



DAEDALUS

NEWSLETTER OF THE INSTITUTE OF FIRE SAFETY MANAGERS

Front end changes

Introducing the institutes new Chairman - Ray Colyer

By Bob Docherty Secretary General

Members will no doubt wish to join me in thanking John Williamson, our Chairman for the past 5 years, for all the front end and behind scenes work he has done on behalf of the Institute. John decided to stand down as Chairman as and from our AGM in October this year having carried out the position of Chairman right through the re-birth of the Institute. I am sure we will never forget his famous opening lines at all our meetings 'we are the IFSM and we don't do boring!' and he certainly didn't! It was, for me, a pleasure to have John on board not only to enjoy his company but also his personality and wit which brightened up our proceedings as well as Council meetings. I am sure everyone will join me in wishing John the best of luck in the future and I hope we will see him at our future meetings.

Taking over from John in the driving seat is Ray Colyer, long time Council member, Vice President and now elected at the AGM as Chairman of the Institute.

Ray was born in Kent in 1948 and was educated at the Canterbury Technical School, now the Chaucer Technology School. He joined the Kent Fire Brigade in 1965 as a Junior Fireman and served in both the KFB and London Fire Brigade for a total of twelve



years during which time he attained Sub Officer's qualification.

In 1977 Ray joined Shell Research Ltd in their Fire and Security Department where, among other duties, he was responsible for training the fire team. During his time with Shell Ray studied with the Open University, obtaining a first class honours degree in 1992. In 1994 Ray joined Pfizer Ltd, the world's largest pharmaceutical company, and was promoted to Fire Safety Manager in 2000, where he worked closely

with local Fire Authorities managing the company's numerous fire certificates and preparing fire risk assessments for most of their UK buildings, including many with high and multiple fire hazards. He also developed fire safety training courses for Pfizer staff, including a computer based training course.

While he was with Pfizer, Ray obtained his European Diploma in Fire Prevention, became a graduate of the Institute of Fire Engineers and a Member of the Fire Safety Managers. He also was accepted onto the IFE Fire Risk Assessors Register and became an Accredited Fire Risk Assessor with the IFSM.

Ray left Pfizer in 2007 to become a self-employed Fire Safety Consultant undertaking fire risk assessments and fire safety training. His business is called FiReduce Fire Safety Consultancy.

Ray lives with his wife in the Kent countryside in a Grade 2 listed 17th Century timber-framed cottage, which takes up much spare time in restoration, repair and maintenance. He is also a New Orleans Jazz trumpeter and models the Southern Railway in the 1930s. I am sure we will all give a big welcome to Ray in this prestigious position of Chairman and wish him well in the future.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Annual General Meeting 2010, Held at the Jaguar Centre, Castle Bromwich
- Don't let lack of plans hamper rescue efforts at an incident
- IFSM to Introduce Examinations?
- Accreditation Secretary's Report - November 2010
- Remembrance Sunday Ceremony, Cenotaph
- Moving with the times - Fire alarm (visual devices), fire exit signs and emergency lighting
- Report on the decision to form sub-committees, within Council
- Which direction from here?
- Lord Mayors Show 2010
- Meeting with our Member in Singapore



Annual General Meeting 2010, Held at the Jaguar Centre, Castle Bromwich

Report by Bob Docherty Secretary General

Tuesday 5 October 2010 was the date set for the Institute's AGM. 90 members and guests registered for the AGM and a total of 70 attended on the day and a number of guests also attended including representatives from Belimo (lunch sponsors) and Pro-Vision Insurance (Daedalus advertisers).

The first part of the day was given over to technical presentations. First 'on the boards' was Elspeth Grant from TripleAConsult who gave a presentation on personal emergency planning for disabled evacuation whilst Stephen O'Reilly from Hall and Kay Fire Engineering talked about sprinkler servicing to BS EN 12845. Linda Oldman, Fire, Health and Safety Manager for British Airways Holidays gave a fascinating insight into the corporate approach to health safety and fire with special reference to standards in the UK and abroad. After lunch, which was sponsored by Belimo, Hilary Ross, a Partner at Bond Pearce LLP,

talked about developments in fire safety enforcement and the implications for duty holders. Hilary illustrated her presentation with a number of examples including the New Look fire and its legal consequences. The final paper of the day was given by Mark Clayton and John Montgomery on effective computer based training solutions. Chairman for the day, Ray Colyer, thanked all speakers on behalf of the membership for their presentations.

