

TYNE AND WEAR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

"THE OLD HAND"

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR RETIRED MEMBERS JUNE 2009 (ISSUE 25) - FUNDED BY THE SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB



Tom Capeling (46) has been appointed as the new A.C.O, and took over the reins from Dave Simpson at the end of May.

Tom joined Tyne & Wear Fire Service from the Royal Navy in 1988, and after initial training at the training school at Station Kilo, where the Commandant, Jeff Usher, Stn/O George Herbert, Sub/O's George Curry, Dusty Ashman, Billy West and Ian Youll, always ensured all recruits were given a thorough grounding in Fire Service Procedure. Tom's first posting was to Delta B/W under the watchful eyes of Stn/O Colin Fisher, J/O's Carl Latimer, Andy Kewbank, and was taken under the wing of Old Hand James Brayson, other postings included Oscar G/W, and Mike B/W, before his appointment at BTC as a Sub/O Instructor, rising to Commandant, after various postings at Service HQ, Tom became Area Manager responsible for Corporate Support, the post he now leaves to take over as A.C.O.

E-Mail Contact List:

A very good response to my request for e-mail addresses to build up a group contact list. Amazingly there are still people who have not responded, I say amazingly because two of the people not to respond actually contacted me ages ago suggesting we had a contact list. Don't worry; the list won't be used by Dr Douglas to call you in. **YOUR PENSIONS ARE SAFE!**

To hear about retirement functions, funerals, trips etc and to be added to the contact list e-mail ASAP – stuart.thompson@twfire.gov.uk

Hadrian Hike Challenge Walk

Saturday 4th July

25 miles or 14 miles

It's that time of year again and we would like to remind you of this years Hadrian Hike Challenge Walk. Start and finish at the Twice Brewed Inn. Last year was well attended and we would like to invite old friend's and new to the event. Entry forms are available from Roy Lewis 0191 444 1152 or visit the website:

www.hadrianhikechallengewalk.piczo.com

Durham Miners Gala

FBU General Secretary Matt Wrack is a guest speaker at this years Durham Miners Gala in July. Local FBU members, together with those from further afield intend to take part in the traditional festivities, all Out of Trade members and ex members and their families are invited to join us. Details of where to meet will be made available nearer the date. For further information contact Andy Noble or Dave Turner on 0191 444 1510.

CAR DRAW MARCH 2009

| Prize | Winning Number | Name | Location | Brigade No | Amount |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|----------|------------|--------|
| 1 st | 3059 | T. Marshall | Retired | | £ 8000 |
| 2 nd | 4398 | P. Harbottle | Sth Div | 3180 | £ 2000 |
| 3 rd | 3531 | T. Kirtley | Sth Div | 7624 | £ 1000 |
| 4 th | 3696 | F. Van Enk | Control | 1710 | £ 1000 |
| 5 th | 575 | K. Carruthers | G | 3891 | £ 500 |
| 6 th | 3492 | D. Kirby | BTC | 3691 | £ 500 |
| 7 th | 1746 | V. Parnaby | SHQ | 7518 | £ 400 |
| 8 th | 1703 | T. Barnes | Retired | | £ 300 |
| 9 th | 1509 | C. Smith | Retired | | £ 300 |
| 10 th | 1416 | L. Logan | SHQ | 3896 | £ 200 |
| 11 th | 4365 | S. Barnett | SHQ | 7329 | £ 200 |
| 12 th | 673 | P. Scott | Retired | | £ 200 |
| 13 th | 1030 | D. Young | Retired | | £ 200 |
| 14 th | 3126 | B. Waugh | Retired | | £ 200 |
| 15 th | 2910 | S. Holland | E | 1597 | £ 200 |
| 16 th | 293 | D. Turton | SHQ | 30460 | £ 200 |
| 17 th | 946 | S. Hall | T | 4073 | £ 200 |
| 18 th | 2082 | D. Rochester | Retired | | £ 200 |
| 19 th | 4550 | G. Smailes | Y | 3830 | £ 200 |
| 20 th | 4419 | A. Beadsmore | V | 3757 | £ 200 |

