of Big Ben.
Credit: Alamy Stock Photo

The Firefighters Memorial is located at a symbolic site on the south side of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. The Cathedral is often symbolically portrayed as a famous and iconic building which stood in defiance of all of the fires burning and general destruction around it, caused by the Blitz on London. The Memorial, depicting a Fire Officer and two Firemen, cast in bronze engaged in firefighting duties, was originally called 'Blitz' and was dedicated to the men and women of the Fire Service who lost their lives as a result of their duties during World War II. Her Majesty, the late Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, unveiled this memorial on 4 May 1991.



Bruce Hoad Master Firefighter

"An average week might see me in London three times, whilst I think my record was ten different events in one week"

Master of the Company Bruce Hoad

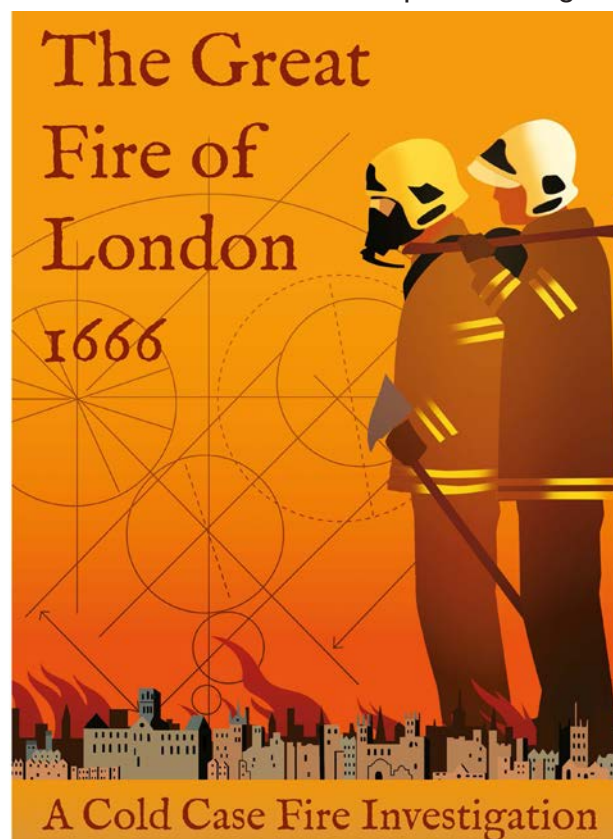
The first thing that strikes me about my year in office is just how many events I have attended, a good number with Janice and many more with Steve Tamcken, our ubiquitous Clerk. Although I had been pre-warned about the sheer weight of commitments in addition to routine Company business, I was surprised by the marked peaks and troughs in activity. There have been occasional weeks with no commitments; an average week might see me in London three times, whilst I think my record was ten different events in one week. I felt extremely privileged to have taken over as Master in the year that marked the 350th anniversary of the Great Fire of London and the 150th birthday of my beloved London Fire Brigade.

Even before Common Hall, we had been involved in our first commemorative event, our collaborative venture with the Bakers' Company, which saw the staging of five Pepys-themed Great Fire dinner plays.

Our own 2016 Fire Lecture, in which we partnered with the Association of British Insurers, incorporated a dramatic and highly entertaining portrayal of 17th Century life, then went on to examine the growth of fire insurance in the wake of the Great Fire, culminating in a

celebration of the strength and resilience of the City today. The Company fielded a strong team for the opening of the Museum of London's Great Fire exhibition, and September 1st saw the launch of our own unique commemorative book, based around a cold-case review of the Great Fire, a publication of which the Company should be immensely proud.

A team of highly motivated individuals worked tirelessly to ensure that the Company had a range of quality and relevant items of memorabilia to both sell and present to guests





**Four authors from the Great Fire of London 1666 A Cold-Case Fire Investigation
Left to right David Holt, Master Bruce Hoad, Peter Mansi and Graham Woodhouse**

and dignitaries at our various events. The extremely well received and generated huge Great Fire was officially commemorated over a interest from across the world. Upper Warden long weekend at the beginning of September, John Mansfield even managed to get our and the Company was well represented at the Great Fire brick featured by Fiona Bruce in a spectacular burning of the City model on the forthcoming episode of the Antiques Roadshow. Thames, the British Fire Services' Association The Company's reputation within the City dinner and the Sunday service at St Paul's must have been enhanced tremendously by Cathedral.

our visible and thoughtful contributions to the On September 7th, Liveryman Peter Mansi commemorations, and a great many of our delivered the first of a series of Great Fire talks members deserve our thanks for their efforts. at the Museum of London, based upon his I have been especially privileged to witness research for the Company's book. This was first-hand some of the inspirational work that



St Florian's Installation Banquet. Master Bruce Hoad presenting a framed Wenceslaus Hollar Print to his guest Jim Fitzpatrick MP



Massey Shaw Dinner. Left to right Master Bruce Hoad, Upper Warden John Mansfield, Alan Willis (Carpet Guard), Renter Warden Andy Mayes and Under Warden Frances Blois

our Charitable trust supports. I visited the Squadron, Air Training Corps, go from strength annual Burns Camp at Grafham Water and was to strength this year.

humbled by the vibrant positivity of the young The services, lectures, lunches, dinners people who are helped to come to terms with and other events I have attended are far too life-changing injury by this amazing venture. numerous to list here, although I will take the I and my fellow Wardens have attended a opportunity to mention a few. My St Florian's host of London Fire Brigade Cadet Scheme Installation Banquet at Insurance Hall was a events, including pass-out evenings and particularly special event for me, and I was awards presentations, and we have seen how delighted that Jim Fitzpatrick MP, together the programme helps so many young people with his wife Sheila, was able to join us as our turn their lives around. I have also seen our principal guest and speaker. affiliation with 2433 (Ramsgate and Manston)



The Lord Mayor's parade with our Victorian horse-drawn manual fire engine (courtesy of Liverymen Chris and Tony Drewitt)



LFB Cadets marching in the Lord Mayor's Show

Our Charity Ball in September and the City Dinner in November were both well attended, and both events raised considerable sums of money for our Charitable Trust. I was delighted that we were able to support our sister organisation, the Firefighters' Memorial Trust, at a range of events, starting with the Memorial Service at St Sepulchre-without-Newgate, then at the prestigious event in November that saw the Princess Royal officially illuminate the Firefighters' Memorial for the first time. I was also able to represent the Company at two events at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire.