Next up was the AGM and Ray Colyer took the chair for this part of the proceedings. Chairman confirmed that the Minutes to the Annual General Meeting held in October 2009 had been both circulated to the membership and posted on the IFSM website. It was proposed by the Secretary General, seconded by the President and agreed by the meeting that the 2009 Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

The business of the meeting then got under way. The main points that were agreed

Application and Annual Fees - Accredited Courses - Members (Non Members prices in brackets)

Accredited course application fee per course - £50 (£125).
Continuous annual fees per accredited course - £75 (£150)

Application and Annual Fees - Approved Centres - Members (Non Members prices in brackets)

Approved Centre application, to cover all courses submitted at the time - £250 (£500).
Approved centre continuous annual fees - £300 (£600)

at the meeting were that membership fees from 1st January 2011 would be increased to £48 per year. It was also agreed that the application fees and annual fees for members for the risk assessors register would increase to £48 respectively from 1st January 2011. Finally with regard to fees, it was also agreed that accreditation fees would be increased from 1st January 2011 in line with the figures highlighted in the box.

The position of Chairman had become vacant as the current Chairman, John Williamson had expressed a wish to stand down at the AGM. With that in mind, the Secretary General personally thanked John Williamson for his commitment and work for the Institute over the past 5 years and it was unanimously agreed by AGM to record a formal vote of thanks on behalf of the membership to recognise John's contribution. Ray Colyer and Neil Cripps were formally nominated for the position of Chairman and after a vote Ray

Colyer was elected and took the Chair. All Council members and officers were returned with the addition of Mike Ablitt and Colin Walker who were elected from the floor. The only other change was Alan Stoker who took over as membership Secretary from Ken Day who was duly elected in turn to be President of the Institute for the next two years.

The immediate Past President gave his valedictory address and then handed over the Chain of Office and the President's badge to the newly elected President and the President passed on the Past Presidents badge to Dave Price. Ken Day then highlighted the history of the Institute and how it had evolved from its early years to become a dynamic body catering for a wide range of industry leading professionals covering the full spectrum of fire safety disciplines. Ken also stressed that the Institute had a policy of transparency and had a member led philosophy which clearly underpinned

its success as the industry's most rapidly expanding professional body. He spoke of the future business strategy and the need to meet member's expectations whilst maintaining costs at acceptable levels - and invited all members to support this strategy by each introducing at least one new member over the forthcoming year.

The 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Fire Safety Managers was closed by the Chairman at 1515 hrs reminding everyone, once again, to please not forget the importance of getting new people on board and to remember that increasing membership was the only way the Institute will grow in strength. He thanked everyone for attending and especially Dave Cutts from Jaguar who had made the day possible by providing the fabulous venue.

**Readers Note, the draft minutes of the AGM which detail the business of the day are available on the Institute's website at www.ifsm.org.uk.*

AGM Picture Gallery



Members settle down for the day



The start of proceedings



Ray Colyer (Chairman) and the President present awards



Chairman and Elspeth Grant



Stephen O'Reilly from Hall and Kay Fire Engineering presents his paper



Linda Oldman delivers her presentation



Hilary Ross from Bond Pearce LLP informs members about the current legislative enforcement details



John Montgomery delivers his computer training initiative paper



'The old and the new', outgoing President Dave Price hands over the chain of office to the incoming President Ken Day



President Ken Day passes the Past President's Badge to Dave Price



President Ken Day delivers his inaugural address

Don't let lack of plans hamper rescue efforts at an incident

One of the main problems the UK Fire and Rescue Service face in the event of an incident are ineffective access to premises plans and information, whether it be no focal point for the storage of premises plans; over-complex plans; premises plans and information not readily accessible or even up to date..... all these factors plus many more delay the vital response time for Fire and Rescue Service efforts to safe guard life and preserve property.