CAR DRAW MAY 2009

| Prize | Winning Number | Name | Location | Brigade No | Amount |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|----------|------------|--------|
| 1 st | 2257 | G. Hurst | G | 3384 | £8000 |
| 2 nd | 2199 | D. Oguona | K | 4045 | £2000 |
| 3 rd | 964 | C. Jeffrey | Retired | 80666 | £1000 |
| 4 th | 4334 | B. McSherry | G | 3707 | £1000 |
| 5 th | 1575 | J. McKane | C | 3762 | £500 |
| 6 th | 3158 | J. Pearson | TSC | 7180 | £500 |
| 7 th | 269 | R. Blair | Retired | 80263 | £400 |
| 8 th | 1077 | J. McMullen | Retired | 56228 | £300 |
| 9 th | 2375 | J. Coxon | Y | 3401 | £300 |
| 10 th | 3577 | D. Shiel | Retired | 30660 | £200 |
| 11 th | 1340 | F. Palmer | Retired | 80167 | £200 |
| 12 th | 2399 | C. Stewart | T | 7522 | £200 |
| 13 th | 3666 | D. Gibb | Retired | 657 | £200 |
| 14 th | 2470 | G. Oliver | A | 3394 | £200 |
| 15 th | 2356 | G. Smith | Retired | 44125 | £200 |
| 16 th | 1636 | T. Williams | Retired | 45172 | £200 |
| 17 th | 4799 | Y. Jeffers | S | 8321 | £200 |
| 18 th | 2298 | A. Perkins | Retired | 41396 | £200 |
| 19 th | 478 | N. Williamson | Retired | 12202 | £200 |
| 20 th | 280 | R. Walton | Retired | 447 | £200 |

RETIRED MEMBERS JUST KEEP ON WINNING THE CAR DRAW.

Congratulations and many thanks to Tommy Marshall and Tommy Barnes who both made donations to the Firefighters Charity after their wins. Why not increase your numbers (50p per number) and stand a better chance of winning.

Contact Peter Stronach on 0191 444 1560, or Lindsey Davidson on 0191 444 1558

RECENT RETIREMENTS

| Name | Location | Wef |
|------------------|-------------|----------|
| Colin Powell | Sth Div | 08.03.09 |
| Neil Barnes | SHQ | 08.03.09 |
| Ian Barnfather | A.G.D.C | 16.03.09 |
| Vic Birch | Victor B/W | 20.03.09 |
| Alan Usher | Charlie B/W | 25.03.09 |
| Anne Atkinson | Finance | 29.03.09 |
| Trevor Ion | Charlie W/W | 31.03.09 |
| Lawrence Stanley | Whiskey B/W | 31.03.09 |
| Paul McMaster | Alpha G/W | 01.04.09 |
| Keith McDine | Foxtrot | 20.04.09 |
| Bill Harris | SHQ | 23.04.09 |
| Ken Pringle | SHQ | 30.04.09 |
| Dorothy McKinnon | SHQ | 10.05.09 |
| Dave Simpson | SHQ | 17.05.09 |

Best Wishes to all of the above and may you all have a long and happy retirement.

“One of the good things about getting older is you find you’re more interesting than most of the people you meet”
“ Lee Marvin”

Thanks to Nev Martin, Colin Powell, Ray Finn, Keith McDine, Paul McMaster, Dave Simpson, Dorothy McKinnon and Anne Atkinson, who have all made a generous donation to the Firefighters Charity on the occasion of their retirement.

Thanks also to long retired Dave Garrett who also gave a donation to the Charity in recognition of the continuing work done by our Charity, particularly for retired members

Through the medium of “The Old Hand” Neil Taylor, Vic Birch and Nev Martin would like to thank all personnel who attended their recent retirement nights and a special thanks for all gifts, and well wishes for the future.

