

FireWire

The magazine for Issue 39, September 2019
DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

Cover story:

Multi-agency
exercise hosted
by Honda

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Honda hosts large-scale RTC exercise

A large-scale multi-agency training exercise was hosted by Honda of the UK Manufacturing in Swindon on 22 August.

A simulated road traffic collision was set up on a portion of test track at the South Marston plant. Honda also donated a number of pre-production cars to allow fire crews to gain a better understanding of new vehicle construction.

On-call firefighters from Swindon, Stratton, Cricklade, Royal Wootton Bassett and Malmesbury were joined by two crews from Oxfordshire, as well as police officers and paramedics from the Wiltshire area, supported by officers from Swindon Borough Council. To add to the realism, a number of volunteers acted as casualties and a make-up artist from the Wiltshire School of Beauty & Holistic Therapy made them look badly injured.

GM Glyn Moody said the multi-agency exercise was invaluable: "Vehicle technology and construction is changing all the time, and exercises like this provide a unique opportunity for emergency services to practise potential life-saving techniques."



"The test track at Honda also provides us with a realistic setting, and we are grateful to Honda for their continued support. Thanks also go to Swindon-based EMR Metal Recycling, which supported the exercise by making the vehicles as realistic as possible for the crash scenario."

The event was held during Honda's annual shutdown and this was the second year in a row that the company has collaborated with DWFRS on an exercise of this scale.

FF Matt Williams, from Stratton White Watch, was one of the exercise organisers. He said: "We brought together multiple on-call crews and gave them a highly realistic training scenario, which tested them and also tested the Service's multi-agency working."

"A huge 'thank you' must go to the following for all their support and help: Honda, EMR, Wiltshire School of Beauty & Holistic Therapy, casualty care trainer Ian Godwin, Oxfordshire FRS, Wiltshire Police, Swindon Borough Council, all the volunteers, directing and media staff, Red Watch Control, Corsham on-call for providing fire cover in Swindon during the exercise, and all crews and officers involved."



Sprinkler demonstrations for Poole high-rise residents

The Service is working to support Poole Housing Partnership (PHP) in Project Admiral, a balcony/cladding refurbishment and retrofit sprinkler installation at several high-rise blocks.

The four blocks in Poole's old town – Drake Court, Grenville Court, Nelson Court and Rodney Court – are set to have an extensive £20.25m refurbishment.

Members of the Fire Safety team have assisted with system specification advice, resident engagement meetings and live fire sprinkler demonstrations for residents, to raise awareness and bust some of the myths about sprinklers in domestic dwellings.

PHP have recognised the benefits to resident and firefighter safety and opted to retrofit sprinklers to all their high rise blocks.

Local crews already make use of the enhanced risk information on the Premises Information Plates installed on the buildings, which will be updated as part of the project.

The Service is keen to work with other developers and building owners who are interested in fitting fire sprinkler systems, either as part of a new build or as a retrofit.

It is hoped that we will be able to update the sprinkler demonstration unit in the future but, in the meantime, if crews identify any business or housing provider where officers would like to see the demonstration, they can make contact with the business support team via SM Graham Kewley.



New eLearning developed for health & safety

The Service has developed six new Health & Safety eLearning packages, which reflect learning recommendations from the National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC).

These are:

- Introduction to Health & Safety
- Module 1: Introduction to risk assessment
- Module 2: Roles and responsibilities
- Module 3: Common workplace hazards
- Module 4: Accident reporting and investigation
- Module 5: Measuring performance

The packages you are required to complete will depend on your job role:

- All members of staff and volunteers - Introduction to Health & Safety
- Corporate staff with line management responsibility (Grades D-H) - Introduction to Health & Safety, modules 2, 4 and 5
- CMs, WMs, SMs, GMs and Fire Control - Introduction to Health & Safety, modules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5



All staff need to complete the modules within 12 months, by September 2020. However, a cascade approach is being used for uniformed staff, completing in the following order:

- September – November 2019: Group Managers
- December 2019 – February 2020: Station Managers
- March – May 2020: Watch/Crew Managers

Further information relating to the completion of the eLearning by on-call Watch and Crew Managers will be communicated early in 2020.

Regular reminders will be issued in the Weekly Update regarding the completion of these eLearning packages.

All corporate members of staff and wholetime firefighters need to complete the eLearning individually. However, on-call firefighters can complete the 'Introduction to Health and Safety module' as a watch and this forms part of the September 2019 on-call training programme.

All of the eLearning modules are in Grow ready to be completed, just follow the H&S link in Grow.

If you have any questions about the eLearning content, please contact John Towner, H&S Advisor.



Charity ladder climb

Nearly £1,400 was raised for charity on 31 August, when Chippenham firefighters took on an Everest challenge ladder climb.

Over some five hours, the team climbed the equivalent of the famous 8,848m mountain in Chippenham High Street, with the aim of raising as much money as possible for two good causes – the Fire Fighters Charity and Alabaré.