Our float in the Lord Mayor's Show was one to remember. We entered a Victorian horse-drawn manual fire engine (courtesy of Liverymen Chris and Tony Drewitt) and invited the Bakers' Company to join us in their trade 'whites'. We fielded a complement of insurance brigade and Victorian firefighters, and, due I suspect to a bit of arm-twisting with the Pageant Master's office, we were very well placed towards the front of the procession. We also maintained our role as

organisers of the Modern Livery Companies' entry, and Liveryman Richie Bratton gave a superb televised interview to the BBC which went out across the globe.

Celebrations to mark the LFB's 150th birthday continued throughout the year, and the Company and I were present at many of these, including the magnificent banquet at Mansion House, where I accompanied our own Alderman Tim Hailes, who was, in turn, standing in for the Lord Mayor.

For our Massey Shaw Banquet we visited Armoury House, home of the Honourable Artillery Company, where we were met by a carpet guard of the Light Cavalry. Our guests included the Masters of the Bakers' and Hackney Carriage Drivers' Companies, and our principal guest was the recently retired Commissioner of the London Fire Brigade, Ron Dobson. I was delighted to present the Company's Annual Award to Ron in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Brigade and to the safety of the people of London.

Before my year is over I have a few more commitments to fulfil. As I write this I am also preparing to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party. The following weekend Janice and I are off to Ironbridge for the Livery Weekend. I will then be jailed in the Tower of London, and through your generosity, hopefully bailed – or not! A quick Master's Reception at the end of June and then it's Common Hall, and I hand over to John Mansfield.

In summary, a great year, and I am amazingly half a stone lighter than at the outset. I wouldn't have missed it for the world but I am definitely looking forward to putting my feet up in July.

Bruce Hoad
Master.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Worshipful Company of Firefighters Charitable Trust



Frances Blois
Chairman of the Charitable Trust

It has been over a year since I was privileged to become Chairman of the Charitable Trust and carry on the good work of my predecessor Past Master Frank David. He had steered the Trust over a number of years and it would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to my Mentor and colleague who has seen the Trust through a period of much development and change.

We have had a number of changes since my Chairmanship. We have the retirement of Past Masters Frank David and Bryan Spearman, Graham Maltby has taken over as Vice-Chairman and we have recently been joined by Howard Myers. Past Master Michael Harper will also be retiring and will be replaced soon. A recent request has gone out to Liverymen to think about applying as a Trustee.

The Charitable Trust realises that the world of the Fire Industry and the Fire and Rescue Service, like many sectors, is changing at a considerable pace and we will shortly be looking at the current core charities to see if these reflect the changing environment. We will also consider what else we can do in the youth and young persons sector. This draws on one of "Aims and Objectives" of the Company and the Charitable Trust in providing opportunities to promote responsible and good citizenship for future generations.

The Charitable Trust is in the process of going through incorporation with the Charities Commission which is likely to be concluded by the end of 2017. One of their requirements is to have a regular rotation of Trustees. Graham Maltby is reviewing a streamlined administrative process on behalf of the Trustees to ensure that we respond to the Charities Commission requests in a timely and efficient manner.

Over the last year we have continued to support a number of Fire Cadet programmes run by London Fire Brigade and the Essex Fire and Rescue Service, as well as a specific project for the Air Training Corps aligned to the Ministry of Defence Firefighting School at Manston in Kent. We have made grants to other youth related charities including the "Burns Camp", which provides confidence re-building strategies for young people who have been burned in fire related events. We have also made a grant award to "FIRE AID", a charity which utilises volunteers from across the United Kingdom Firefighting Services to equip and train overseas Fire and Rescue Services in communities less fortunate than ourselves, such as in Moldova.

The Lord Mayor's Charity has again been supported. An exciting Education and Training initiative is being steered by the Education and Training Sub-Committee towards granting recognition awards to graduate students who present valuable and worthwhile dissertations and theses surrounding Fire and Rescue and Fire Industry related educational projects from 11 recognised Educational Establishments.

The capital funds are ably invested for us by JMFinn. A new Legacy Document has recently been approved by the trustees and will soon be made available to livery members. The Charitable Trust remains thankful for and acknowledges the support of the many donors to the Trust, particularly Company members, and from events such as the Fire Industry Charitable Ball and the City Dinner.

Frances Blois
Chairman.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters Charitable Trust

Visit to the Lloyd's Building

A visit to one of the City's most iconic buildings.



The Lutine bell (seen in the background) came from HMS Lutine, formerly a captured French frigate

For those who booked to attend the Fire Lecture in July 2016 there was an added bonus. Past Master Alan Wells arranged for 10 lucky participants, drawn at random, to visit the Lloyd's building at One Lime Street.

This was a visit that went well beyond the scenes that members of the public have access to. Our official Lloyd's tour guide was Peter Fletcher, who described the history of the building and showed some of its famous features. The building was designed by Richard Rogers and Partners and is famous for housing the services, such as the lifts and ducting, on the

outside. This design allows for a large, flexible, light-filled atrium to be used as the working space. Completed in 1986, after only 25 years, the building received Grade 1 listed status.

Mr Fletcher outlined the history of the various London sites that Lloyd's had occupied, starting with Edward Lloyd's Coffee House in Tower Street around 1688, but the focus of his talk was, of course, the current Lloyd's building.

