

FIRE

Est. Oct 2004

HERITAGE NETWORK UK



Picture Courtesy of Bob Wright. Scottish Fire Heritage Group..

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The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the committee of the FIRE HERITAGE NETWORK U.K.

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WEB SITE,,, www.fire-heritage-network.org

Fireheritage.org will get you to the site too.

Cover picture. One of the magnificent trophies held by the Museum of RAF Firefighting, on behalf of the BFSA. See the article inside.

From Another Spare Bedroom.

Yes it does say "From Another Bedroom", but before you get too excited I am not up to something that I should not be, I have moved house. Yes, it has been as traumatic as people said it would be. First there is the packing up and that means the disposal of so many things that you have saved over the years because they so obviously are going to be useful, the wife was right it has to go. The next thing was, we were let down at the last minute by the vendor of the house that we wanted to purchase, so we had to chase around looking for an alternative. What made it difficult was that we were moving 150 miles away from Coventry to Fleetwood in Lancashire. There was a deadline to vacate our former home so that meant going cap in hand to a cousin and ask if they could put us up for a few weeks, they came to the rescue.

Our furniture and other chattels were placed in store and moved up when required. The removal company placed everything into a number of wooden crates which were transshipped between storage and Fleetwood. Items were brought into the new house and when the men got to the last box, they realised it was not ours. It was back in Coventry and contained the important things such as pots and pans. The next setback was when I tried to change the address details on my policy. The company wanted to charge me £280 extra for the remaining two months cover on the policy. They claimed that I had moved into an high risk area! The original cover for 12 months was only £260. I told them where to stick it but I have still had to pay a cancellation fee.

The next problem was that I had to wait weeks to have my Interweb connected and when it was I have found that it is slower than an AFS Bedford with flat tyres. To top it all I then got a virus infection on my computer, which I have since managed to clear.

So why am I telling you this? It is just to let you know why your magazine is a little late arriving at your doormat.

Please send me your articles for publication via e-mail, people are interested in what you are doing and what is happening in your part of

The World.

The Fire Museum in Edinburgh is still in line to be closed despite a large petition being raised against its closure. A resolute band of people have been campaigning to keep it open and will continue to do so until a result is achieved one way or the other. They have been disappointed with the lack of support from the outgoing Scottish Parliament and some locals from whom support would have been expected.

A band of Heritage Network members spent some time at RAF Scampton recently cataloguing items from the museum collection, you can read about this and see pictures inside.

Phil Consadine May 2016.

As the magazine is only published every three months I hope that this appeal is not too late.

Dear members.

Due to the imminent and unexpected loss of the storage & restoration facility of our Turntable Ladder, we are in urgent need of a suitable alternative and wondered if any of you had any suggestions or contacts we could speak to?

Currently, the appliance is located in Wicken in Cambridgeshire and any new facility would, by necessity, need to be within 50 miles of that, a general boundary for us would be Cambridgeshire, West Suffolk, Central, West or South Norfolk, or North Essex.

We are about 50% through the work so would need access to the usual facilities of power, water and light, we generally work on weekdays and never late!

I can be contacted directly on peterweight@btinternet or on 07709929595.

