



Congratulations Dany!

It is with great pleasure and pride the WFS congratulate Dany on her appointment as the interim Commissioner for the London Fire Brigade. This is an amazing achievement and a significant milestone, not only in the 150 years of LFB, but also in the UK Fire & Rescue Service. Dany joined the fire service in 1988, aged 18 after leaving college having studied for A levels and attained her first rank of promotion after serving 7 years as an operational firefighter. She has served at several fire stations in LFB and in different departments gaining a variety of experiences. She has been the Chair of Women in the Fire Service for a total of 11 years (2002-2008 and 2013 to present). Dany was awarded the Queen's Fire Service medal in the New Year's Honours list January 2004 and Public Servant of the Year in 2002. She was awarded the title of Fire 'Inspirational Woman of the year' in 2015. Highly regarded in the Fire & Rescue by her peers and colleagues, Dany has yet again shown that the glass ceiling can be

shattered. All in WFS wish her the very best in her role and we look forward to being able to congratulate her in person during the year.

Dany follows the appointment of Becci Bryant in 2016 as Chief Fire Officer in Staffordshire and also in the coming months, Dawn Whittaker as acting Chief Fire Officer in East Sussex. Prior to this there have been 4 female Chief Executives, Cheryl Rolph (2000-2001), Susan Johnson (2005-2015), Anne Millington (2011 and still in post) and Joy Smith (2014-2015). There have also been 2 women Chief Executives at the Fire Service College, Gill Newton (2004-2008) and Sally Sheen (2008-2009).

Our 17th National Training & Development weekend will be held on 16-18 June 2017

hosted by the Fire Service College. This is a great opportunity for both operational and support delegates to utilise the state of the art training facilities. Still at the planning stages the following workshops are confirmed: Multi Incident Scenario, Drive an appliance, Be a Firefighter, Mindfulness, Trauma, USAR, Incident Command (SIM Suite), Self Defence, Rethink Mental Health, Yoga, Fire Investigation and First Aid. With more to follow. The fee to attend is £430.00 per delegate (inclusive of food and accommodation). Corporate Affiliate Members receive 10% discount. Further details are available from Karen Smith womeninthefireservice@btconnect.com



17th National Training & Development weekend
16th-18th June 2017

When women support each other, incredible things happen
Delegate fee: £430.00 (Corporate Affiliate Members receive 10% discount)

Workshops will include:

- Multi Incident Scenario
- Rethink Mental Health
- Incident Command
- Drive an appliance
- Self Defence
- Be a Firefighter
- First Aid
- Trauma
- Yoga

Priority hosted by The Fire Service College

For further information visit www.wfs.org.uk
Email: womeninthefireservice@btconnect.com
Telephone: 01938 361222

The Inclusive Fire Service Group are conducting a survey and very interested in the views of employees, whether uniformed or non-uniformed, and ask you to respond to this survey so that your views can be taken into account, not just on your current experience of working in the service but also importantly on how improvement could be made. All the information the Group has gathered will inform strategies and actions intended to deliver improvements at local level. They can then monitor the position to clearly identify whether these actions have had any measurable impact and whether further action or broader initiatives are required. The survey can be found here: <http://survey.euro.confirmit.com/wix/p1855700622.aspx> All responses will be treated in confidence, and no individual response will be disclosed. If you have any queries about the survey please contact research@local.gov.uk. Survey to be completed by 10 February.

'Meet the Team' - Sara Hall

I was 29 years old, travelling with a friend in Australia and we were talking about how when we returned to the UK we both wanted to find a 'grown up' job. We started going through the list of suitable careers; Police, Paramedic, Teacher and suddenly one of us blurted out 'Firefighter'. Fast forward through a lot of hard work and persistence and today I'm a Crew Commander at Northfield Blue Watch in West Midlands Fire Service. And my friend? She's a whole-time Kent FF. I got involved with Women in the Fire Service nearly 10 years ago as a fresh recruit. I was used to working in a male environment and felt very welcome in my new career but being able to meet other women from all over the country sounded too good an opportunity to miss. From my first event I was inspired and welcomed by a peer group I didn't know even existed. I found the experience so positive I quickly went on to become the Regional Rep for the Midlands and last year became Positive Action Coordinator. I cannot overstate the sense of pride and belonging I feel from being a member of WFS. It is real privilege to be involved in the Annual Training & Development weekends and meet women from all over the country in every conceivable FS role.



wfs.org.uk

We have a new website, which is active but will take some time to complete, so please bear with us.



Join our group 'WFS'



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