We saw the famous Underwriters' trading floor, which also displays an emblem of Lloyd's marine insurance history, the Lutine Bell. The bell came from HMS Lutine, formerly a captured French frigate, after it sank off the Dutch coast in 1796, killing almost the entire crew and passengers, and with the loss of a cargo of gold and silver bullion valued, then, at one million pounds. The cargo had been insured by Lloyd's underwriters, who paid in full. Traditionally, the bell was struck to signify the loss of a ship or the return of an overdue ship.

We then moved to the Council Room on the 11th floor to view the famous Adam Room. Designed by Robert Adam in 1763 for Bowood House in Wiltshire, this former dining room was purchased by Lloyd's and installed in their earlier Lime Street headquarters in 1958, later being moved to the current building. Furnished in a style fitting to its origins, the room is in stark contrast to the modern design of the building in which it is housed.

A high-point of the tour was a talk by Trevor Jennings, Risk Manager, Lloyd's Property Services. We were treated to a view of the control centre and back-up systems for the building and a talk on fire precautions within the complex environment such a high-risk city centre building poses.

After which, we all wended our way back to Insurance Hall for the Fire Lecture, including a drama based on the Great Fire of London.

David Holt

PR & Marketing Committee.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Visit to Two Temple Place



Photo Credit: Peter Dazeley

The Upper Gallery at Two Temple Place

It has become the custom for the Mistress of the Company to organise one or two special events for partners of Members during her year if she (or he of course!) wishes to do so. This was a slightly worrying prospect, having attended previous events myself which were so interesting and well organised, but after some research and a little help from friends the first of these took place in April with a visit to Two Temple Place.



Mistress Firefighter and guests aboard HQS Wellington

This is one of London's "architectural gems" – an extraordinary late Victorian mansion on the Embankment built in the gothic revival style by

William Waldorf Astor, arguably the richest man in the world at the time. And this was just for his use as an office for the Astor estate! It was indeed a richness of natural materials – wood panelling and carvings of all types lined the walls, with statues also in wood showing famous figures from American and French literature, beautiful marble floors and stained glass.

Each year at this time Two Temple Place also has a free Exhibition and we were able to enjoy browsing amongst exhibits around "Sussex Modernism, Retreat and Rebellion" – think Bloomsbury Set, Salvador Dali and Lee Miller amongst many others! With an excellent and amusing guide for our tour and delicious home-made cake in the coffee shop, we were very well catered for. And talking of catering, our day was topped off (and thanks to Bryan Spearman who helped arrange this) with a very tasty lunch on HQS Wellington just a step away from Two Temple Place.

Janice Hoad

Mistress Firefighter.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Upper Gallery image supplied by Two Temple Place;

John Kempton

Has been appointed the honour for his services to the community



Liveryman John Kempton receives his MBE

John Kempton joined Surrey Fire Brigade (later to be known as Surrey Fire & Rescue Service) as a retained (part-time) firefighter in 1981 and retired as a crew commander after serving for more than 20 years at Oxted Fire Station. John was quoted as saying that he feels “privileged and proud” after being appointed an MBE in the Queen’s Birthday Honours for services to the community.

John Kempton, who has lived in Oxted for 37 years, was recognised for his contribution as firefighter, school governor and first aider. He became a community first responder in 2005. John helped to form, and now manages, the team known as Oxted District Community Responders who provide an emergency response to all 999 medical emergency calls in the Oxted and surrounding areas.

John also served for 27 years (retiring in 2015) as a foundation governor for St Mary’s C of E Junior School, in Oxted, mainly responsible for the care and improvement of the School buildings.

Well done John

Jailed and Bailed

In aid of the British Red Cross



A full escort for all the jailed Masters

The Master is taking part in the annual British Red Cross annual Jailed & Bailed event to be hosted by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. He will be arrested at Mansion House, on charges yet to be confirmed, and then be transported by the City of London Police to the Tower of London where he will be incarcerated pending bail. On the condition that he raises £1,000 in bail in support of the British Red Cross he will be a free man again... but if not, he will be left to sample Her Majesty’s hospitality indefinitely!

This year is the fourteenth “Jailed & Bailed” event which to date has seen 203 normally upstanding members of the City Of London arrested for heinous crimes. These have included falsely impersonating Robin Hood, concealing 3ft pokers and even one of our being denounced as impersonating a Fireman!

This year is no exception to this event and our Master will be partaking to line up and be counted with the other 29 felons. It is a fun day throughout and in aid of the British Red Cross.

While he has been assured that he will be made ‘as comfortable as possible’ at the Tower if all

else fails and he doesn't reach bail, he therefore implores you to help him by contributing towards his bail. All bail is raised in aid of the British Red Cross and he would be very grateful if you would give generously to this wonderful cause. Donating through the Virgin Money Giving accounts site is simple and secure. It is also the most efficient way to sponsor him – the British Red Cross will receive your money faster and, if you are a UK taxpayer, an extra 25% in tax will be added to your donation through the gift aid system at no cost to you.

Member for Ashford North until 1993. She served on a number of committees including Policy and Resources, Education, Personnel, Fire and Public Protection. She also served on the Governing Bodies of a number of schools and colleges and various KCC related outside organisations. Jeanne has extensive experience as a Public Relations Consultant associated with films, radio, television, travel and presentation training. She actively supported her husband Mr Tim Brinton throughout his two terms as an MP.

Congratulations to Jeanne Brinton



Liveryman Jeanne Brinton

Mrs Jeanne Brinton, a Liveryman of our Worshipful Company, was nominated and appointed Honorary Alderman of the Kent County Council at a meeting of the full Council at County Hall, Maidstone on Thursday 19th May 2016. The award was in recognition of the eminent services rendered in terms of Jeanne's contribution to the activities of the County Council and the well-being of the County of Kent for at least twelve years. The honour was bestowed by the outgoing Chairman of the County Council, Alderman Mike Harrison and witnessed by two Past Masters of this Company who had both served as KCC Officers during her period as an elected member. Jeanne was elected to the Kent County Council in 1981 as the Conservative Member for Medway South and in 1985 as Conservative

Lord Mayor's Appeal

On the 8th September the Lord Mayor is going to undertake one of the most frightening things that could ever befall a Lord Mayor – he is going to abseil down the Cheese Grater building (all 225 meters) and he is petrified of heights! He is doing this to raise funds for his Lord Mayor's Appeal that will support the LSO Discovery programme, St Paul's Music Outreach and Music in Hospitals, educating young people, using music to develop the skills and talents that young people need to succeed in 21st century Britain.