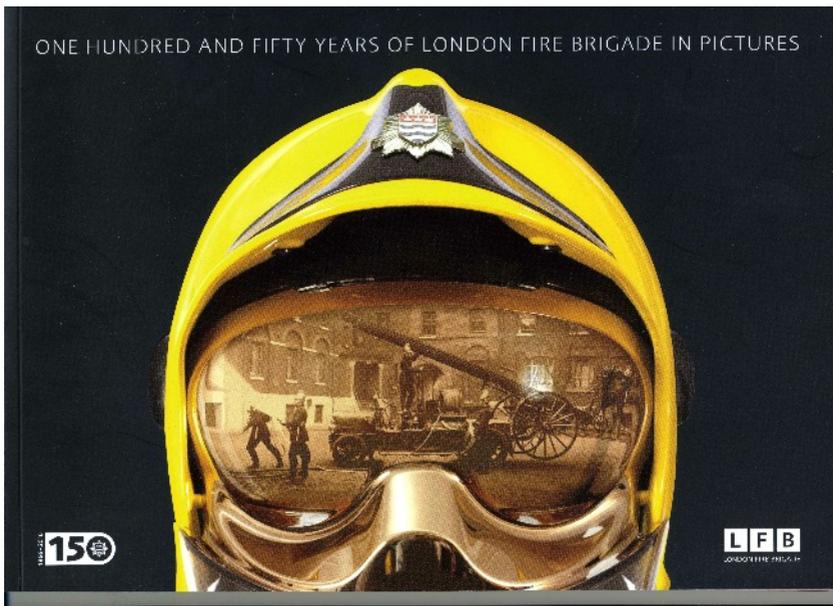
Our website <http://www.tl240flm.co.uk> provides a detailed overview of who we are and what we are trying to achieve.

With best regards

Peter Weight.

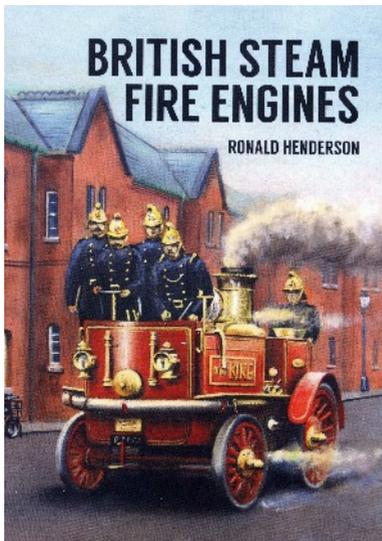
Inventory and equipment officer for 240FLM Preservation group.

BOOK REVIEWS Three new books for you in this edition. Nice to see that FHNUK members have been heavily involved in the production of them all. *One Hundred and Fifty Years of London Fire Brigade in Pictures*, Jane Rugg and Elena Lewendon. (2015 London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority) 120pp £12.00 ISBN 978-0 9934205-0-4 The authors of this lavish souvenir publication are, of course, well-known to Networkers as the curators of the LFB Museum, currently closed pending relocation. London has a splendid track record of producing excellent in-house publications from time to time, and this latest is one of the most attractive. Drawing extensively on the Brigade's comprehensive photo archive (150 pictures covering 150 years), the book has chapters on various aspects of the Brigade story, such as architecture, appliances, communications and so on. It also includes a useful timeline listing the landmarks of the last century and a half, bringing the story bang up to date. Superbly designed by Chris Davies in a stylish landscape format, this is a must for every book shelf.



Fighting Fire in Essex : an Illustrated History, Mike Bunn in collaboration with Essex Fire Museum. (2016 EB Books) 135pp 164 pictures. £16.00 ISBN 978-0-99346840104 Still-fresh memories of our wonderful AGM weekend in Essex should add an extra dimension to this very thorough account of the history and development of one of our shire brigades. With a very readable text by Mike Bunn, long-time contributor to Fire Cover and other Fire Brigade Society publications, plus a portfolio of great images from the collection of Essex Fire Museum, the story is clearly in very good hands, telling you everything you ever wanted to know about Essex Fire Brigade/Essex FRS from before its formation in 1948 to the present day. There are some gripping accounts of such major Essex jobs as the East Coast Floods, the Harrison Gibson store fire and the disastrous Rose and Crown incident.