Alabaré runs a supported housing scheme in Chippenham called Unity House, for people who are homeless, and firefighters have worked with staff there to develop schemes to help their clients.

WM Steve Lodge, who organised the event, said: “I would like to pass on my thanks to everyone who took part in the ladder climb. It was a great success and our hard work paid off with a grand total of £1,380 being raised. The Fire Fighters Charity will be receiving £1,000 and Unity House £380. It was a tough five hours but spirits remained high throughout the whole day and it was worth the pain!”



Role players needed

The incident command team is looking for volunteer role players to support Level 2, 3 and 4 assessments at the Command Suite in Salisbury.

The opportunity is open to both operational and corporate staff, and it would be desirable for volunteers to have a good set of acting skills. This is an area where the command team will provide training, and these are skills which will develop naturally with regular involvement.

Examples of the roles that you may be asked to play include: Police/ Ambulance incident commander, Command Support Team, Level 1 incident commander, Local Authority representative or Responsible Person at the incident.

Role playing is voluntary and cannot be covered with additional payment, but it will expose volunteers to decision-making at a tactical and strategic level. This is a great development opportunity for staff members looking to expand their incident command knowledge and understanding.

If you would like to be involved, please contact SM Dave Slawinski or another member of the Incident Command Team, who will be able to provide you with more details.



Presentation event for Prince's Trust Team

Ten young people have recently completed the Prince's Trust Team programme, and a presentation event was held at Hamworthy fire station on 8 August.

The programme is run by DWFRS, and the celebration event enabled the successful participants to demonstrate to family, friends and distinguished guests what they had achieved over the previous 12 weeks and their hopes for the future.

The group were all awarded a Prince's Trust Team completion certificate by the Lord Lieutenant of Dorset, Angus Campbell.

Each of them has also achieved the Employability, Teamwork and Community Skills Qualification as well as a Level 3 First Aid certificate.

Debbie Harvey, Prince's Trust Team Leader for DWFRS, highlighted the achievements of the group since starting the programme in May: "Team 119 have worked really hard over the past 12 weeks to tackle the challenges that have been placed in front of them.

"They overcame many fears during the residential in Dartmoor, created boardwalks on Upton Heath Country Park to make areas more accessible to the public, and delivered activity sessions for the elderly and a group of young carers."

She added: "One of the biggest challenges the young people face during the course is completing a two week work placement but all ten of the team achieved this and we thank all the local businesses and organisations who gave them the opportunity and supported them through this part of the course."

During the presentation, Tom Knights, one of the Team 119 graduates, said: "I felt nervous in the first few weeks as I didn't know anyone but, as the weeks went by, I've made new friends and my confidence has grown.

"The best part of the course was our week in Dartmoor, where I gave everything a go and learned that I like to be encouraged to do things I wouldn't normally do. I got a great reference from my work experience placement and am now focused on gaining full time employment."

The next Team programme starts on Monday 23 September and will be held at Hamworthy fire station.

If you know someone aged 16-25, who is not in education, employment or training, and would like to gain skills and qualifications to help move them into work, please contact Debbie Harvey on 07500 066134 or email debbie.harvey@dwfire.org.uk



Latest update from the Resilience team

From September we have two SMs undertaking the Service Resilience Manager role, currently Matt Kiddell and Paul Clement.

At the end of the month Matt is returning to Christchurch Blue Watch, but Brad Stevens will be picking up the reins and working with Paul to facilitate the delivery of this busy role.



Brad Stevens



Paul Clement

Paul will continue to oversee business continuity whilst his replacement is sought, supported by Gayle Morris.

With the Brexit deadline of 31 October approaching, the Service has resumed preparations for all possible outcomes.

We will again work in a coordinated way with both Dorset and Wiltshire & Swindon Local Resilience Forums to prepare for, and to help prevent or mitigate, the effects within the Service area that may occur from the UK leaving the European Union, as well as plan to ensure the continuity of our critical activities and the welfare of our staff.

We have set up an 'Impact of No Deal Exiting the EU' Board to identify the potential impact of a No Deal and have started to put plans in place.

At the meeting on 4 September, the Service invoked 'lite' fuel business continuity arrangements and work is underway to start internal planning so that we are prepared should the situation change. This will be closely monitored through Strategic Coordinating Group meetings.

Working with the LRFs, we have a coordinated communications strategy to ensure that staff and public receive key messages. Updates will be provided through CONNECT and the Weekly Update as required.

The Government has established a website with advice on how Brexit might affect EU nationals, students, people intending to travel to the EU after 31 October, and businesses - visit www.gov.uk/brexit for more information.



Paraglider uses app to aid rescue

The rescue of a paraglider from a tree on 13 August highlighted the use of geocoding system What3Words.

The Service was called to Crofton Road, Great Bedwyn by a 25-year-old paraglider who had crashed into a tree and was stuck approx. 40ft up and unable to get down on his own.