He would really like you to sponsor him **BUT PLEASE DO NOT SPONSOR HIM FOR MORE THAN £10**; this is really important as he would like to break some records (not any bones or individual wallets) and he knows how generous you are to so many charities. What he would really like you to do is pass it on to 5 of your fellow Freemen, Liverymen or friends; there are over 30,000 Liverymen – just imagine the funds he could raise if they all donated £10! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Andrew-Parmley>

With his thanks and very best wishes,

Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley
The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor

Another Charitable descent for Alan



Alan about to do his decent in 2012

I'm one of a hundred accepted to abseil the Leadenhall Building 'Cheesegrater' on Friday 8th September at one of the official events in aid of The Lord Mayor's Appeal 2017.

I'm keen to raise as much money as possible by undertaking this death defying, heart stopping, exhilarating, some might say foolhardy, 629ft descent from level 47 (four from the top) of the building and reckon it deserves 'sterling' support and some safe hands with a jump net on the day.

Charitable donations that can receive gift aid allowance and go directly to The Lord Mayor's Appeal 2017, can be made via my 'justgiving.com' account.

Alternatively, please make a cheque payable to 'The Lord Mayor's Appeal 2017' and post it to my home address at 3 Northumberland Avenue, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN24 9QG.

Our Air Cadets 2433 (Ramsgate and Manston) Squadron Royal Air Force Air Cadets

This squadron, affiliated to The Worshipful Company of Firefighters since the 1st March 2016, is currently competing for the National 'Top Squadron' Morris Trophy in competition with other Squadrons from London and Essex. Group Captain Lewis, Commandant, London & South-East Region inspected the Squadron during the evening of the 26th April, observing their training activities. This included working with a flying training simulator which the cadets themselves have constructed, under the guidance of their flying instructor.

The flying training simulator is part of an Aerospace Training Centre they have designed and created, The Centre replicates reception and briefing for trainees, a simulated control tower communications facility and the flying simulator itself which gives realistic hands-on flying experience of a Cessna light aircraft over the Manston area of Kent. The Centre is in its early stages of development which the Charitable Trust of our Company helped facilitate with a financial grant.

The cadets and their instructional staff have the will and enthusiasm to continue its development and make it something truly sophisticated. It will become a useful training facility to introduce the young people to the realism of flying operations and aircraft handling.

Soon after the inspection the Squadron's Commanding Officer, Flight Lieutenant Geoff Hobbs-East, let us know that 2433 Squadron came out top of this inspection stage of the national competition and will now go forward to the final stage representing London & the South East. Further news since has put 2433 squadron as one of the top three cadet squadrons in the Air Cadets and a further inspection for the trophy is now awaited. Geoff firmly believes the flying training facility gave them the edge they needed to win through.

I'm sure we wish them every success.



LFB Cadets in front of National Firefighters Memorial & St Pauls

Reflecting back over the last year, everyone at LFB Fire Cadets would all agree that it has been equally exciting as it has been challenging for everyone involved in the programme. We have made some huge leaps forward in terms of the partnerships that we have developed with other agencies and organisations, and the incredible support and sponsorship that we are receiving from our new 'friends' has enriched the programme further and allowed us to develop new ideas and future plans. These collaborations are an integral part of securing the future of LFB Fire Cadets and we are grateful to every one of our partners.

There have been some key milestones over the past year that we are extremely proud of: We now have 12 Fire Cadet units located in different boroughs across London. We have 149 young people aged between 14-17 completing their initial year as LFB Fire Cadets. We have 52 'Graduate' Fire Cadets completing their 2nd or even 3rd year with the programme as peer educators; We have a growing pool of over 100 adult Volunteer Cadet Instructors from within London Fire Brigade and from the local community helping us deliver the programme. We have further developed the 'Graduate Fire Cadet programme' so that our Graduate Cadets can achieve a second BTEC qualification during their time with us. We have an impressive diversity record with 42% of our young people and 27% of our adult volunteers on the programme being female. We are embedding a new Fire Cadet

'Ambassador' role into the Graduate programme at the levels of Assistant Commissioner and Deputy Assistant Commissioner and Group Manager, to support the Top Management Group within London Fire Brigade at prestigious events and be the 'youth voice' for the development of the Fire Cadet programme. With the help of one of our partners CVQO, we have started to develop the 'Volunteer Leader' role, to enable some of our volunteers to lead at their own Cadet units if they want to, and gain an Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) nationally recognised qualification for the role that they perform. 2016 also saw London Fire Brigade celebrating its 150th year supporting and protecting the communities of London. As such, numerous key events have taken place across London to celebrate this milestone, and the Fire Cadets and volunteers have played a huge role in the delivery of these events representing the Brigade fantastically.



For the first time this year one of our original Cadets that joined us aged 15 when the volunteer Fire Cadet programme first started in 2013, has now commenced training to be an LFB Firefighter. Well done to our trailblazer and an amazing young man, Jack Luscombe!

Jess Patten

Deputy Youth Engagement Manager.

London Fire Brigade



Past Master Beryl Jeffery 1927-2017

Members of the Company will be sad to learn that Past Master Beryl Jeffery passed away in St George's Hospital, Tooting, overnight on 16 / 17 June 2017. This was following a fairly short illness. She had been admitted to hospital suffering from pneumonia but unfortunately some complications were later discovered.

