



Update from the Chief

Since the last Newsletter, developments relating to both the proposed National Fire Reform and the ongoing Service Improvement Plan have progressed at a significant pace.

Contributing to the National agenda, the Chief Fire Officers' Association (CFOA(S)) have produced a report outlining the benefits of regional Fire & Rescue Services, based upon a 3 or 4 Service model, whilst the Government still progresses the development of an Outline Business Case, advocating their argument for one FRS for Scotland. It is anticipated that further clarity will be provided in the autumn.

Within the Service, significant progress has been made in developing the Highlands & Islands Fire Cover Model (HIFCM) and the temporary appointment of a specialist Project Manager will help to drive this multi layered piece of work forward.

To ensure we continue to maintain a proactive relationship with our Constituent Authorities, I have recently met with the Chief Executives of all four of our Authorities to discuss Service Performance and Budget Planning. Further engagement will take place in October, as we move closer to finalising budgets for 2012/13.

As a major boost to the development of the Service, permission to borrow capital funding to the significant value of £3.8 million was secured with Scottish Government. Using this funding, we have embarked on our most ambitious Capital Programme in recent years, making I.T. improvements, progressing station builds and investing in 8 new midi appliances, of a design developed as part of the HIFCM.

I am delighted that the Service has recently launched a new real fire training facility in Sumburgh. This facility builds on existing Service training facilities, building training capacity and reducing the travel commitment for some of our island based personnel. I look forward to officially opening this new facility, together with Stations at Sandwick and Scalloway later this year.

The annual Service Awards Ceremony was held on 24th June, in Inverness. The event was a huge success, and my congratulations go to all those presented with Commitment to Excellence Awards, Long Service & Good Conduct Medals, retirement presentations and the Photography Competition Winners.

There is no doubt that the Service will change, adapt and develop in the coming years. This could not happen without us all contributing to and embracing these necessary changes, which allow us to continue to provide our communities and visitors with the wide range of services that help to make the Highlands and Islands a safer and better place to live, work and visit.

Trevor Johnson
Chief Fire Officer

2011 Photography Competition



Yet again the entries for the Photography Competition were of an extremely high standard and the judges had a very difficult task selecting the winners from the wonderful photos submitted.

The winner of the Best Overall Photography category was Firefighter Colin McAndrew from Fort William for his photograph "Reflections on Loch Linnhe". Colin was presented with a framed copy of his winning entry at the Service's Award Ceremony on 24th June.

The other winning entries are featured throughout this issue of the Newsletter. The winning photographs, along with all entries can be viewed in the Staff Area on HI-Light.

Communication

One of the objectives within our Service Improvement Plan for 2011/12 – 2013/14 is to "Improve Communication within the Service".

We have introduced a monthly communication bulletin and team briefing following each Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) meeting to provide additional communication for all staff.

The bulletins will be posted on HI-Light and will contain a summary of the SLT team briefing following each meeting with information provided under the headings of People, Points for Information, Performance and Policy & Procedures. Your line managers will provide you with the full team briefing and details.

During September, we will be circulating a communication survey to gather your views on communication within the Service. In addition, the information gathered from the survey will provide a baseline against which improvement in communication can be measured.

Your views are important and we would encourage you to complete the survey which will be available to complete electronically via HI-Light or in paper copy from your line manager.

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Automatic Fire Alarm Attendance Policy

Over recent years, HIFRS has seen a considerable increase in the number of false alarms generated by automatic fire alarm/detection systems and in 2010/11, calls of this type accounted for almost 40% of all calls received.

As such a new AFA attendance policy will be introduced later this year. This policy aims to:

- facilitate the best use of limited Fire & Rescue resources
- improve public safety by ensuring that emergency response resources are available to respond to real emergencies at all times
- ensure that businesses who provide our part time firefighters know that the staff they release are being called to real emergencies
- reduce the unnecessary risk to other road users, the public and fire personnel in making an emergency response to a false alarm

The new mobilising procedure will be adopted where a call has been received by the Service from an Automatic Fire Alarm/Detection system as follows.