Firefighters attended from Marlborough, Pewsey and Ludgershall initially but it was determined that the safest way to rescue the man was to create a winch system, which the technical rescue teams from Trowbridge and Chippenham constructed and put into use.

When he called 999, the man used the What3Words app and Control operators were able to use this to confirm his location.

While What3Words is being actively used by some emergency services, DWFRS – together with our Networked Fire Control Partners in Hampshire and Devon & Somerset – has Advanced Mobile Location (AML).



This is a geo-location tool that is fully integrated with Vision DS (the mobilising system used in Control) and pinpoints a mobile location to within a 30 metre radius.

Because of this integration, the caller's location is available to the Control operator almost immediately.

As a result of this, our system provides accurate location data at the point of call, enabling our Control staff to identify and mobilise the nearest appropriate resources quickly and efficiently.

However, Control will take the What3Words reference if someone gives it during a 999 call, as there is no harm in having the information twice.

What3Words is a mobile app which identifies your location with three dictionary words, the encoding for which is permanently fixed.

It is a useful tool for people to be aware of, as not all emergency services have AML or an equivalent – see www.what3words.com for more information.



Processing donations to Fire Fighters Charity

As you may or may not be aware, any Fire Fighters Charity donations can be received and receipted on acceptance when using Charity donation envelopes.

Please ensure that they are completed fully, especially ticking the box for Gift Aid as this gives the Charity a further 25% of any donation made by a UK tax payer.

Please see the images for guidance in completing the donation envelopes. If you require any supplies of envelopes, e-mail Rich Cowley at Redhill Park. The old, smaller-style donation envelopes can't be used under any circumstances so please destroy them.

Rich will be sending out Charity paying-in books to stations in the South, which will enable you to pay in any donations directly then forward the completed envelope to him at Redhill White Watch.

However, if you wish to send the donation and envelope to him as before, please continue to do so.

Stations in the North already have designated paying-in books and will continue to utilise them as before.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact Rich or Nev Chamberlain. Thanks for your continued and future support for the Fire Fighters Charity. These and future efforts give us help and support in times of need.

ICS Level 1 - initial incident command licence

The way we now assess incident commanders at Level 1 is changing to a new format. As a reminder for operational personnel who have or are required to maintain their initial ICS level 1 qualification, there are now four elements to complete, three of which are assessable:

1) Theory assessment - a requirement to complete both the Level 1 incident command and the JESIP modules and quiz located on Grow, our e-learning platform. The on-line incident command assessment is designed to show underpinning knowledge and understanding of incident command. These will change each time the assessment is completed, as the questions are randomly selected from a question bank. This will cover technical skills, i.e. tabard identification, sectorisation, legislation etc, and non-technical skills, i.e. leadership, communication, decision making etc. The test is open book and there will be an ICS National Operational Guidance Document (NOG) within the online package. The JESIP module is designed to embed the principles for joint working.

2) Attendance on a Level 1 ICS refresher course (one day).

3) Completion of an XVR virtual reality assessment, managing four appliances. The XVR assessment is a computer-based simulated incident enabling you to navigate around a virtual reality environment. This method will provide you with the opportunity to demonstrate your ability to scale up an incident and implement a command structure.

4) A practical one pump assessment. This will be carried out by a command assessor and is a scenario-based exercise either at your station or in the local area, where you and your crew will resolve the incident.

The process across both the north and south of the Service will go live in December 2019, with each element needing to be completed every two years.

We also now have body-worn cameras available so that the initial actions of an incident commander attending an incident or exercise can be recorded and subsequently assessed.

If this is at a one pump incident, it can negate the need to complete a practical assessment and, if it is at a four-pump incident, it can negate the need to do both the XVR and one pump practical assessment. With crews attending incidents on a regular basis, this will hopefully reduce the number of simulated assessments that we need to facilitate.

If you have any questions or would like to obtain a body-worn camera, please contact WM Simon Pearce, another member of the command team or admin at West Moors Training Centre.



Team day held at Moors Valley Country Park

The Operational Training Team had a team development day recently – Anita Nippard reports.

Rather than both training centres and the learning & organisational development teams spending the day in Nadder room at Five Rivers HQ, we took a break from technology and wandered into the woods. Everyone travelled to West Moors, where nearly 40 people were then transported to Moors Valley Country Park as guests of Moors Valley and Forestry England.

There are numerous benefits of being amongst the trees, such as:

- Green spaces being an antidote to a sedentary lifestyle;
- They give you cleaner air to breathe;
- They're natural air conditioners; and
- Being among trees can help reduce stress.

Although the last one was put to the test by some diabolical tasks thought up by SM Dave Smith! Everyone split into six teams and had to navigate around the course. On the way, they had to find coordinates using the new What3Words app (adopted by many emergency services and now available to operational staff on the risk information tablets), solve anagrams and answer questions around their roles.