Beryl loved the Worshipful Company of Firefighters and often told her son Howard how happy she was to be one of our Members, especially when she became our first Lady Master in 2013. She loved the welcome she always got at our meetings and events. At the time of her passing she was very professionally serving on our Finance Committee.

Beryl came to us via her links with the Wandsworth London Borough for which she had previously served as Mayor. She was the Borough's representative on the London Fire & Civil Defence Authority (LFCDA) for a number of years.

Since her passing Past Master Peter Cowland said that he had received numerous comments

from many members indicating that she was much loved and will be sadly missed by us all. Very few of us would have been aware that she celebrated her 90th Birthday in April this year.

In her time as Master, Beryl enjoyed attending many events on behalf of the Company ranging from the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace to the Lord Mayor's show. She felt privileged to be invited to form part of the Guard of Honour welcoming the then Lord Mayor (Fiona Woolf CBE) on her return to the Mansion House after the procession.

She attended a number of livery dinners and lectures, events at the Mansion House and services at St. Paul's Cathedral, including a very moving service for the opening of the Garden of Remembrance, where she planted a cross on behalf of our Company. She was so proud that the annual City Dinner had raised a considerable sum to go into the new restricted/ designated charitable fund for youth education and training, and she was always grateful for all the volunteers involved in the affairs of the Company, together with the Charitable Trust, contributing to its success.

She enjoyed her Installation Banquet held at Cutlers' hall and especially the opportunity to reward the education work of Operation Florian for firefighting services in developing countries overseas. She loved the photobook which the PR and Marketing Group kindly gave her recording her installation as the first woman Master of the Worshipful Company of Firefighters. We hope it will remind her family now of her wonderful spirit in office.

We hope that this photo of her here will remind you of her wonderful personality and presence with us - may she rest in peace.

**Obituary written by
Past Master Peter Cowland**

MICHAEL (MIKE) JOHN DOHERTY QFSM**1935 - 2016**

Whilst it is always a sad duty to write a few personal words on the passing of a colleague, being asked to pen a few words for his obituary, is a great honour for such a well-respected member of the Company.

My association with Mike goes back to mid-1970 when I first met him at an interview for an appointment to the Headquarters Fire Prevention Branch of the London Fire Brigade (LFB) as a fire prevention officer. Mike was always approachable, provided inspiration and encouragement to any young individual who demonstrated that they wanted to make a career in the fire prevention branch of the LFB. Mike always found time to listen to an individual's request and advice, offering his suggestions and help for the individual to follow. This was evident all through Mike's career up until he retired from the LFB in late September 1989 holding the appointment of Deputy Chief Fire Officer within Brigade Headquarters. For his contribution to the British Fire Service, Mike was awarded the 'Queens Fire Service Medal'.

Our paths crossed many times during our service, each time we met he still showed that warmth and interest in my career followed by an enquiry on me returning to the LFB! Mike was a tall upright individual, when in uniform he was smart and imposing and looked the part of a Professional Fire Service Officer. Even on retirement he maintained that presence. On his retirement he joined the Company of Firefighters taking Livery in 2006. He also became a member of the London Fire Brigade Retired Members Association joining 13 Branch – SW Area & Surrey as he lived in Croydon Surrey.

Prevention Branch of the London Fire Brigade (LFB) as a fire prevention officer. Mike was always approachable, provided inspiration and encouragement to any young individual who demonstrated that they wanted to make a career in the fire prevention branch of the LFB. Mike always found time to listen to an individual's request and advice, offering his suggestions and help for the individual to follow. This was evident all through Mike's career up until he retired from the LFB in late September 1989 holding the appointment of Deputy Chief Fire Officer within Brigade Headquarters. For his contribution to the British Fire Service, Mike was awarded the 'Queens Fire Service Medal'.

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Obituary written by
Liveryman Harry Paviour

MAITRE ANDREW VICARI**1932- 2016**

Liveryman and Artist Andrew Vicari, who created portraits for the Saudi Royal Family, has died at the age of 84.

He began his career as an artist at Neath Grammar School, and went on to study at the Slade School of Fine Art at University College, London (UCL), under the teaching of Lucian Freud.

He was later noticed by the Saudi Royal Family for his work and in 1974, he was appointed as the official painter to the King and Government of Saudi Arabia.

He painted several portraits of the Royal Family in Saudi and in 2001 he sold his collection of 125 paintings of the First Gulf War to Saudi Arabia's Prince Khaled for £17m.

His nephew, Andrew Vaccari, paid tribute to his late uncle. "He will leave a huge hole in our world. But this is also a time for us as a family to reflect on his incredible life," he said.

"He studied at Neath Grammar School and was the youngest person ever to receive a scholarship at the Slade Art School in London. He was very well known for his work in London in the 50s and 60s.

"He has lived all over the world, including France, Monaco and Saudi Arabia, where he became the official painter to the Saudi Royal Family.

"He changed the entire course of art in the Middle East where he has left a real legacy. There are three museums dedicated to his work." Mr Vaccari also spoke of his late uncle's love of his Welsh home. "He was passionate about the place he came from and passionate about being Welsh," he said.

"He really was the most extraordinary individual I have ever known."

"He really was the most extraordinary individual I have ever known."

"He really was the most extraordinary individual I have ever known."

Obituary written by
Andrew Vaccari (nephew)

Meet the Chief

In this our regular spot we look at the Chief Fire Officers within the UK



Chris Strickland, Chief Fire Officer for Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service.

LEADERS are expected to be able to make tough decisions if it's for the good of the organisation, but talking to Chris Strickland, Chief Fire Officer with Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS), it's clear that people are always at the heart of any life-changing decisions he makes. Chris joined Cambridgeshire as Assistant Chief Fire Officer in 2007, having spent 24 years with Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service where he became a firefighter at "eighteen years of age." He spent twelve years riding the pumps – five as a firefighter and seven in the equivalent of today's Crew and Watch Commander roles. Next came six years as a Station Officer, today's Station Commander role, before he was promoted to Group, then Area Commander in 2004.