British Steam Fire Engines, Ronald Henderson. (2016 Amberley Publishing) 128pp £12.99 ISBN 978-1-4456 5779-0 Surprisingly never seriously tackled before, this is something of an overdue topic in fire heritage publishing, and will make a welcome addition to all collections. Ron's is another familiar name in this sector and has a long portfolio in the field. The first thing I noticed was that Amberley's somewhat predictable layout for books of this sort seems to have been revamped at last and now presents a much more grown-up appearance than some of their previous titles. There are only three chapters, covering "The Pioneers," "The Development Years" and "The Self-Propellers," but the key facts are all there. Inevitably, the names of Shand, Mason & Co. and Merryweather's dominate the story, but there are also plenty of facts and images concerning The Fire Appliances Manufacturing Co. and William Rose & Co. too. Well illustrated with lots of manufacturers' **photos.& Reviews, Bob Bonner.**



STREET HERITAGE.

NOTICED BY PHIL MORRIS.



The Air raid warden is in the hamlet of Wakerley in Northants.



The Fireman is in the village of Elton in Cambridgeshire. Nearby is Elton Hall seat of Lord Proby so it could be tied in with a fire brigade at the hall.

Heritage that can be found on any street.

Hot Stuff.



Hello Folks,

I thought that I would let you all know that the Book of remembrance that I have been working on these past 4 years is finally live;

<http://www.theonlinebookcompany.com/OnlineBooks/FirefighterMemorialTrust/Content/Filler>

As you will see I have now been able to record those who died in Military service, Fire watchers and Fire Guards. As far as i know, the first time this has been done anywhere. Hopefully it will assist family and fire service history researchers.

Very soon it will have a daily listing, by date for the Firefighters on the Memorial.

Alan House. Chairman FHNUK.

Oundle School CCF Fire Fighting Section

The Combined Cadet Force of Oundle School, Northamptonshire has a number of specialist training sections including Firefighting. The Section was established twenty eight years ago (1988) by John Cunnington after he retired as Fire Station Commander at Oundle. It was originally formed as Civil Defence and Fire and Rescue. Firefighting equipment and a Land Rover with trailer were donated to the school. The Land Rover was converted to a fire appliance by John in the school workshops.

In 1994 an eight-cylinder Ford diesel appliance was provided by Shell Haven for £1. Eight years later it was replaced by an ex-Cambridgeshire appliance. This was a Bedford pump escape with a Hayward Tyler pump and had a capacity to pump 500 gallons per minute.

During the firefighters' strikes in 2002 the Section stood-by to act in a supplementary role if required, but was not called into action. They have also been on standby during a flood alert.

At the annual CCF inspections the Firefighting Section demonstrated their skills using their own engine and equipment in a mock fire. A report of the 2004 inspection described the Section taking action at the Black Barn in the school's grounds from which smoke (dry ice) was billowing. The cadet firefighters manned hoses and used breathing apparatus to 'rescue' those inside. In the past the Section has been to Luton Airport to take part in an exercise and attended a weekend event at RAF Cottesmore.

In 2003 the Section built an electric car and went to Bruntingthorpe to test it. They achieved the speed record and were in the Guinness Book of Records. Appropriately the team posed by the Bruntingthorpe fire appliance, which had been standing-by during the day's trial.

The Section still has its own appliance, equipment and up-to-date uniforms. The 12 students in the Section train weekly on a Wednesday afternoon at the Oundle Fire and Rescue Station. Oundle has a retained service under the command of Andrew Brackley and it is he who trains the students.

I have only found one other school with a fire brigade, Gordonstoun. If anyone knows of others please would you contact me.

Janice Morris.



Above. Reeling Hose 2006.



*Picture left
1990.*

*Picture right.
Fire & Rescue at
Buntingthorpe
2005.*



Working Weekend at RAF. Scampton.

The long awaited working weekend at RAF. Scampton took place over the weekend commencing 22nd April 2016. The object was to catalogue the BFSAs trophies and to also work in the Library and archive material held there. The work was overseen by Steve Shirley and professional advice was supplied by Gary Wragg formerly of Milestones Museum, Hampshire. Those attending were advised to wrap up warm as some of the work was carried out in an Hangar with the wind whipping across the Airfield.

A wide range of Heritage group member organisations took part in the work.

Gary Wragg and Alan House from Hampshire F&RS Museum.