They also had a casualty to tend to at one point - who has now been nominated for a BAFTA as best supporting actor - and had to help a hitchhiker called Hermione who had been abandoned by her friends Harry and Ron.

There was an air of friendly rivalry and some light-hearted shenanigans, followed by lunch provided by the Moors Valley team.

After lunch, and now back at West Moors Training Centre, Head of Operational Training AM Kathy Collis gave an update followed by a Question Time session whereby anyone was able to pose a question to the management team.

After that, we totted up the scores for each section and the winning team were Pointless; that actually was their team name, so congratulations to them all.

The sun shone, we learned how to use a new location detecting app, how to apply a sling, map reading skills, how to move a petulant hitchhiker and their equipment, who all the members of SLT are, and some great discussions were had under the tree canopies #oneteam #11000steps



Meet the Team - Learning & Organisational Development

We are a newly established team that is working towards delivering the priority 'Supporting and developing our people'. Our team is working on a number of projects and initiatives to make sure that our people are at the centre of everything we do, are well led and have the right approach, knowledge and skills to perform and succeed in their roles.

AM Kathy Collis

Head of Learning & Organisational Development

kathy.collis@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Department leadership and vision
- Strategic Leadership Group Chair
- Incident Command development
- Department budgets and priorities



Mark Bussell

Learning Experience Manager

mark.bussell@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Development Pathways process
- Further education opportunities
- Designing and developing eLearning & development resources
- Work experience



T/GM Jason Moncrieff

Head of Operational Training

jason.moncrieff@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- The delivery of Operational Training
- Management of the training estate
- Chair of the Local Resilience Forum Training and Exercising group
- Operational training projects



SM Jack Nicholson

Development Skills Pathway Manager

jack.nicholson@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Firefighter apprenticeships
- Firefighter development programme
- Final competency assessments
- Trainer Assessor network
- Quality assurance



WM John Powell

Watch Manager - Poole White Watch

john.powell@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Leadership development programme



WM Jo Evans

Development Skills Pathway

joanne.evans@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Firefighter development programme
- Final competency assessments



Meet the Team - Learning & Organisational Development

Felicity Williams

Workforce Development Manager

felicity.williams@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Leadership development
- Leadership Masterclasses
- Supervisory managers development programme
- Corporate staff apprenticeships
- I am a member of the Mental Health Project Team



SM Ant Bholah

ICS Manager

antony.bholah@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Incident Command training
- Incident Command maintenance and development
- Officer training



SM Stu Gillion

Project Manager

stuart.gillion@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Training estates review
- Animal rescue training review
- Marine firefighting review
- Competence assurance audit



Julie Cox

E-learning Developer

julie.cox@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Developing and curating e-learning modules
- Our e-learning system Grow
- Personal Review database
- Digital learning development



Naomi Collins

Learning and Development Co-ordinator

naomi.collins@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Leadership development programme



Chelsea Gilliam

Learning & Organisational Development Administrator

chelsea.gilliam@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- All leadership development administration
- Supporting the Learning & Development team
- Further education support



Thomas Free

QA and Apprenticeship Administrator

thomas.free@dwfire.org.uk

I am responsible for:

- Apprenticeship administration
- Trainer assessor records
- Quality assurance administration



We would like to keep you updated with all the great work that we are doing as a team to support you to learn and develop in your roles by providing you with a wide range of development opportunities. As such, we will keep you updated with any news from the team in Firewire and on CONNECT. Please contact us for any learning and organisational development needs.

Get 150 minutes of exercise into your week

150 minutes a week. Two and a half hours. This is what Government guidelines recommend we achieve in moderate activity each week.

Don't think you can do it? Don't worry, you're not alone. Many of us feel anxiety at the thought of trying to fit in two and half hours of activity into our weeks, so many of us choose to just do nothing.

However, reaching this target of 150 minutes can prevent a range of chronic conditions, including Type II diabetes, coronary heart disease and hypertension.

Abbie Morris, Exercise Therapist with the Fire Fighters Charity, has some tips for giving yourself 150 minutes of 'me time' each week.

Break it up

Any amount of movement is better than none, and you can break up 150 minutes into smaller doses throughout the week. Don't think of it as two and a half hours a week. If you divided it equally, you only need to do just under 22 minutes of moderate activity each day and you'll be within the guidelines for healthy movement.



One small step

The simplest way to get moving is to start walking. It's free, easy and can be done just about anywhere, even on the spot while waiting for the kettle to boil. A brisk walk is best, not too fast so you get out of breath, and not so slow that you don't feel the benefit. Make the most of breaks to your routine, plus spending time outdoors is linked with improved mental wellbeing.

Start the day right

Our internal body clocks are essential for healthy sleep patterns, maintaining our weight, and ensuring our bodies and minds are functioning properly. Not many people want to set the morning alarm any earlier than they have to, but a morning stretch routine, a 20 minute circuit at home or a quick walk around the block could be just what you need to wake you up and get you ready for the day.