Chris left Hertfordshire to join CFRS as an Assistant Chief Fire Officer in 2007. He was promoted to Deputy Chief Fire Officer in 2008 before his promotion to Chief Fire Officer in 2016. In addition to his responsibility within CFRS, Chris also chairs the National Fire Chief's Council (NFCC) Sector Resources Committee and is chair of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Resilience Forum.

It's clear from talking to Chris that he has always tried to strike the right balance between

progressing his own career and doing the right thing by others. Take his decision to move to Cambridgeshire. "I was interested in getting to Assistant Chief Fire Officer level. However, the opportunity for progression in Hertfordshire where I was at the time was limited and it was clear it would be some time before anything came up," said Chris. "I was looking around but was wrestling between the needs of my family and my career aspirations. I felt uncomfortable about uprooting my family and wanted to move somewhere which would allow my children to stay in their school and not lose their social networks. So when an ACO position in Cambridgeshire came up I saw that as a job I could apply for and where I could achieve both." Chris and his family looked at moving somewhere in south Cambridgeshire that was within close proximity to his home in Baldock. However, fate lent a hand when the fire authority decided his home location was close enough to Service Headquarters for him to respond to operational incidents when required.

When he joined the Service, economic times were very different to the way they are today. "When I joined the Service back in 2010, it was very different. For a number of years we had been subject to performance assessment and were always looking for ongoing efficiencies but our budget always increased every year. "In 2010 the first Comprehensive Spending Review happened and everything changed. We moved from efficiencies to having to make huge savings from our budget and the whole challenge became about significantly reducing our budget whilst aiming to continue to deliver the best service possible to the community."

Chris says it's important for leaders to be able to make tough decisions but adds: "For me it's never been about status or money. I've always wanted to do the best I can and to work as part of a motivated and high performing team that aims to improve its delivery of service. When you are trying to do that and you necessarily impact people in negative ways it has never felt good to me. Making a decision that means people will lose their job is a terrible thing to do but unfortunately it has been necessary."

He added: “Over time I’ve come to realise that agree with it.” an organisation is not a bunch of processes, Chris’ youngest son, Myles, has followed in his procedures and structures. It’s a living thing footsteps and is a Cambridgeshire firefighter. made of people who come to work every His eldest son Joel is studying for a PhD in day to do the best they can. By focusing on Aeronautical Engineering in Leicester. Chris encouraging and building effective and strong has a third child, ten-year-old Ebrielle, whose working networks throughout an organisation, name comes from the Cornish variant for the and demonstrating every day that people are month of April, the month in which she was highly valued, it is possible for an organisation born. to reach its full potential. This is an ideology that So having got it right by his kids, we asked Chris is now close to my heart and it is something I how he was hoping to get it right by the Service. will pursue for the remainder of my working life.” In other words, what kind of stamp he would “It is important as a senior leader you are leave behind if he left the Service tomorrow. emotionally intelligent and it has been a real “My aim is to stay at the helm and to help refocus for me as Chief to spend more time with guide the organisation through what has been, people on the ground so my decisions are well and will continue to be, challenging times and rounded and informed. It’s about finding ways when I finally retire I am hoping to leave an to fully engage with people and continuously organisation where people enjoy coming to demonstrating you value people is a critical part work and deliver the best possible service to of being a leader. By doing so people are more the community. And that I leave an organisation likely to trust you sufficiently to align with the still striving to improve.” direction you have to take, even if they don’t

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“The job has changed so much in 30 years so ESS is great to **keep me up-to-date** with the industry.”

Paul Thurston, Firefighter,
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service

THE EMERGENCY SERVICES SHOW
HALL 5 | NEC | BIRMINGHAM | 20-21 SEPTEMBER 2017

Photograph © ESS

The Emergency Services Show 2017 – it’s all about **you**

A unique event for everyone who works in the emergency services. Over 400 exhibitors, free CPD-accredited seminars and live product and rescue demonstrations. Hall 5, NEC, Birmingham. Wed 20 – Thu 21 September 2017. Free entry at www.emergencyuk.com.

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Event supported by



COME AND SEE US AT STAND S7



Fire Crew training with the new SRU vehicle

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (BFRS) spreading, specialist animal rescue equipment, is blazing the trail with the launch of their new air and electric power tools, water rescue paths bespoke, state-of-the-art Special Rescue Unit. and low pressure air mats.

Bedfordshire has over the years, found it Group Commander Andy Draper – Technical increasingly called upon to attend a wide and Workshops, said, “It was a proud day in April variety of non-fire rescues known as ‘Special when members of the working group travelled Services’. These include Road Traffic to Guildford to collect the SRU from the John Collisions, transport, industrial and large animal Dennis Coach Works. This has been a real incidents. The Authority recognised that there team effort and product of effective partnership was a need to replace the previous Rescue working. Our team knew through experience Unit with a Specialist Rescue Service (SRU) what we needed and how they wanted it to be specifically designed to deal with a growing and designed. Our partners provided the expertise unpredictable range of incidents. A bespoke to take our requirements and put them into SRU was needed that could be mobilised to this fantastic new vehicle, the latest in this list complicated or complex rescues where the of long serving and reliable vehicles that have equipment normally carried on a Rescue Pump played such an important part in the safety of is not sufficient. people in Bedfordshire.”

The development of the new vehicle was The new SRU took three years from inception undertaken by a Service working group in close to completion and has an expected life span of partnership with John Dennis Coach Builders more than 20 years. and numerous suppliers of technical rescue Chief Fire Officer Paul Fuller CBE is delighted equipment. with the new edition to the Service, he said, “We

The first steps were taken to create the latest in have had a specialist rescue capability for many five generations of Bedfordshire SRU’s which years, this new unit designed by firefighters began in the 1960s with a converted military will enhance that capability and allow us to truck. Like the previous SRU this vehicle help a greater and wider range of people in has been purpose built and is suitable for all communities throughout Bedfordshire.”

of the traditional specialist equipment carried on previous SRUs and the latest state-of-the-art items bought by the Authority’s Technical Department to meet today’s requirements.