.Bob Bonner, Greater Manchester Fire Service Museum.

.Bob Wright & Dennis Scott, Scottish Fire Heritage Group.

.Janice & Phil Morris, Fire Mark Circle.

.Dave Elms. TAFERS.

.Bill Scott & Dave Rogers, Massey Shaw Trust.

Some of the work involved cleaning trophies from the BFSAs collection, some of which are very large and very heavy. Many have Silver central shields with either Silver or Chromium plated annual award plaques. Quite a few of these trophies were competed for by Midlands based companies such as GEC, BTH, Standard Motors, Triumph Cycles & Cars etc.

One very imposing trophy with a Silver shield and Copper centre plate depicting a pump appliance, was presented by Siegfried Beteman. Siegfried was as you probably guessed, was of German origin. He came to Coventry and founded the Triumph Cycle Co, which went on to produce Cars and Motorcycles. The company had both good and bad times but Siegfried became a great benefactor to the city. He was also elected to the post of Alderman and then Mayor. Then came the First World War and people rejected all things German. Siegfried was ostracised by his

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former friends. This led to near bankruptcy and Siegfried Betteman died a poor man. A sorry end for such an open and kind man.

Pictures from the Working Weekend.



*Pictures from
Bob Benner
&
Bob Wright.*



Snippets.

36 FIRE FORCEROUTINE ORDERS

no 48: SPRING 2016

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Not new, but recently added to the museum collection, is a pair of EPNS salad spoons in the Messroom, also a boxed set of fish knives and forks that were my grandmother's. Chris donated a tube of black Meltonian shoe cream, in the original box, dating from the days of GvR and now part of the Overseas Column kit. The library has gained books on VC and GC awards, and a reprint of Arthur Dixon's "Emergency Fire Services In The Second World War" produced by the Fire Brigade Society as the original never did see the light of day. There were two sets of four booklets of "War Pictures by British Artists" produced in the 1940s. Just completed the set with the acquisition of two on the RAF and Air Raids. Also the last couple of wartime HMSO booklets, including the super rare one on the US Army. The complete collection of all 60 booklets will be on show later this year.

Roy Goodey.

alongside the River Dart between Riverford and Stretchford during a Steamscenes
only a short period of time, and will be repainted in GWR livery shortly. For more South

Railway fire engine for Beamish

BEAMISH Museum has taken delivery of a rare artefact from the West Hartlepool Harbour & Railway Company – a Victorian horse-drawn manual fire engine.

Manufactured by William Rose of Manchester, and latterly part of the National Collection, it has now been transferred to Beamish where it will be displayed inside the Great Shed at the Pockerley Waggonway where it will complement the early railway exhibits there.

On May 17, 1853 the Clarence Railway, Hartlepool West Harbour & Dock and Stockton & Hartlepool railways were merged to become the West Hartlepool Harbour and Railway. It became part of



The railway fire appliance now in Beamish Museum, BEAMISH

the NER in 1865.

The fire engine has been on display at the Locomotion museum at Shildon.

Highley's extra gala attraction

THE Severn Valley Railway has confirmed
this is the only one of its kind in the area where a

Devon and Llangollen railways respectively.
Modified Hall 4-G-0 No. 6990 Witherstock

On Saturday I attended (albeit at very short notice) a memorial service for the victims of the Faversham Munitions explosion, 2 April 1916, which claimed the lives of 7 members of the Cotton Powder Company Fire Brigade plus an unknown number of members of the Explosive Loading Company Brigade. I placed a memorial cross on behalf of a number of organisations and included Fire Heritage Network which I hope was in order? Unfortunately I did not have time to organise a proper wreath, but have arranged some to be available in the future!

Attached are a couple of shots, the area covered in daffodils is a mass grave for the victims buried in Faversham. The explosion killed 109. It was not the biggest during World War One, sadly.