Can you work it into your commute?

Could you walk or cycle to work once or twice a week to increase your exercise and reduce your petrol costs? Or could you park further away than you would normally so you have an extra few minutes of walking under your belt?



Get 150 minutes of exercise into your week

Activity around the home

Favourite programme on TV? Why not get some tins of beans or a heavy backpack and start strength training while you're watching? This helps to build muscle and keep bones strong, while managing body fat. And don't skip out on taking the stairs, as it's a great, easy way to build lower limb strength. Day-to-day moderate exercise doesn't only mean getting your trainers on and working out. Pushing a lawn mower, dusting, painting/decorating, weeding, even ironing all contribute towards your 150 minutes.

Involve the family

Children love to get involved, especially if you make it a project. They need exercise as well, to help develop healthy strong bodies. Why not make a chart for the whole family, using stickers to document who's met their target? Got dinner in the oven and a spare 20 minutes? Stick on a YouTube exercise video and get the whole family involved.

Stand instead of sit

Are there times during the day where you can stand up, rather than sit down? If you work at a computer, could you make a standing desk for part of the day? Or if you're on a conference call, why not go for a walk outside while you do it? Research shows walking can aid creative thinking, especially if you allow yourself to switch off for a few minutes and just enjoy the activity.



Technology is your friend

It doesn't work for everyone, but many people swear by smart bands or watches that remind them to move. Anything that prompts you to get up and get moving is a great weapon in the fight against inactivity.

Recognise and celebrate progress

Set yourself a challenge to see how many times you can do something, such as squats, press-ups, lunges or burpees. Over the course of a week, push yourself to see if you can get more done. Keep a record so you can see your progress, and celebrate milestones. Getting a friend or family member involved can increase your accountability as well, making you more likely to keep going. A little healthy competition is always the perfect motivator.

However you choose to spend your 150 minutes, make sure you enjoy them and make sure you're consistent. Before you know it, you'll start to see the benefits. Good luck!

- If you have a chronic condition or disability, talk with your healthcare provider about what types and amounts of physical activity are right for you before making too many changes.



What's IT all about?

The ICT Trainers, Lea Morris and Helen Bravery, are available to help with a variety of ICT training needs. What support can you expect from them? Here's their update:

1:1 Training

We are often asked to support individuals or teams with ICT training, either in person or via an email or phone call. These requests can be simple, ad-hoc requests, covering topics such as how to do a formula in Excel, or changing the formatting in a Word document.

If your query is a bit more in-depth or you have a variety of training needs, you can book an individual session either via our [booking system](#) or by contacting the ICT Trainers.

Courses

We offer a variety of training courses covering all of the Microsoft Office applications (for example Word, Excel, PowerPoint, One Note, Forms, Teams meetings). A list of our available courses and locations can be found on our online booking system [BookIT](#) or by contacting the ICT Trainers.

Bespoke course

If our standard courses aren't quite what you're looking for or you want something specific for your team, we can offer a bespoke course. The ICT Trainers are happy to come to your location or station, so please contact us with your training requirements.

Consultancy

You may have a project or piece of work where you require some specific help in finding out the best approach or software to use. The ICT Trainers can help you in using all of the Office 365 applications.

Migrating data from server files to Office 365

Over the course of the next year, the ICT Trainers, along with Bekki Bacon, will be coming round to talk to all teams and departments about moving their documents into Office 365 before the planned removal of the network drives. This will ensure that the migration is planned, and that you have a chance to review your documentation and choose the storage application that is right for your team.

You will be contacted over the coming weeks or months. If you feel you need assistance or guidance now, contact Bekki, Lea or Helen who will check when you have been scheduled and may be able to bring you forward on the plan.

Some departments have set their own Team sites up but are not confident they are getting the best from them – speak to the trainers, who can come along to either a team meeting or a specific session to review what you are using and help you get the best from your site, as Office 365 is evolving all the time.

Contact us

Lea Morris – 01722 691561

lea.morris@dwfire.org.uk

Helen Bravery - 01722 691560

helen.bravery@dwfire.org.uk



Good day at Swindon Pride

Crews from Swindon, Stratton and Westlea were among staff from across the Service that attended our final Pride event of the summer in Swindon on Saturday 10 August.

Unfortunately, there wasn't the sunshine that we were lucky enough to have for the previous Pride events this year, but this didn't stop the crowds from lining the streets and enjoying themselves.

Dave Edwards, Chair of our LGBT FirePride Network, said: "I was very pleased with the attendance from all crews, staff and volunteers who have attended the Pride events across the summer. It is great to see so many people attending and supporting our Firepride network and DWFRS at these events, demonstrating to our community that we support everyone regardless of race, religion or sexual orientation. We are here to support all of our people and if you would like to join or support the Network as an ally, please email firepride@dwfire.org.uk"

Unfortunately, Dorchester Pride - which had been scheduled for the August bank holiday weekend - had to be cancelled; we are awaiting the revised date and will publish this when available.