Peter Hopkins

PR & Marketing Committee.

These include heavy rescue cutting and Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Grenfell Tower

A tragedy in West London



Photo Credit: REX/Shutterstock

A significant number of people still missing

Forty fire engines and more than 200 firefighters and officers were called to the scene shortly before 1am on Wednesday 14th June.

As this edition goes to press, our thoughts go out to all those whose families have been affected by the terrible fire at Grenfell Tower in West London. Our thoughts and thanks are also with the crews of London Fire Brigade and other local authority fire brigades who came to help tackle one of the worst tower block fires fire crews have experienced in many years.

The cause of the fire and the procedures involved in assuring that this building had the best fire worthiness will be the subject of much scrutiny over the next months. A proper outcome is a major concern for many Londoners and others who live in tower blocks, as well as to firefighters who are called to deal with such events. New buildings of this type have to be fitted with sprinkler systems; retrofitting sprinkler systems into older tower blocks may be worth pursuing.

Water Training

Firefighters' Olympic venue training



Simulating real life conditions at Lee Valley White Water Centre

Cambridgeshire fire-fighters are gaining 'invaluable' water rescue skills at a white-water slalom centre which hosted the canoe slalom events of the London 2012 Olympic Games. Training at the Lee Valley White Water Centre in London uses the white-water slalom course, where fire service instructors can control water flow to create different hydraulic water features similar to those fire-fighters might experience in rivers or in a flooded streets.

Over 200 whole-time fire-fighters from Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS), already trained to wade and swim in water as well as to use an inflatable rescue sled to go out onto the water, will benefit from the training which will continue to the end of this year.

Crews are put through their paces carrying out a number of different scenarios including rescuing a casualty stuck on top of a car roof whilst the water is flowing fast, up and around the windows, as well rescuing a casualty from inside a water-logged car. The course also allows them to practise different swimming and wading techniques, entering the water in different formations depending on the current

and other conditions.

Area Commander Maurice Moore, from CFRS, said: "Having investigated some previous events I am well aware of the dangers involved in water rescue. This improvement in training is a vital step in improving the health and safety of our crews when working in this potentially dangerous environment and I am grateful to the Training Centre for organising this."

Other Fire Services to use the course include Essex, Hertfordshire, London, Bedfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Peter Hopkins

PR & Marketing Committee.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Fire Service is represented in the Lord-Lieutenant's cadets



Kieran pictured with the Lord Lieutenant

The Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet, 17 year old Kieran Stevenson from Sandy, was delighted to be part of the Royal Visit to Bedfordshire by HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on Tuesday 11 April.

Kieran was appointed for a one year term of office in October 2016. Since joining the Bedfordshire Fire Cadets in 2013, he has been active in community work and has achieved the role of junior instructor. He is also working on his Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award and studying

for his A levels.

Kayleigh Jean, the Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service Area Community Safety Officer for Youth, said "We are delighted that the fire service is represented in the Lord-Lieutenant's cadets. Kieran is an excellent ambassador for the service and performs his duties impeccably." Kieran is the third fire cadet to represent the Lord-Lieutenant. This year, the Lord-Lieutenant has four cadets who represent fire, sea, air and armed forces. All four cadets support her on royal visits, honours receptions and civic ceremonies across the county.

HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire said "The decision to include Fire Cadets in my Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet appointments has been a huge success. The three young people who have held the position to date have proved to be confident, capable, reliable and have all gained the respect of the variety of royal, civic, charity and business people with whom they have engaged while supporting me in my role. The Fire Cadet movement has much to offer young people. It gives the opportunity to learn life skills while having a lot of fun!" Chief Fire Officer Paul Fuller said "We are the first Fire and Rescue Service to have a Lord-Lieutenant's cadet and it is a tremendous opportunity for the young person chosen and for relationship building for the Service. We are of course hugely grateful to the Lord-Lieutenant for her ongoing support".

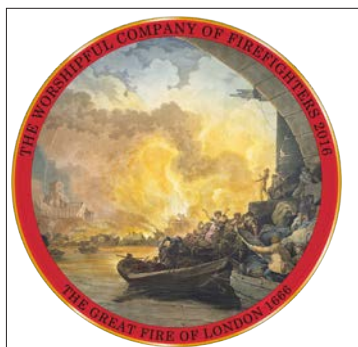
Peter Hopkins

PR & Marketing Committee.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Peter Hopkins is a member of the PR & Marketing Committee and is the main contact between the WCoFF and UK Fire & Rescue Services.

If you would like to contribute an article about your Brigade to the Salamander then please contact us using the email addresses listed on the inside front cover.



8" Coupe Plate

Plate depicting a scene of the Great Fire looking towards St Paul's from beneath London Bridge. The image is a coloured aquatint after a painting by Phillipe-Jacques De Loutherbourg (1740 -1812)

The plates are limited to an edition of 100 with an authentication certificate signed by The Master

£55 Including P&P

Great Fire of London Book

Paperback - £16.66 + P&P

Hardback - £24.99 + P&P

Faux Leatherbound - £166.60 + P&P

All profits from its sale will be donated to the Worshipful Company of Firefighters Charitable Trust.



Wenceslaus Hollar Print

As part of our contribution to the commemoration of the 350th Anniversary of the Great Fire of London, Liveryman Jeanne Brinton commissioned a limited edition print showing two views of the City of London, before and after the Great Fire. The views were drawn by the Czech artist Wenceslaus Hollar (1607 - 1677) and the original is held by the British Museum.

£19.50 Including P&P

First Day Cover Stamps

The Worshipful Company of Firefighters First Day Cover of Great Fire stamps postmarked with a specially commissioned hand stamp which is exclusive to the Worshipful Company of Firefighters.