It must be noted that, irrespective of the risk type, should an emergency call be received by the Service via the '999' system (confirming a fire in support of the AFA), an appropriate emergency response will be mobilised to the premises.

Low Risk premises

Examples of low risk premise include:

- Offices
- Shops outwith Shopping Centres
- Small commercial/factory premises

One emergency Fire & Rescue Service (FRS) appliance will be mobilised to respond to AFAs occurring in Low Risk premises for the 24 hour duration of each day.

Medium Risk premises

Examples of medium risk premises include:

- Factories other than above
- Shopping centres
- Schools/Colleges
- Single dwellings (i.e. those with a linked alarm system fitted)

One emergency FRS appliance will be mobilised to respond to AFAs occurring in Medium Risk premises, between 0800 hours and 2200 hours each day. Out with these hours, an appropriate emergency response will be mobilised to the premises.

High Risk premises

Examples of high risk premises include:

- Hospitals
- Hotels
- Bed and Breakfast premises
- Houses in Multiple Occupation
- Care Homes
- Hostels

One emergency FRS appliance will be mobilised to respond to AFAs occurring in High Risk premises, between 0800 hours and 1700 hours each day. Out with these hours, an appropriate emergency response will be mobilised to the premises.

In order to further publicise this Policy and promote the responsible management of AFAs, HIFRS will be holding, during September 2011, a Road Show for the business community at venues throughout the Service area. The topics presented will include:

- HIFRS Automatic Fire Alarm Attendance /Reduction Policy
- Promotion of responsible management of Automatic Fire Alarm Systems
- Responsible persons duties under Part 3 The Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

Full details of the Road Show dates and venues can be found on the Service website www.hifrs.org/AFA.



2011 Photography Competition

D District Winner

"Skeabost at Christmas".
Firefighter James MacDonald,
Uig

PEOPLE

Robbie Lawson

Firefighter Robbie Lawson from Granttown was presented with his Long Service & Good Conduct Medal, by Deputy Chief Fire Officer Mike Holme at a recent presentation attended by his colleagues.



Robbie joined the Service on 17th September 1990 and has served almost 21 years at Granttown Station.

Graham Grant



Watch Manager Graham Grant from Dornoch recently retired after 30 years.

A presentation took place at the Station with Graham receiving his statuette from DACO Billy Wilson. Graham's wife Avril, together with his station colleagues,

Group Manager Antony Gardner and Station Manager Deryck MacKay were present to mark the occasion.

INCIDENTS OF NOTE

Road Traffic Collision - Tain

Fire Service Control received a call at approximately 0950hrs on Thursday 30th June to a car accident involving two vehicles at the North entrance to Tain on the A9 Junction.

As it was reported that a person was trapped in the vehicle, fire engines from Tain, Dornoch, Golspie and a specialist road traffic accident unit from Balintore were



mobilised to the scene. Fire Officers confirmed that one person was seriously trapped and took action to remove the individual from the vehicle. The air ambulance was also requested and Police and Ambulance personnel also attended.

Within minutes the fire fighters released the person from the vehicle using heavy duty cutting equipment and he was transferred to the air ambulance and taken to Raigmore.

Group Manager Antony Gardner praised the actions of the fire crews saying, "This was a very serious car accident and the local fire-fighters demonstrated their professionalism by removing the injured person from the vehicle safely within minutes"

The A9 was closed for over an hour whilst the Emergency services dealt with the accident.

Lorry Fire - A9 Crubenmore 6 miles South of Kingussie

The fire crew from Kingussie attended a lorry fire on a bridge directly above the Allt Garbh Stream on the A9, thereby preventing the possibility of the vehicle's diesel contaminating the river Spey, which is crucial to wildlife and tourism in Badenoch and Strathspey.