The reality check started with the events of 3rd July 2009, when 6 people lost their lives in the incident at Lakanal House, Southwark which highlighted the need for premises plans and information. This was a particularly complex high rise block and the investigation into this incident is still ongoing. However, the interim report written by Sir Ken Knight, Government Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser states that "Consideration should be given by fire and rescue authorities as to how risk-critical information on complex and high rise buildings is made readily available to operational firefighters at an incident, e.g. on site in secure premises information boxes..."

Having access to plans of the property as soon as possible assists in tactical decision making regarding the property and can speed up evacuation and disaster recovery.

The Gerda Premises information Box™ (PIB)® system was developed in partnership with the Fire Engineering Department of London Fire Brigade, to provide a straight-forward and unique system, based on proven key management technology to protect a companies building and assets.

This system operates with the unique Gerda Master Key® which is carried on each fire appliance to enable attending fire crews immediate access to premises plans and information (this system is supported by 80% of the Fire and Rescue Service in the UK). This is important as it may be a crew that is not familiar with your premises. It is not reliant on first responders being present, in the event that their presence has been compromised by the incident nor power related. The unique Gerda key® is

trademarked and is linked to a registered key system and therefore the cutting of keys is through authorised channels only.

There are many approved codes of practice and guidance documentation that advocate the use of these systems. The most applicable being the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, where each of the twelve guides all state that you should have procedures in place for meeting the Fire and Rescue Service on their arrival and notifying them of hazards and risks on the property. Guide 11, Transport Premises and Facilities goes even further and states:

"You should consider providing a plans box in consultation with the local fire safety officer (FSO), to provide up-to-date information at the point of use....It is essentially a box containing plans and information about the building in a standard format.....Further guidance is given in the LFEPA/LFB premises information box safety note."

Gerda supplies each PIB with an "ERPG" Emergency Response Pack Guidance manual written by leading authorities in the field of fire safety and fire command operations. This contains good practice guidelines on the process of preparing plans and collating information, including orientation plans, layout and contents, safety and emergency features, critical assets – in a format that is readily assimilated by attending fire crews.

Business continuity is obviously a major consideration with the protection of valuable equipment and guidelines for this are included within the "ERPG".

The Premises Information Box™ (PIB)® system has been adopted by a

variety of organisations in the UK, and the concept is supported by the insurance industry and fire consultants.

Humbleside FRS working together with Hull City council is proud to be associated with Gerda Technology in providing PIB security into residential high rise buildings at 33 locations in Hull. The presence of the PIB's greatly increases the safety of both the



operational personnel and residents at these difficult incidents by the information gathered within for the use of the Incident Commander. By providing the boxes vital minutes may be saved during the preparation stages of any incident at high rise premises by allowing access to service keys and floor plans, thus creating a base knowledge for initial risk assessments."

Tony Bolder, Operational Support Manager, Humbleside Fire and Rescue Service

For further information or your IFSM discount please contact Gerda on 0845 2009 435 or visit www.gerdatechnology.co.uk



IFSM to Introduce Examinations?

Members will, hopefully, be interested to know that consideration is being given, by Council, to organizing and running examinations for member and prospective members who wish to enhance their qualifications and seek higher grades of membership.

At the November meeting of Council it was agreed that the newly formed Technical and Examinations sub-committee should progress the development and planning work carried out to date with a view to offering a pilot scheme, hopefully during 2011, for Members. It is recognized that, whilst a lot of work has already been carried out, there are still a number of key areas that have to be addressed and firmed up before this can happen.

It is intended that the Institute will run the examinations once per year and that, initially, two examinations will be offered:

- **IFSM Technician grade** - equivalent Level 2 (NOS's), based on an 'objective question' format.
- **IFSM Associate grade** - equivalent Level 3 (NOS's), based on both 'objective and subjective question' format.

To fit in with the academic year (UK) the examinations will run on a date in May/June each year, subject to sufficient interest from prospective candidates.

Members will be kept informed of developments in this new enterprise and are asked to watch out for further announcements.

Stuart Cocking - Council member.