The covers are limited to an edition of 350 and signed by The Master. The first day of issue was 2nd September 2016. The 2 stamp set: £10 + £4 P&P



**All the items above are available to purchase on our website
shop.firefighterscompany.org**



The Clerk's Musings

The Master and the Company have been involved in many events throughout the year celebrating the 350th Anniversary of the Great Fire of London of 1666, There has even been a new musical piece written to commemorate the great fire. The Master was privileged to hear its debut, and I have a copy of this if any member wishes to hear it.

Our own Fire Lecture departed from its normal format to allow a playlet to be presented, as well as the other joint venture with the Bakers of the full play at a wonderful Dinner at the Bakers that was enjoyed by all.

The Lecture's success this year as well as those of the previous years was down to the hard work and dedication of Past Master Alan Wells, who has seen his brain-child grow into a major contributor not only to the City's annual Calendar but also to our own Charitable Trust. He has decided that it is time for him to relinquish the reins and enjoy a well-deserved rest from this task. The Company owe him a great deal of gratitude and I am sure we all wish him well. The Fire Lecture will be taking place again this year on October 4th (please book early for your tickets via myself), under new management led by a team of members by Graham Maltby, and I am sure that this will continue PM Alan's good work.

Speaking of changes, the Annual Ball has also been revamped, and will this year be in the form of a Friday / Saturday golf break outside of London at a 4* hotel, and again after many years of successful stewardship, PM's Vivian Jones and Bryan Spearman have handed on the baton to Court Assistant Jon Hall.

The onerous task of organising our presence at the Lord Mayor's Show has also been passed on very successfully to Court Assistant Richard Bratton, after many years by PM Peter Cowland, but only after his final swansong as the organiser for the joint float at last year's show for the Bakers and the Firefighters.

This year's major dinners were all successful, with the Installation Banquet being held at the Insurance Hall, with 100+ members and guests dining, and the Massey Shaw at the Honourable Artillery Company in City Road. The Dinner for Liverymen was again oversubscribed and continues to be a great favourite amongst the Liverymen of the Company, and thanks must go to our Constable Tony Skinner for all his hard work in organising this.

Other notable events during the year were the visit to the St. Bride's Church/London Gin Factory/Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese (or as I like to call it the Saints and Sinners event), Common Hall, the Annual Carol Service, the visit to Gatwick Airport and Fire Station, the Thames River Police Museum at Wapping, and my thanks go to all those who organised these on behalf of the Company.

Your Events team have a varied social calendar lined up for this year, so please make every effort to support them, in their endeavours to promote one of our core objective Fellowship. Other Committees such as the Education and Training and Public Relations and Marketing, have also been very hard working behind the scenes to further promote the Company and some exciting developments will be announced in the near future.

I would also like to thank the team that support me, the Beadle, the Sentinels and of course my Assistant Clerk, who have helped me enormously. May I, as always, sign off with the following words: It is a HONOUR to be of SERVICE to you, I thank you for your FELLOWSHIP, and look forward to another year of HARMONY working with you all.

Steve Tamcken
Clerk.

Worshipful Company of Firefighters

Clothed in the Livery

September 16th 2016

Ken Williams
Maurice Hester

November 16th 2016

Chris Drew
Graham Woodhouse

March 17th 2017

Mark Anthony Rist
John Dowsett

June 17th 2017

Kenneth Palen

Admitted to Freedom

September 16th 2016

Barbara Akers
Richard James Lavender

November 16th 2016

Patricia Boswell
Stephen McKensie
David Ramscar
David Smith

March 17th 2017

Robert Attwood
Ben Sargent-Cain
Ian Withey
Dennis Livingstone
Robert Hughes

June 17th 2017

Michael Rollings
Jeff Williams

In Memoriam

Liveryman Michael Doherty
Liveryman Maitre Andrew Vicari
Past Master Beryl Jeffery

Forthcomming Events

JULY

Fri 7th @ 15:15 Common Hall & Re-Dedication

AUGUST

Fri 11th @ 09:00 Visit to Lindisfarne Island
Tue 22nd @ 15:00 Visit to St Bride's Church &
London Gin Factory

SEPTEMBER

Fri 8th @ Company Golf Day
Sun 10th @ 12:30 FMT Int'l Service of
Remembrance & Wreath Laying Ceremony
Wed 20th - 21st Emergency Services Show
Fri 29th @ 18:00 Firefighters Charity Ball

OCTOBER

Wed 4th @ 18:30 The Fire Lecture
Fri 20th @ 18:30 St Florian's Installation Dinner

NOVEMBER

Mon 6th @ 10:00 RBL Garden of Remembrance
Tue 7th @ 18:00 City Dinner

DECEMBER

Fri 15th @ 18:30 Christmas Carol Service

JANUARY

Tue 23rd @ 19:00 Dinner for Liverymen

MARCH

Fri 23rd @ 18:30 Massey Shaw Dinner

All the events above can be viewed on our website where any additional information can be found.

FIRE INDUSTRY CHARITY BALL AND GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER
THE OXFORDSHIRE GOLF CLUB AND SPA,
THAME, OXFORDSHIRE OX9 2PU

The Oxfordshire Golf Club and Spa is perfectly positioned in the rolling hills of the Chilterns. It has been home to prestigious events on the European Tour. A change from our normal evening at the Portman Hotel in London, The Oxfordshire offers something different in the stunning Oxfordshire countryside. The Black Tie Ball is the main event with the usual great entertainment but why not add a quality golf day or relax in the spa for the day?

To book ball, golf, hotel and to enquire about non-golfers' activities and the numerous sponsorship opportunities available.

BOOK EARLY

We have limited numbers (200 for the Ball and 72 for the golf) so book early to avoid disappointment.

The Oxfordshire has reserved all of its rooms for the event and we have set up special rates in a nearby hotel (transport will be arranged).

We will sell out so let us know your requirements ASAP.



Fire Protection
Association



Please contact:

mharrison@thefpa.co.uk

or call 01608 812534