A vehicle malfunction caused a flat bed lorry to ignite and quickly spread involving heavy plant being carried upon the lorry and surrounding heather and scrub land.

The fire crew used main jets, hosereel and breathing apparatus to extinguish the fire. The fire had caused both vehicles diesel tanks to rupture causing over 300 litres of diesel to be released.

Firefighters, under the direction of SM Ross Nixon, created an improvised bund using environmental equipment carried on the appliance and the use of soil and sand dug from the road side. This bund held the diesel and prevented it entering the water course until Transerv attended to soak up the spill using specialist oil absorbing granules.

EVENTS

Charity & Community Events

Our staff have an excellent reputation for supporting charity and local community events, and once again have been busy supporting such events.

Details of some of the cycling events are included below and other charity events are featured throughout the newsletter.

Remember to keep checking the Events section in the Staff Area on HI-Light for up to date information on current charity and community events.

Lands End to John O'Groats Charity Cycles

We are reporting on 2 Lands End to John O'Groats cycles, with the first undertaken by staff in Inverness, and the second by one of our staff from the Orkney Islands.

Following on from our March issue, the 8 Firefighters completed the 871 miles cycle from Lands End to John O'Groats on 12th June. They have raised in excess of £10,000.



Crew Manager, Mervyn Walker also completed this daunting cycle starting at John O'Groats on 25th June and arriving in in Land's End 8 days later.

Mervyn has already raised £2,000 for Help the Heroes.

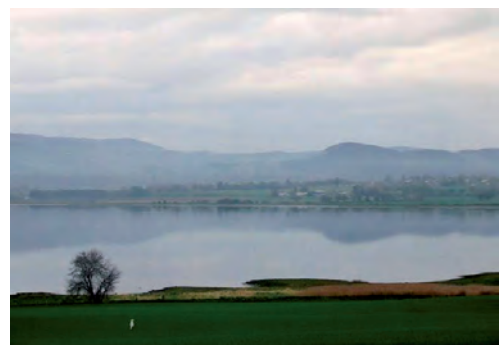
Great Glen Way Cycle

Pauline Ferguson, Admin Assistant in Lochaber, and Retained Station Manager Chris Findlay recently cycled the Great Glen Way.

Together they have raised £1610 for the Highland Hospice.



2011 Photography Competition - C District Winner



"Morning Firth"
Leona Dunbar, Admin

PEOPLE

Annella Flynn

Annella Flynn, Admin Assistant, was presented with an award to mark 20 years service at the Service Awards Ceremony on 24 June.

Annella has been with the Service for over 21 years and provides admin support for personnel within the Ross & Cromarty area.



Angus Finlayson & Glenn Evans



Angus Finlayson, Gairloch is pictured with DCFO Mike Holme and CFO Trevor Johnson. Angus was presented with a bronze statuette to mark his retirement following over 26 years with the Service, at the Service Awards Ceremony on 24 June.

Also pictured is Glenn Evans, Fortrose who was presented with a shield to mark his retirement from the Service after 20 years service. Glenn was also presented with his Long Service & Good Conduct Medal to mark 20 years service at the Service Awards Ceremony on 24 June.



Gordon MacRae



Gordon MacRae, Workshop Supervisor recently retired from the Service following 37 years service. CFO Trevor Johnson presented Gordon with a framed Certificate to mark his time with the Service.

A small function was held to mark his retirement with colleagues past and present attending.

Callum MacKenzie

Firefighter Callum MacKenzie of Aviemore Retained Station is seen being presented his retirement plaque from Badenoch & Strathspey Station Manager Ross Nixon.

Callum retired from the Service on the 20th June after 21 and a half year's service.



NEWS IN BRIEF

HI-FiReS—Invergordon Station

Invergordon retained personnel organised and ran the popular HI-FiReS course from 10th March to 26th May 2011. The lead instructor was Crew Manager Gordon MacKenzie, assisted by Crew Manager Alan Majewski, Firefighters David Hennessy, Donnie Calder, Kirsty Ruck, and William Ross.