Accreditation Secretary's Report - Nov 2010

Universities and Local Authorities are now showing an interest in accrediting their



Mike Ablitt

fire safety training courses and in-house staff training modules designed to improve the level of safety from fire in their organisations and local authority departments.

In the coming months, members of the Accreditation Sub Committee will be visiting the courses and centres of these organisations in addition to training companies, to establish if the Institute can endorse with our logo the initiatives being undertaken to ensure the standards being achieved in tuition and service are of the highest quality.

With the current economic climate affecting the public and private sectors of the fire industry alike, it is important that companies, local authorities and teaching establishments can prove they have achieved a level of excellence which guarantees to employees or clients appropriate training which meets their individual needs to be safe in the event of an emergency.

To this end, I would ask enquirers who have not yet had the opportunity to send in an application to consider if the Institute's accreditation will assist their organisation to promote the standards they are achieving in the field of fire safety education.



If any company or fire safety practitioner needs further advice after visiting the accreditation page of our website and perusing the available information downloads, then I can be contacted for further advice by email, in the first instance, at accreditation@ifsm.org.uk

In concluding this brief report to our membership, I wish to welcome a new member of Council to the Accreditation team, Mike Ablitt, and record thanks to Kevin Scarth for all he contributed to accreditation prior to his recent retirement from active Council involvement.

John Cowie - Accreditation Secretary
accreditation@ifsm.org.uk

Remembrance Sunday Ceremony, Cenotaph

Peter Cowland, Ken Day and Stuart Cocking, who many will know are Members of IFSM Council are shown here shortly before they took part in the Remembrance Sunday ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall as part of the Retired Fire-fighters contingent. Peter, our treasurer, is the holder of many illustrious positions, including that of 'Cenotaph Director' for the Firefighters Memorial Charitable Trust.



Whilst the three redoubtable members were not on this occasion representing the IFSM (there was no cost to the Institute), hence Ken was not wearing the Presidents chain of office, they took the opportunity, on a number of occasions apparently, to promote the Institute.

14th November 2010 - Whitehall, London.

Moving with the times - Fire alarm (visual devices), fire exit signs and emergency lighting

- By Howard Myers, GFireE, MIFSM, MIFPO, CFEI, CFII

We have read many articles lately regarding the Equality Act 2010 and the introduction of EN54 – 23, Fire Alarm Devices – Visual Alarms.

Having seen numerous installations, there appears to be one short fall! What on earth is that red light for?

This short fall can also be provided in premises where visual devices are required (other than DDA's) when the audibility above the background noise may be substituted. It could also be determined that when anyone visiting unfamiliar locations, visual devices are installed that you may not be aware of provision of these devices but they have been installed. A few examples of this are: changing facilities at Sports & Fitness centres, shopping malls or other toilets or swimming pools.

This could easily be rectified by the provision of a simple sign indicating the purpose of such visual devices incorporated into the Fire Emergency Plan and staff training sessions with wording such as "If the red light above (or indicated by an arrow showing the location of the device) is flashing, the FIRE ALARM has been actuated, please leave the building immediately".

As in the requirement of Fire Action Notices, these additions regarding visual alarms should be mandatory signs.

On another track, Emergency lighting: going into fire prevention in the mid 70's I was concerned that emergency lighting and exits signs were provided a ceiling level and voiced my opinion. No one listened! As we are all aware that smoke rises during a fire situation, so why are we still requiring the green moving person and emergency lighting to be provided in an area that will be obscured? The airline industry and theatres have been providing the emergency lighting at floor level for some considerable time.

During a recent holiday to Singapore I was invited to spend some time at the new Marina Bay Sands Resort Hotel. The first thing that struck me was the

green exit lights had been placed throughout all corridors at skirting board level. The ideal location, a mere 30 years later on.

