

Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Area Board Report for December 2018 and January 2019

Community Engagement

The Fire Service continue to offer Safe & Well visits to residents and if you or someone you know is in need a working smoke alarm to be fitted or needs some fire safety advice in the home or are just worried about what to do in an emergency then you can contact us at; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safe-and-well-visits/>

We will arrange for one of our trained advisors or fire crews to pop round and discuss your requirements and needs, give you some top tips for fire safety within the home and if you meet our criteria for free smoke alarm installation we will also do that during the visit.

Cricklade and Royal Wootton Bassett Fire Stations have proactive Twitter and Facebook accounts and I would encourage everyone to follow the stations by searching for Cricklade or Royal Wootton Bassett fire station on Twitter or Facebook. The pages are updated to show incidents the stations have attended, training sessions and community events which the crews will be attending.

During December you will have seen your crews out on the High Street in Royal Wootton Bassett for the lights switch on and raising money for the Firefighters Charity. In Cricklade the crews have been busy organising numerous fundraising events including the well supported bingo night. Over the past twelve months the crew of Cricklade Fire Station have raised in excess of £2250 for the charity which is a fantastic effort by the crew and our thanks go to everyone who has supported them over the past year.

Reducing your risk of fire

At this time of year we see an increase in fires involving chimneys. Chimney fires can develop into roof fires in the right conditions with devastating effects. This is especially true with thatched roof properties.

To reduce your risk of a chimney fire we recommend:

- Ensuring any works carried out are by a registered professional
- Sweep your chimney at least twice a year – in autumn and early spring
- Keep your chimney in good working order, for example by fitting a bird guard to prevent birds nesting in the flue.

Chimneys should be swept :

- At least once a year when using smokeless fuels or bituminous coal
- Every three months when burning wood
- Once a year when using oil or gas.



When your fire is alight, check the loft space occasionally to make sure no smoke is leaking into the roof space from cracked joints or defective brickwork.

For more chimney fire safety visit:

<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safety/safety-at-home/chimney-safety>

For more information on Thatch fire safety visit:

<http://www.dwfire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/DWFire-Thatched-Living.pdf>

Test your smoke alarm – we are running a #Testit Tuesday campaign to remind people to check their smoke alarms every Tuesday. It takes seconds to push the button and make sure this vital piece of kit is working.

Response

Total Emergency Calls for Cricklade Fire station; 22nd November 2018 – 9th Jan 2019.

Category	Callsign	Total Incidents
False Alarm	52P1	2
Fire	52P1	3
Other	52P1	3
Special Service	52P1	2
Medical Response	52V1	0
Total		10

Other – This can be a movement to another fire station to provide fire cover during an ongoing incident.

Availability of On-Call appliance 52P1:

Appliance	Day (06:00 - 18:00)	Night (18:00 - 06:00)	Total
52P1			

Figures are unavailable for reporting period at time of writing.



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Total Emergency Calls for Royal Wootton Bassett Fire Station: 22nd Nov 2018 – 9th Jan 2019

Category	Callsign	Total Incidents
False Alarm	56P1	4
Fire	56P1	4
Other	56P1	5
Special Service	56P1	0
Water carrier	56W1	1
Medical Response	56V1	8
Total		22

Availability of On-call appliance 56P1:

Appliance	Day (06:00 - 18:00)	Night (18:00 - 06:00)	Total
56P1			

Figures were unavailable at time of writing report

On-Call Recruitment

Crewing of your appliances falls below our ideal expectations of 100%. We continue to strive and improve on the number of personnel at each station through our recruitment process so we can increase the amount of hours our appliances are available for call outs.

The local appliances are only available to attend calls due to the commitment given by those who live and work within your community.

If you are able to give some of your time or know someone who may be interested in joining our 'On-call' teams then why not pop into one of the stations on a Monday evening between 7pm and 9pm. Crews are not volunteers but are paid a salary to train and respond to emergency calls. Check out our website : www.dwfire.org.uk for more information or contact us on our recruitment hotline : 01722 691444

Recruitment Drive

RECRUITING NOW!

01722 691444 dwfire.org.uk

Or pop in on our training evening

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Recent Notable Incidents

A large house fire occurred in Waterhay during the Christmas period, resulting in multiple appliances from across Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire working together to successfully contain and extinguish the fire under challenging circumstances.

Community Safety Plan

Our Community Safety Plan is our vision until 2022 and can be found on the DWFRS website; <http://www.dwfire.org.uk/community-safety-plan/>

Greg Izon

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