HI-FiReS is our 10 week youth engagement programme aimed at young people aged between 12 and 15 years. The course covers a wide range of topics from home fire safety, the use of pumps, hoses and breathing apparatus, ladders, dealing with road traffic collisions, learning knots and lines, as well as basic first aid.

The highlight of this course was a visit to Dalcross Airport to utilise the airport Fire Service's fire and rescue aircraft simulator. The students were involved in attacking and extinguishing an undercarriage fire under the watchful eyes of the airport fire service personnel (pictured above).

A presentation was held at Invergordon fire station on 26th May 2011 to recognise the young peoples' achievement., when they demonstrated the wide variety of skills they had learned to family, friends, teachers, Fire Board Members and local authority workers. The young people commented extremely positively on the practical skills they acquired, and also how they learned to co-operate and work as a team to support each other.

2011 Photography Competition - A District Winner



"Firing on all Cylinders"
Crew Manager Martin Sidgwick, Hillswick



2011 Photography Competition -

Fire Service Related Category Winner

"Beat that One"
Watch Manager Craig Helliwell,
Grantown

EVENTS

Scottish Extrication & Trauma Challenge



On Saturday 28th May, teams from across HIFRS, together with four other Scottish FRS and guest teams from Manchester and Valencia, Spain competed in the Challenges.

In conjunction with the main Challenges, technical workshops took place including New Car Technologies, LGV and Internal Space Creation.

Principal Officers from other Scottish FRS attended and R Scott, ACO from Strathclyde FRS gave a short presentation on the development work at their new Training Facility.

Next year's Scottish Extrication Challenge is to be hosted by Strathclyde and an invitation was extended to Scottish FRS.

Results:

HIFRS - Extrication

Best Team Leader Chris Findlay (Snr) - Fort William
Best Technical Ian Morrison & Kevin MacRae - Ness
Best Medical Fraser MacDonald - Fort William

HIFRS

Best Overall Team

1st Ness
2nd Fort William B
3rd Fort William A

HIFRS

Trauma Challenge

1st Fort William A
2nd Ardnamurchan
3rd Nairn

Jim Cooper Trophy (Best New or Most Improved Team)

Stornoway (pictured below)



Scottish - Extrication

Best Team Leader Chris Findlay (Snr) - Fort William B
Best Technical Central FRS
Best Medical Grampian FRS (Huntly)

Scottish

Best Overall Team

1st Grampian (Huntly)
2nd Central FRS
3rd Ness

Scottish

Trauma

1st Fort William A
2nd Grampian A (N. Anderson Drive)
3rd Dumfries & Galloway

Highland Firefighters Cycling Team

A new cycling club has been formed to promote cycling amongst HIFRS staff and is open to all personnel with an interest in any aspect of cycling. The club is affiliated with Scottish Cycling and all abilities are welcome.

If you would like more information, please contact Ross Nixon or Davie MacIntyre, email ross.nixon@hifrs.org or david.macintyre@hifrs.org. An application form is available in the Announcements in the Staff Area of HI-Light.

PEOPLE

Long Service and Good Conduct Medals

During the Service Awards Ceremony on 24th June, 25 personnel were presented with their Long Service and Good Conduct Medals by Lord-Lieutenant of Inverness, Donald Cameron. Some of the recipients are pictured below together with Trevor Johnson, CFO and Richard Durham, Convener of the Fire Board. The personnel receiving their medals were:



Alan MacKenzie, Firefighter, Glenelg
Alan MacMillan, Firefighter, Nethybridge
Alfred Edwards, Firefighter, Applecross
Bobby Sutherland, Crew Manager, Driver Training HQ
Brian Cameron, Firefighter, Cromarty
Derick Graham, Crew Manager, Inverness
Donald MacLennan, Firefighter, Kyle of Lochalsh
Donald Morrison, Crew Manager, Ratagan
Ewan Innes, Crew Manager, Nairn
George Johnston, Watch Manager, Bonar Bridge
Glenn Evans, former Crew Manager, Fortrose
Graeme MacDonald, Firefighter, Kyle of Lochalsh
James Geddes, Crew Manager, Beaulieu
John MacKenzie, Crew Manager, Uig
John Ross, Crew Manager, Dingwall
Malcolm MacLeod, Crew Manager, Ullapool
Nan MacLachlan, Crew Manager, Kilchoan
Ronald Young, Watch Manager, Cromarty
William Caithness, Crew Manager, Stronsay
William Eastcroft, Firefighter, Kinlochbervie
William Rosie, Firefighter, John O'Groats

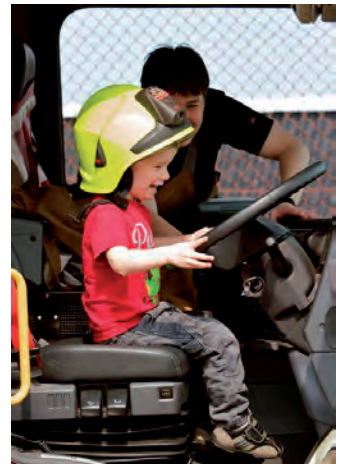
Not Pictured:

Alasdair MacLean, Watch Manager, Dunvegan
David Johnston, Watch Manager, Mallaig
Derek Wilkie, Station Manager, Inverness & Nairn District Office
William MacKinnon, former Firefighter, Dunvegan

2011 Photography Competition

People Category Winner

"Wow Wee"
Firefighter Martin Benson,
Broadford



COMMUNITY RISK MANAGEMENT

Autism Alert Card

The Service worked in conjunction with representatives from NHS Highland, Northern Constabulary, the National Autistic Society Scotland and the Highland Council in the production of this card.

The card will be available to anyone with a confirmed diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition who invariably comes into contact with a variety of Services at sometime in their life.

The card scheme will allow staff to prepare for interaction and equip them with the information they need to be able to respond effectively when someone presents them with an alert card.

The card was launched in the Highland Council Area on 24th August and it is hoped that it will be introduced to the Island Councils in due course.



Road Safety Family Evening



A Road Safety Family Evening was held on 29th June at Northern Constabulary Headquarters which was supported by staff from Blue Watch, Inverness Station.

The event was aimed at young drivers and their families and delivered safety

messages to young people who are thinking about or have just started driving, and to their parents and guardians. The event was delivered in partnership with Northern Constabulary, Highland Council's Road Safety department and local driving instructors. 52 families attended the evening and evaluations included many positive comments.

Following the positive evaluations and large attendance, a further Road Safety Evening will be held on 2 November 2011 at Highland Council Headquarters, Inverness. The event will be publicised amongst staff in October and personnel invited to book a place for any young drivers they may wish to take along.

2011 Photography Competition - B District Winner



"Cresting the Hill".
Firefighter Chris Wilson, Torridon

ON THE RUN

Occasionally, the Service receives calls from people who are in difficulties in confined spaces.

The Confined Space Regulations 1997 define a confined space as:

"any place, including any chamber, tank, vat, silo, pit, trench, pipe, sewer, flue, well or other similar space in which, by virtue of its enclosed nature, there arises a reasonably foreseeable specified risk"

Specified risk is a serious injury from fire, explosion, asphyxiation or drowning. Asphyxiation can be caused by a free flowing solid, as well as by lack of oxygen or from a toxic gas.

Clearly, there are additional risks to personnel when attempting a rescue from a confined space and a précis of some of the safe systems of work (SSoW) are to be found in the Operational Aide Memoire Folder, in particular parts C9 (confined spaces) and S3 (sewers).