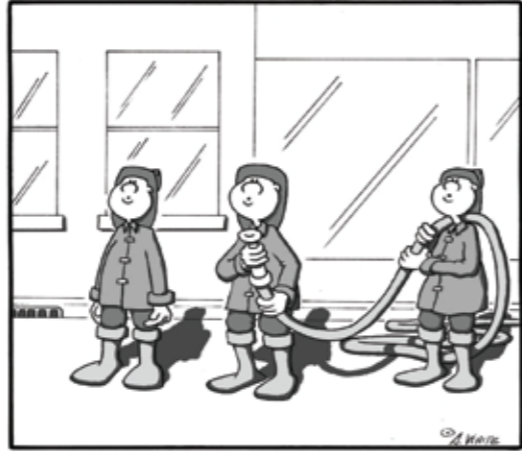
It is suggested as a professional organisation the IFSM to lobby the legislators to introduce sufficient verbiage relating to signs and notices to be addressed before EN54 – 23 is ratified and brought into law in 2013. It would also make sense to give considerations and provide recommendations for BS

9999, 5266 & 5499 to reflect these observations.

General Secretary's comment:

Now that Council has formed sub committees, we will be dealing with this letter and request for action from Howard via the Technical and Examinations Committee which hopes to have its inaugural meeting early in the New Year. I am sure this item will be one of the first to go on the agenda!

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Report on the decision to form sub-committees, within Council - By Stuart Cocking FIFSM, Council Member

Members will be aware of the strong growth which has been achieved by the Institute in recent years, not just by the substantial increase in membership that has taken place but also from the greater recognition, nationally, that we have achieved. Such positive development brings with it a need to ensure that a dynamic and proactive approach towards meeting the aims, objectives and demands is being achieved at all times.

It is with these facts in mind that Council have taken the positive decision to form several sub-committees, details of which are provided below. This initiative coincides with several new members being appointed to Council which will provide additional experience and expertise for the benefit of all.

Council are aware of the width and breadth of skills and knowledge encompassed within the membership of the Institute, much of which is waiting to be tapped. Future Council initiatives will hopefully provide scope for harnessing this expertise, at the same time allowing Members to offer their services when opportunities arise.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

This committee will look after all matters appertaining to membership and all other matters as may be designated by Council.

- Alan Stoker
- Ken Day
- Bob Docherty
- Stuart Cocking.

MARKETING and PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

This committee will cover the business plan, publications (Daedalus), events, web site management and all other matters as may be designated by Council.

- Dave Price
- Colin Walker
- Chris Smith
- Neil Cripps
- Ray Colyer
- Bob Docherty
- Mark Clayton – co-opted member.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

This committee will look after all aspects of the accreditation of courses and centres and all other matters as may be designated by Council.

- John Cowie - Secretary
- Ray Colyer
- Mike Ablitt
- Alan Stoker
- Stuart Cocking - Chairman.

TECHNICAL and EXAMINATIONS COMMITTEE

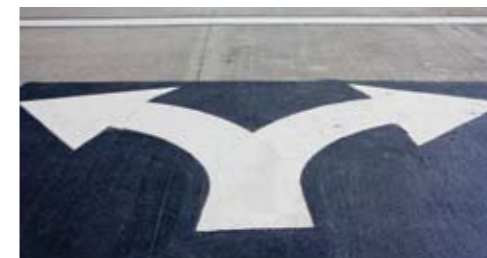
This committee will deal with technical issues arising from the membership and external sources. They will also be responsible for the fire risk assessors register and all other matters as may be designated by Council.

- Bob Docherty
- Gary Whitworth
- Alan Stoker
- Stuart Cocking
- May Husseyin
- Bill Cox (Co-opted).

Which direction from here?

- By President Ken Day

During the lifetime of this Institute changes within the fire sector have taken place apace and with some certainty will continue to do so.



It is undoubtedly true that these changes have contributed to the growth in our membership both numerically and in diversity.

In order to maintain and improve even further the development of membership and quality of service we must as an organisation take stock of the current and foreseeable needs of members and set a path for future development of our services and benefits.

Dealing with this challenge will effectively place additional commitment upon every member of Council and this has been addressed by the establishment of several sub-committees as set out elsewhere in this issue.