Nigel Crompton, Fire Brigade Society, Fire Heritage Network UK,





IN THE WORKS

SMOKE HELMETS



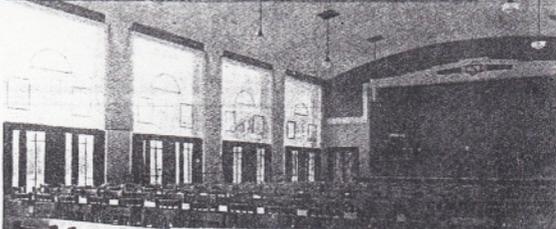
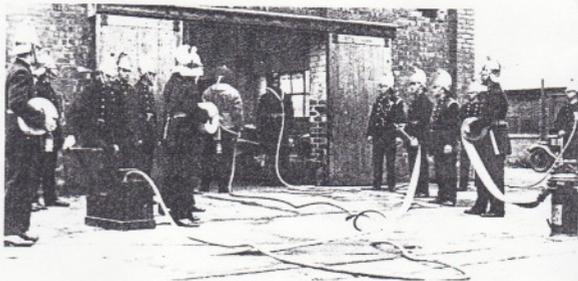
MEMBERS of the Works Brigade are here seen practising outside the Enamelling Shop, with their smoke helmet equipment.

The helmets are used on occasions when dense fumes or smoke prevent Firemen from approaching the seat of the fire. They have proved their worth in the Spray Paint Shop in connection with an outbreak which occurred recently.

There is a separate air supply to each helmet which is supplied by a bellows arrangement which can be conveniently placed outside the building.

The cylindrical vessel placed on the right is a "Phomene" type Generator.

The photographs were taken near one of the Cellulose Spray-booths in the Paint Shop.



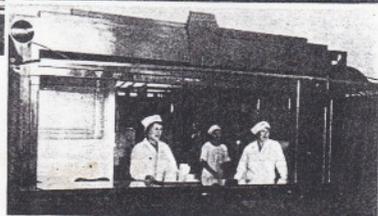
Canley

THE GREAT HALL

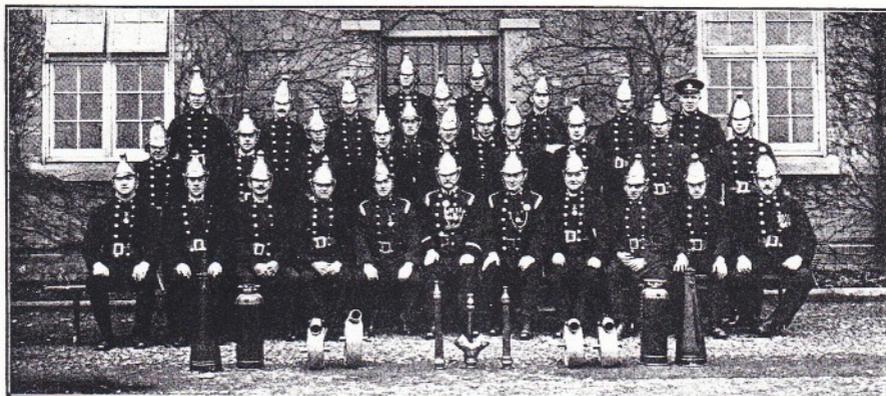
With the long winter evenings the great dining room of the new Recreation Pavilion at Canley is used more and more for evening entertainments—dances, whist drives, etc.

The photographs show how excellently planned it is for this purpose, with a stage at one end.

Opening off it are the canteen counter and bar, and at the bottom is shown the serving hatch connecting the hall with the kitchens.



In the Works



The Standard Fire Brigade

In Existence for Twenty Years.

The Standard Fire Brigade has increased from about half a dozen firemen under the leadership of Mr. H. Taft, until to-day, it has thirty-three members. Mr. Pitt (Canley) is the chief officer, and Messrs. Varney (Canley) and Daniels (Cash's Lane), are the assistant officers.