FORTHCOMING RETIREMENTS

| NAME | LOCATION | WEF |
|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Brian Proctor | F R/W | 06.06.09 |
| Michael Wood | G R/W | 16.06.09 |
| Colin Whitfield | K B/W | 18.08.09 |

Retirement Function

Brian Proctor, Foxtrot Red Watch, Quayside Bar, Newcastle, Thurs 11th June, 1830 hrs.

The following would be delighted to hear from anyone who remembers or worked with them and have requested their details be published

James Herron, Fossway, Newburn, West Denton 1970-1990.
jamesherron1@btinternet.com.

Keith Broderick no 1370 J W/W 1976 – 2001. Now living in Turkey. broddas@gmail.com

Geoff Cutting ex Tyne and Wear & Durham County.
geoff.cutting@talktalk.net.

George Curry now living in Cotswolds.
geocurry@yahoo.com

Reunion of Initial Recruits Course

Those of you now retired who attended the recruit’s course at Hebburn on 2 – Jan – 1979, and went through blood, sweat and tears to have the privilege of serving as Firefighters are invited by Jimmy Flynn and Peter Nelson to a reunion in the Old George, Bigg Market, Newcastle, on Thursday 11th June at 1900 hrs. Peter or Jimmy can be contacted on 0191 444 1701

I met Dave Parnaby recently. We were talking about the old points system of kit issue. Do you remember 770 points to use and not misuse? There were those who would try for one epaulette if it meant using that last point, and although he says he never misused the system, after eight years of retirement, he is now down to his last half pair of black fire brigade socks. He was telling me how the financial crisis is hitting everyone very hard and being on a pension if anyone can see their way to helping out a pensioner, they might want to send one sock (to make up a pair) to him at his Tuscany Villa. Also the issued leather belts were of poor quality. The last six of his are shrinking. Although they all fitted him whilst he was still in the job, they are all down to the last notch hole. He says he would have ordered larger before he retired if he had known.

On a similar theme Tony Strong (Stores Manager) was cleaning out his old files and came across the following memo from Stewart Melrose:

**They arrived today – I am delighted
 I thought my order had been blighted
 14 months only I have waited
 and the size was clearly stated
 I’ve threatened, begged and even pleaded
 You know the trousers were badly needed
 I’m not impatient – don’t get me wrong
 How could I be with Tony Strong?
 The parcel came – I could hardly wait
 It certainly arrived – 13 month late
 The moral is don’t despair
 Like B.R. – stores get them there!
 Now I feel an absolute twit
 The blasted things don’t even fit
 I’ll diet and exercise – it’s a sinch
 I’m bound to loose the extra inch
 No more wearing thin trousers and feeling blue
 I’m delighted and warm – Thanks to you**

NARF Meetings

We look forward to meeting with our existing members and welcome new members. Why not come along and find out what your former colleagues are doing now and catch up on the gossip.

Sunderland & So Shields

Stn M Social Club
 1930 hrs
 Tues 7 July 09
 Tues 6 Oct 09
 Tues 5 Jan 10

Tynemouth & District Costal Branch

Stn J 1930 hrs
 Wed 27 May 09
 Wed 26 Aug 09
 Wed 25 Nov 09

Newcastle Branch

Stn A 1900 hrs
 Tues 19th May 09
 Tues 18th Aug 09
 Tues 17th Nov 09

OBITUARY

It is with great regret that we report the following obituaries:

| NAME | LOCATION | D.O.D | AGE |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| J. Stirling | Ex Tango | 6 th March | 79 Years |
| B. Hobson | Ex N/C & G/Head | 7 th May | 70 Years |

Sport

Cricket: Inter-Station 6 a side, Felling cricket club, Thurs 11th June 10am. We still need a retired member’s team. Contact Colin Powell 07976697873, spectators more than welcome.

Football: A sad time for North East Football with both Newcastle and Middlesbrough trading punches with the Scunthorpes and Doncasters in the lower divisions next season. Thankfully Sunderland A.F.C will still be proudly flying the flag for the North East in the **PREMIERSHIP!**