However, in addition to the points covered in C9 and S3, the following points need to be considered by the incident commander as BA will invariably be used:

- mobilising an appliance to stand-by at the incident to be a rescue crew (for service personnel) only,
- initiating stage II BA control as a minimum,
- opening up a functional sector for BA main control,
- consider having a functional sector for health & safety.

If any Fire Service personnel wearing Breathing Apparatus (BA) were to become entrapped themselves, the procedure to follow is detailed in Technical Bulletin 1/97, in part CMP6C and is;

- operate the ADSU (see picture right)
- relax as much as possible, by sitting or reclining and loosening the BA set shoulder and waist straps (see picture below)
- try to breathe calmly and gently
- avoid using the supplementary flow mechanism.



This is easier said than done but if breathing can be controlled; the cylinder contents can last some considerable time. During a BA training night, it might be worth considering asking a BA team to go into the entrapped procedure to see what the reaction (if any) of the ECO is, and to see how long a cylinder can last. The organising manager must make sure that the BA team is supervised at all times.

Finally, as part of a SSoW for confined spaces, the use of hand held radios on channel three for BA must be considered, having due regard to the fact that the radios are not intrinsically safe. There are intrinsically safe handheld radios located on the heavy rescue unit at Inverness and at the training school, Fort William.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Tarbert Royal Visit



On 2nd June 2011 their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Rothesay visited the Isle of Harris for a number of engagements. Whilst Prince Charles spent time with local tweed producers, the Duchess visited Tarbert Fire Station.

Her visit was to coincide with volunteers week, an area she is particularly keen to support.

The Duchess spoke with members of the Retained Fire Unit before watching a practical demonstration by members of the recently completed Hi-FiReS crew.

After meeting representatives from other organisations, including the Coastguard Cliff Rescue and newly formed Hebrides Search and Rescue Teams, she presented the Hi-FiReS crew with their certificates.

The Duchess of Rothesay concluded her visit speaking to most of the people in the crowd before returning to join Prince Charles for the flight back to the mainland.



Firefighters Charity

The Service recently received a letter of congratulations and Certificate of Appreciation from the Firefighters Charity, for fundraising in the 12 months to April 2011.

Service personnel raised an impressive £60,332, with almost £11k collected at the September 2010 and March 2011 National Car Wash events.

I would like to join the Charity in commending you all on this noteworthy achievement and to encourage your continued support as volunteers and fundraisers.

Trevor Johnson
Chief Fire Officer

From the Archives - 18 Years Ago

Caberfeidh Hotel, Strathpeffer

The Brigade were informed of this call by a neighbour and received a further 6 calls from the general area of the hotel. The fire resulted in the kitchen, ground floor bar and hall being 10% destroyed, the remainder of the ground floor was smoke and heat damaged and all rooms on the 1st and 2nd floor were severely smoke damaged. The fire was attended by units from Dingwall, Inverness and the Volunteer Unit from Strathpeffer ...

An interesting footnote to this fire, which shows the dedication of our Retained Members, was that one of the Dingwall crew had to leave the fireground as he was getting married later that afternoon.

*Extract from the Highland & Islands Fire Brigade
Firemaster Report 1st January 1993 to 31st March 1994*

SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY 2011

The annual "Service Awards Ceremony" was held at the Town House, Inverness on Friday 24th June, courtesy of Provost Jimmy Gray and the Inverness City Committee.

Whilst in previous years, the main focus of the evening was the "Commitment to Excellence Awards"; this year's event allowed 25 individuals to receive their Long Service & Good Conduct Medals, from Donald Cameron, Lord Lieutenant of Inverness.



The ceremony also enabled the Service's Photography Competition Winners to be recognised (winning photographs can be seen throughout the newsletter), and provided an ideal opportunity to mark the retirement of two individuals and award a civilian member of staff for Long Service.

Commitment to Excellence in Emergency Operations was awarded to Command and Control for their sterling efforts during the serious wildfire period the Service faced at the end of April/start of May.