Ginny's charity work

Staff counsellor Ginny Dobson has been on leave since 6 September, and will be returning to work on Monday 7 October.



The purpose of her leave is to return to the Kurdistan region to continue working at the Khanke IDP displacement camp, where 16,000 Yezidis - all from Shingal (Sinjar) - live in miserable tented conditions.

You may recall that Ginny took an extended period of unpaid leave in 2017, when she first travelled to Kurdistan to use her skills and expertise to help many young Yezidi women and children deal with their trauma.

The purpose of her return and current fundraising is to provide training packs for 30 Yezidi helpers, to include MP3 players, Yezidi music, relaxation scripts and support materials, Yezidi stories of their culture in their Kurmanji dialect, essential oils, art materials, stress balls and Guatemalan worry figures.

The aim is to empower the women, to help with sleep, and weaving in trauma healing strategies from neuroscience with the strengths of the Yezidi culture, music, dance, art.

If you would like to make a donation to Ginny's work, visit her [JustGiving page](#).

While Ginny is away, any staff member requiring access to the counselling provision must contact Workout Solutions in the first instance. Contact details can be found [on CONNECT](#).

Entries open for road race

This year's Preston 10 Mile Road Race is also incorporating the National Fire Service 10 Mile Road Championships and entry is now open.

The event is being held at Hutton Grammar School, Preston on 17 November, with a 10am start, and it's the 38th year that it has been held by Preston Harriers.

The race is chip timed, and mementos, medals and spot prizes will be available.

Entry is via www.prestonharriers.co.uk – the advance booking fee is £17 for affiliated runners and £19 for unaffiliated runners; this increases to £19 and £21 for on-the-day bookings and these are subject to availability.

For more information on national fire service sporting events and competitions, visit the Fire Sport UK website at www.firesportuk.com



Photo of the month



Every month we choose our favourite photo taken by a member of staff. FF Carl Deacon of Red Watch Redhill Park wins this month with his photo of Westbourne's new ALP at a fire on East Undercliff Prom, Bournemouth.

Why we like this photo: I wanted to show you how a photo can be improved by repositioning and zooming in. Although the insert has great comedic value (along with some free advertising!), it's not really appropriate

when associated with an incident that can affect local businesses or the community. Carl would have taken a better photo if using a digital camera, as the image quality isn't great when zooming on your phone, but you have to work with what you've got.



Think you can do better? Then send your photos to Max (max.furneaux@dwfire.org.uk) or Tom (thomas.dryden-kelsey@dwfire.org.uk) remembering to include a brief description to be in with a chance of being next month's winner.

Updates from the Operational Effectiveness Database

Guidance for Managers and Action Owners from the OED

Following feedback from OED Update and Refresher Training Sessions, the OED Team have put together guidance covering what is expected of managers and those responding to Actions. We are keen to ensure that those taking the time to raise a Notification are receiving a timely, considered and consistent response.

Operational Exercises

Please ensure that all Exercise Planning Reports (OG025) are emailed to operationaleffectiveness@dwfire.org.uk in advance of the planned exercise. This will ensure that the information can be populated onto the OED ready for any identified learning points and/or notable practice to be recorded. Please raise this information via a Notification, selecting Exercise as the Reason for Notification.

Hot Debrief Forms

Please could all operational personnel continue to complete Hot Debrief Forms following incidents where learning points are identified and/or to highlight notable practice.

Operational Assurance Feedback

- Body Retrieval - Good liaison with other agencies, with due consideration given to members of public and the deceased.
- RTC Persons Trapped Large Vehicle - Excellent use of simultaneous activity. Both the primary and secondary plan for extrication were executed at the same time, meaning the casualty was rescued in the most effective manner. Specifics were removal of the passenger door then rotation of driver to extricate sideways as driver's door was so badly damaged, the length of time to remove it would cause issues for the casualty. Prioritised the passenger door, but kept resources working on driver door, which released first. **OA-BCB2**
- Fire Retail/Public Assembly - Crews worked well, particularly in the early stages when windy conditions caused issues. Good consideration given to LPG cylinders and discussions between Incident Commander and other managers.
- Fire Commercial/Industrial - Relatively small incident which was dealt with in a controlled way with good liaison between ops crews and site staff. Safe and pragmatic use of Service hook lift to detach compactor unit and extinguish small fire. Environmental considerations and safe systems of work considered. Incident downsized at appropriate time based on information gathering and risk assessment.
- Rescue of Large Animals From Water - Good use of existing skills including wading/water safety, and wholetime animal rescue supervisor on on-call crew. Safe and effective resolution.