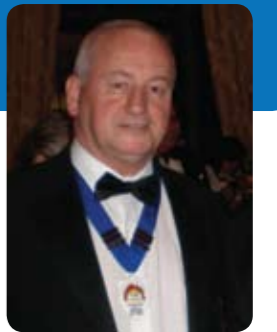
As a member led organisation we continue to listen carefully to your views and request your ongoing feedback and contribution. Whilst the direction set by your Council is most firmly upward and onward the exact routing and destination will be determined by the desires and aspirations of the membership.

The professional standing of the Institute and hence its future will be judged by other bodies and Government departments, as well as potential members,

upon the soundness of our perceived contribution to the sector. Your Council will work hard to drive the Institute forward in support of its aims and with your

continued support and enthusiasm the future will be bright indeed.

I am highly honoured to have been elected as your President and I look forward to promoting the Institute at every opportunity.



Lord Mayors Show 2010

Every November the City of London, holds the "Lord Mayors Show" to mark the installation of the new Lord Mayor. This year over 140 floats, representing as many organisations, participated in the parade which was just over three miles long. It wended its way from Mansion House to Temple Bar, and back again, to the pleasure of Michael Bear the new Lord Mayor and thousands of cheering people in the crowd.

Many Livery Companies participate in the event too and as the Upper Warden of the Worshipful Company of Fire-fighters I got the



opportunity to co-ordinate an entry for the "Modern Livery Companies". Accordingly I had to set about developing a theme for our float. Some of you will recall that the 29th December 1940 saw the first Blitz raid on the City (not London generally because the docks and the east end had been hit a few weeks before that). "Answer complete!" ... this year is the 70th Anniversary of that event

I telephoned my old pal Frank Sommerville of "Firemen Remembered" and asked him if he would like to put his 1942 vintage Heavy Pumping Unit (more affectionately known as "the old girl") into the Lord Mayors Show. He kindly agreed, for which we in the Modern Livery Companies were most grateful.

So in the early hours of Saturday 13th November, at Dowgate Fire Station in the City, Frank's appliance got washed off and prepared for its big day. At 0830, on the bell, we made our way to the muster point in St Martin's le Grand to join the other entries. A buzz was in the air as people came to admire the appliance and chat to the six other "volunteers" that Frank had recruited to form a WW2 crew.

After a military fly past, at 1102 hrs precisely, the show starts and after this we slowly made our way along the route. With "Glen the bell" doing his bit we got cheer after cheer from the crowd as we went along and were clearly very well respected. The BBC, to whom I had previously had to present a briefing note, selected us for TV



coverage and so as we came around by the Mansion House the commentator Clare Balding joined us to talk about our entry. Hence we went out "live" on BBC1 that morning and the fire-fighters who served the UK so well during those dark years were truly honoured.

The "old girl" suffered just a little because we were travelling very slowly and she got a little hot, but as during the war, she never let us down. We were extremely grateful to Frank and his crew for helping to make it such a special day for us all.

Peter Cowland
FIFSM -
Worshipful
Company of
Fire-fighters



Meeting with our Member in Singapore - by Bob Docherty Secretary General

October 2010 saw Alan Stoker, Stuart Cocking and myself on business with our own companies in Singapore.

Whilst planning the trip all of us thought it would be a good idea to try and meet up with our only member in Singapore at the moment, Veerasamy Kasinathan M Tech, FSM, AIFSM. Veera is the fire safety manager for CA Safety Technology Pte Ltd and has been a member of the Institute for some time.

Our group contacted Veera once we had carried out our own business arrangements and met up with him on two occasions. Discussions centred on how best the Institute could make headway in Singapore and Veera was able to supply us with a list of useful contacts which Alan and I will be working on in the coming months.

Members will be interested to note that we have a number of members based around the world and it is important to encourage and nurture these individuals to ensure that we can increase our membership, especially in regions such as Europe and Middle and Far East.

Bob
Docherty,
Veerasamy
Kasinathan
and Alan
Stoker in
Singapore



Institute of Fire Safety managers - who's who

Secretary General - Dr Robert Docherty

President - Ken Day

Immediate Past President - Dave Price

Membership Secretary - Alan Stoker

Hon. Treasurer - Peter Cowland

Chair of Council - Ray Colyer

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