Several dangerous outbreaks have been extinguished. Minor outbreaks occur occasionally, but the risk of serious fires has been minimised by the installation of effective, up-to-date equipment, and by the continual observance of special precautions. Furthermore, with our system of alarms and indicator board, the brigade can be in attendance in any shop within two minutes of the alarm having been given.

Certain members are practising regularly to uphold the name of Standard in the annual competitions organised by Local Authorities. It is strenuous work and we hope that they will be justly rewarded.

LIME TREE PARK BUILDING ESTATE

COVENTRY'S PLEASANTEST SPOT.

Charming Suburban Villas are now available on this Estate, which is situated amidst delightful countryside typical of "leafy Warwickshire." A little over two miles from the centre of Coventry, the charming Lime Tree Park suburb of semi-detached villas — each with ample ground for a lawn and garden — can boast every amenity possessed by town residents, yet its situation is such that the beauties of the countryside, besprinkled with pleasant coppice and woodland, are at the dweller's very door.

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The Lime Tree Park Estate is now well in the city boundary and consequently enjoys every facility that a corporation can give—sewerage, water, gas and electricity. The Estate is street lighted, and is solely residential, with a shopping area situated at a most convenient spot.

TO OBTAIN HOUSES ON THE ABOVE ESTATE FOR SALE OR TO LET AT 21/-, 18/6 & 17/6 PER WEEK (RATES INCLUDED) APPLY 189, BROAD LANE, COVENTRY. PHONE 2435. PHONE 2435.



Fireman's Frolic

Midland District Competitions, held at Canley.



At the Standard Motor Co's Sports Ground, the National Fire Brigades Association (Midland District) held their competitions.

Results of the contests:—

Isaacs Cup, four men, hose cart, dry (four lengths).—1, B.T.H. (Blackheath); 2, B.T.H. (Coventry); 3, Renold and Coventry Chain.

Skidmore Jones Cup, four men, hose cart, dry (three lengths). 1, Armstrong Whitworth and General Electric tied for this trophy and hold it for equal period, sharing second place prize also; 3, Bourville.

Smith Shield, motor pump drill, wet (five men).—1, Cape Hill; 2, B.T.H. (Coventry); 3, Renold and Coventry Chain.

Chryslre Motor Cup, wet drill (five men).—1, B.T.H. (Rugby); 2, Renold and Coventry Chain; 3, B.T.H. (Blackheath).

COVENTRY & DISTRICT Nursing Association

As a matter of interest to the employees of The Standard Motor Company, who support the Association through the Works Contributory Scheme at the cost of 4d. per week, we give the following extract from a Report from the Superintendent.

"Cases on the Association's books at April 1st numbered 140. New patients nursed during the month numbered 78. Standard Motor Company subscribers, or their dependants numbered 9 patients to whom 130 visits were paid during the month."

There were 128 patients on the books on May 1st, and during the month 77 new patients were nursed.

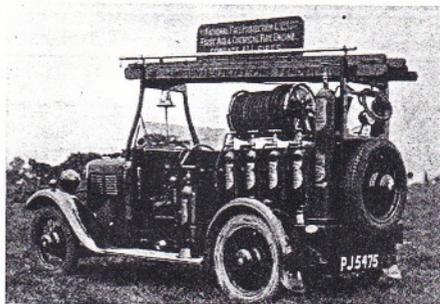
The total number of visits paid was 3,002, which includes 73 visits to patients (or their dependants) employed at the Standard Motor Co.

Real Service that! We have not the impertinence to comment upon the work of the Association further than to say that the work of its Superintendent and Nurses is beyond praise. What can we do to help them further? Think it out!

COVENTRY HOSPITAL CARNIVAL

Interesting Entries by

Standard Employees



Small but Efficient—A very complete Fire Fighting Apparatus on a Standard "Big Nine."



Left—Awarded First Prize—Cash's Lane Works Vehicle. Centre—Standard Flying Club. Right—Another Prize Winner. Standard Ladies' Physical Culture Club.



*More from the
Working Week-
end at Scampton.*





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