Equipment Review Group - July meeting update

- Recommended that decision to remove disc cutters from certain appliances is reviewed by TRCG, suitable training is re-established, and disc cutters re-introduced. **N-B34A, N-B4F2**
- Approval for Encapsulated Medical Blankets to be distributed to Poole, Trowbridge, Westlea and the Honda Exercise for feedback. **N-9012**
- Approval for trial of DeCon Wipes alongside Hero Wipes at Training Centres as part of the Clean Cab Project. **N-7D06, NB482**

There are two open seats available per meeting, if you would like to attend please contact Lucrezia Slinn. Future ERG dates are Tuesday 8 October 1000-1230, Wednesday 27 November 1000-1230, Thursday 19 December 1000-1230.

ICT top tip - linking data in Excel spreadsheets

This Top Tip is about Excel, following a few recent enquiries the ICT Trainers have received about how to link data from one worksheet to another within a spreadsheet, or even from one spreadsheet to another.

This is very useful function if you wish to update a summary sheet, or use it to update another Excel file with data which can then perform recalculations using the linked data.

Here's how to link cells between tabs, and also Excel spreadsheets - before you begin, have the destination worksheet and all source worksheets open in the same Excel window.

Method one

- In the destination worksheet, click in the cell that will contain the link formula and type an equal sign = (don't press Enter).
- Go to the source worksheet, click in the cell that contains the source data (squiggly lines will now surround it), and press "Enter".
- Excel returns you to the destination worksheet and the linked data displays.

Any changes made to the source cell will then automatically update the destination cell. This same process can be used across as many sheets as you wish to link any cells.



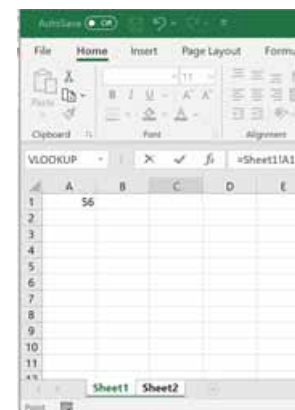
Method two

- In the source worksheet, select the source data cell and click the Copy button on the Home tab (or press Ctrl+C, or right-click and Copy.)
- On the destination spreadsheet, click the cell where you want the link. Then, on the Home tab, click the arrow below Paste and click Paste Special, then select Paste Link Link (or click Paste Special from the right-click menu.)
- Return to the source worksheet and press ESC to remove the animated border.

Any changes made to the source cell will then automatically update the destination cell.

To link a range of cells, select the cells and click Copy. In the destination sheet, click the cell where the upper-left cell of the range should be located and click Paste Link.

The contents of the cells in the range will be copied to the destination worksheet. Each cell in the range will contain its own link formula which references the corresponding cell in the source worksheet.



Election cycle consultation in Swindon

Swindon Borough Council is consulting on a potential change to its election cycle, with the option to move away from the current 'by thirds' election model to a 'whole council' model instead.

Local residents are being encouraged to voice their preference between the two proposed models via a postal consultation, which runs from 16 September until 25 October.

The current election cycle used by the Council currently takes place in 'thirds'. In this model, councillors are elected for a term of four years, with one third being elected for three consecutive years which is then followed by a fourth year when there are no elections.

The proposed alternative model, 'whole council elections', would mean that all seats on the Council will be elected at the same time, once every four years.

The biggest difference with 'whole council elections' is that there would be no borough elections between the four-yearly elections apart from by-elections, which would be triggered when an elected borough councillor does not complete their four-year term.



As part of the consultation, every household in the borough will receive an envelope through the door that will contain a letter explaining the consultation along with an explanatory leaflet and a pre-paid envelope to return their opinion on the potential change.

The letters will be delivered over a period of a week starting from 16 September.

All residents who currently meet the criteria to vote in a local election will be asked to take part in the consultation.

It will be run independently by election specialists Electoral Reform Services, who will collate the responses – their feedback will then be considered by councillors at an Extraordinary Council Meeting on 21 November.

For more information, visit www.swindon.gov.uk



Get ready for Stoptober

Stoptober, the 28 day stop smoking campaign from Public Health England, will be back in October 2019.

Stoptober has driven over one million quit attempts to date and is the biggest mass quit attempt in the country. It is based on research that shows that, if you can stop smoking for 28 days, you are five times more likely to stay smokefree for good.

There are lots of ways to quit, and Stoptober can help people choose what works for them. The campaign offers a range of free support to help people on their quitting journey, including an app, daily emails, Facebook Messenger and lots of encouragement from the Stoptober online community on Facebook. In addition, people can get expert face-to-face advice from local stop smoking services.

Those who use stop smoking aids and who get face-to-face support from their local stop smoking service are up to four times more likely to quit successfully.

For more information and guidance, visit www.nhs.uk/oneyou/for-your-body/quit-smoking/stoptober



Charity golf day

The Wiltshire Hotel at Vastern, near Royal Wootton Bassett, is hosting a corporate golf day on 25 September in aid of Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Try your luck against the resident team, meet the new golf pro, be in with a chance of taking home the trophy, and enjoy the prize-giving buffet after the tournament.