Commitment to Excellence in Community/Youth Engagement was awarded jointly to Gary Scollie and Kirsten Glue for their work with school groups. Both have taken on the role of coordinating educational fire courses which have required the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders and partners.

Commitment to Excellence in Service Delivery was awarded to Miles Stubbs for his facilitation of a programme of community visits to Inverness Fire Station from students and teachers of Drummond school, and pupils and staff from the Apple Grove Learning Centre.

The winners are pictured above with CFO Trevor Johnson and Richard Durham, Convener of the Fire Board.

2011 Photography Competition Environment Category Winner



"Looking towards Crowlista, Uig"
Firefighter Martin Benson, Broadford

EVENTS

Inverness Fire Station Open Day



Inverness Station held its open day on Saturday 2nd July with approximately 4,000 people, which included visitors from the USA and Australia enjoying the variety of stalls and events.

In addition to the car wash, face painting (the most popular attraction), bungee runs, and bouncy castles, Inverness Retained crews demonstrated a live exercise involving the rescue of casualties from a simulated high rise flat fire involving the hydraulic platform.

The day was a huge success with £6000 being raised for the Firefighters Charity and various local charities thanks to the support from staff from all departments of the Service..

The Big Trek

Firefighter Ewan Anderson from Bixter, along with friend Jim Leask have raised over £10,000 for SOFT, the Archie Foundation and the Firefighters Charity by walking around the coastline of all the inhabited Shetland Islands. This 'Big Trek' which entailed 11 islands and 887 miles, was completed on various days throughout May, June and July. The two are pictured with the grand Vaila Hall in the background.



Kirkwall Station Car Wash



Kirkwall station raised over £720 at their car wash event for the Firefighters Charity.

Everyone at the station worked hard to ensure the cars in Kirkwall left the station gleaming. Paul Manson, Martin

Gorn, Derek Allan, Nicky Bichan and Tom Robinson are pictured hard at work.

Lerwick Summer Carnival



Staff from Lerwick Station participated in the annual Lerwick mid-summer carnival on 18th June. The event raises funds for the Callum Younger Reach Fund set up in memory of the son of Firefighter Malcolm Younger who tragically passed away in 2005 at the age of 10.

The Fund assists young people under 18 years to achieve their goals in life.

The colourful parade of floats, jarl squads and foot collectors paraded through Lerwick, raising money for the Fund, which regularly raises over £4000.

FLEET & EQUIPMENT

Steven Little has recently taken on the role of Fleet & Equipment Manager based at 50a Harbour Road, Inverness, moving here from Aberdeen.



Steve has been an engineer for more than 30 years and has held positions at various levels within the public transport industry from skilled mechanic to director.

George Cameron, previously the Workshop Foreman, has recently been appointed to the post of Workshop Supervisor and now has responsibility for the day to day running of the workshops, staff, fleet and equipment.

Dog Rescue

Firefighter Davie Rodgers from Inverlochty rescued a 5 year old golden retriever who had collapsed half way up Ben Nevis. During a training run, Davie heard of the dogs plight and ran back up the mountain to help. Davie lifted the unconscious dog weighing over 40kg on to his shoulders and carried him down the mountain to the Glen Nevis Youth Hostel.

The dog's owners could not praise Davie enough as his actions saved them from a night on the mountain with the dog and averted a tragic situation, as the dog has made a full recovery.

Davie has played down his "hero" status stating that it was an unusual experience but he was only glad to help.

2011 Photography Competition Christmas Card



"Frozen in Time"
Firefighter Craig Smith, Kirkwall

We hope that you have enjoyed reading the Newsletter.

Would you like your Station to be featured in a future edition of the Newsletter?

Do you have any interesting news articles or events linked to your Station?

If you have any comments, wish any items to be included in the next issue, or would like a copy of the Newsletter in a different format, please contact Denise Sutherland on 01463-227009 or denise.sutherland@hifrs.org