Entry is £10 per person, with all proceeds to the Air Ambulance – there are only two places available to DWFRS, so booking is on a first come first served basis.

To register, call 01793 849999 or email dscurfield@the-wiltshire.co.uk



Fire engine pull postponed

Further to the article in last month's FireWire, the difficult decision has been made to postpone the fire engine pull in memory of Linzi Holt until Spring next year.

While there is masses of enthusiasm for the fundraiser, the logistics are trickier so, after much deliberation, the organisers feel that the delay is the best way forward.

Further updates will be provided once a new date is agreed, and everyone who volunteered to help has been contacted directly.

Thanks to everyone for their support to date - and watch this space!

Managing multi-agency or major incidents

Recognising that an incident will involve working with other emergency services and/or other responder agencies is very important. The earlier that other responder agencies are notified of the incident, the sooner joint working arrangements can be agreed and put into place.

With this in mind, it is important that commanders recognise when a 'multi-agency' incident or 'major incident' is in progress.

In order to help all agencies gather initial information about an incident in a consistent manner, a common approach is recommended. The 'M/ETHANE' model brings structure and clarity to the initial stages of managing any multi-agency or major incident.

This message may be sent in the first instance or as a follow up to a fire specific informative message. Providing a M/ETHANE message will support the deployment of operational structures, resources and protocols to be put in place.

M - Major incident declared?
E - Exact location
T - Type of incident
H - Hazards present or suspected
A - Access, routes that are safe to use
N - Number, type, severity of casualties involved
E - Emergency services present and those required

M	MAJOR INCIDENT	Has a major incident or emergency been declared? (Yes / No, if yes, then complete ETHANE message)	Include the date and time of any declaration.
E	EXACT LOCATION	What is the exact location or geographical area of the incident?	Be as accurate as possible, using a system that will be understood by all responders.
T	TYPE OF INCIDENT	What kind of incident is it?	For example: flooding, fire, attack, vehicle or structure collapse.
H	HAZARDS	What hazards or potential hazards can be identified?	Consider the likelihood of a hazard and the potential severity of any impact.
A	ACCESS	What are the best routes for access and egress?	Provide information on necessary routes, and any potential obstacles that may be in the way to ensure the safety of all personnel.
N	NUMBER OF CASUALTIES	How many casualties are there, and what condition are they in?	Use an agreed classification system such as P, V, C, D, and dead.
E	EMERGENCY SERVICES	Which, and how many, emergency services are present and what resources are required or are already in place?	Consider whether the assets of other emergency services, such as fire, police, or ambulance, need to be requested.

An informative message giving a fuller picture of a Primary Property Fire must be sent at the earliest opportunity utilising the acronym HAULERT, outlined below:

- Incident Commander
- Correct address in full including change of address, if required
- **H** Height of the building (the number of floors)
- **A** Approximate area of the building in metres (frontage and depth)
- **U** Use of the building, or if it is well known, e.g. the Town Hall
- **L** Location of the fire in the building, indicating the size of the fire and its effects
- **E** Equipment that is being used
- **R** Rescues and casualty details
- **T** Tactical mode and rationale.

Further information about joint working can be found on the JESIP website – www.jesip.org.uk – or in the regular newsletters issued by the JESIP team. [Click here for the most recent edition.](#)



Mayor visits fire station

The Mayor of Swindon, Cllr Kevin Parry, visited Red Watch at Swindon fire station on 3 August along with his wife Maureen.

Cllr Parry had a packed schedule that day with three other events but managed two hours at the station.

GM Glyn Moody gave a presentation of the work the Service does across the communities of Dorset and Wiltshire, and discussed the various projects run locally such as Safe Drive Stay Alive, Salamander and the work being carried out regarding Safe & Well visits.

In amongst fire calls, Red Watch were able to give the Mayor an opportunity to experience the new aerial ladder platform and he and the Mayoress were also given a tour of the fire station.

Cllr Parry is now looking forward to the Swindon Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshows being held later this month.



Powerlifting championships

The Military, Police, Fire (MPF) World Powerlifting Championships 2019 are being held on Saturday 7 December at the Brandon Leisure Centre in Suffolk.

There is no qualification required for this event, but participants must be a member of the British Drug Free Powerlifting Association (BDFPA) or another World Drug Free Powerlifting Federation (WDFPF) nation.

For more details or the entry form visit www.bdfpa.co.uk or contact FF Aishlen Taylor at Ludgershall.



Get involved in FireWire

FireWire is the monthly magazine for staff at Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service.

We want your stories, sports successes, fundraisers and charity events - so please email louise.knox@dwfire.org.uk by the end of each month for inclusion in the following month's publication.

Any queries, give Louise a call on 01722 691086 or 07841 951111.

