

Saturday 31 December 2005

Quiet new year for the IW Fire Service (IOW Radio Website)

The Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service said it had a relatively quiet New Year's Day. Crews were called out just three times and all the fires were out by the time they got to them. These included smoke from a tumble drier and a car fire in Newport.

New fire control centre plans await go ahead (IOW Radio Website)

Plans for the south-east's new regional fire control room in Fareham have now been submitted. The £110 million project at Kite's Croft Business Park is being considered by Fareham Borough Council. It is going to replace the Isle of Wight's Fire Control Room in Newport by 2009. The Centre's 100 operators will take calls for nine counties and the building is designed to withstand a natural disaster or a terrorist attack.

Monday 2 January 2006

Tumble Drier, Oven and Car behind Fire Service New Year Callout (Solent TV Website)

The Island's Fire and Rescue Service attended a series of callouts on New Year's Day.

They were first called to a property on Whiterails Road in Wootton at around 2.30pm. Smoke coming from a tumble drier was found to have been caused by a vent coming into contact with a boiler. An oven fire at a home on Cornwall Road in Upper Ventnor had already been smothered using a blanket when crews arrived, shortly before 5pm on Sunday afternoon. A fire in a car on Garden Way in Newport was also extinguished before crews arrived, at around 5.30pm.

Wednesday 4 January 2006

Chemical Drums removed from Beaches (Solent TV Website)

Two chemical drums that washed up on Island beaches, have been removed by the Islands fire service.

The first was dealt with on Tuesday morning at around 10am from Brambles chine at Colwell Bay. According to fire spokesperson, the 2.5 litre drum was sealed and contained phosphoric acid. Firefighters transferred it to the poison site at Lynbottom tip. A second drum was being dealt with on Wednesday morning at Fore Victoria. The 3ft by 2ft yellow drum is thought to be an old gas drum that had been washed up on the beach there.

Monday 9 January 2006

[Firefighters attend car fire incident in Wootton \(Solent TV Website\)](#)

Firefighters were called to put out a burning car in Wotton on Monday morning.

The Seat car was said to be "well alight" on church Road when fire crews arrived at 10:01 am. One pump from Newport attended the incident and put out the flames. The burnt out car was removed from the road.

Tuesday 10 January 2006

[FBU members urge fire control complaints \(Isle of Wight Radio Website\)](#)

The Fire Brigades Union is calling on its members to make official complaints about the new south-east fire control centre. A planning application was handed into Fareham Borough Council before Christmas. The proposed building at Kitescroft Business Park is designed to replace all the existing fire control rooms in the south-east including the Isle of Wight's. The deadline for objections is Tuesday 17 January 2006.

[Two callouts for Island Fire Service over night \(Solent TV Website\)](#)

A post box in Ventnor caught alight in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

A crew from the town's fire station were called to Bath Road at 1.26am. Meanwhile, firefighters from Sandown were called to Avenue Road where a pan on a stove had caught on fire. The crew found it had been extinguished when they arrived at the Savoy Court property.

[Islands Fire Service gets training on specialist new kit \(Solent TV Website\)](#)

Firefighters on the Island are being trained to use new equipment, to aid them in dealing with emergencies and keeping the Island safe.

Some of the new apparatus includes a High Volume Pumping appliance that can pump 8,000 litres of water a minute. Its main purpose is for use at major flood incidents, but can also be used to help fight major fires. Other equipment, which could be used in search and rescue missions, includes safety ropes for high structures and enclosed spaces. The training programme is all part of the Government Civil Resilience Programme, and is designed to enhance the capability of the service and provide extra help for firefighters in their everyday roles. On Tuesday there is a special demonstration of the new equipment in action for councillors from the Isle of Wight Council Safer Communities Policy Commission.

Wednesday 11 January 2006

[Couple treated for smoke inhalation after kitchen fire \(Solent TV Website\)](#)

Firefighters were called to the aid of an elderly couple on Wednesday afternoon after a kitchen fire.

Crews were called to a property on Solent Gardens in Freshwater at 1532. Four firefighters with breathing apparatus and 2 hose reels were used in the incident although the fire was out on arrival. The couple who are in their 70's were treated by paramedics for smoke inhalation. The fire crew were stood down at 1656.

Thursday 12 January 2006

Horses hurt in Apse Heath stables fire – Police investigate cause (Isle of Wight Radio Web Site)

Two horses have suffered burns in a fire at stables in Apse Heath. Firefighters were called to an address off Newport Road just after 3.00 am this morning. The flames are now out and we're told the horses have been treated by a vet for what are described as "superficial" injuries. Police and firefighters are investigating at the scene this morning. Police say the fire has caused up to £50,000 of damage.

Fire Service at bottom of league (Isle of Wight Radio website)

A league table of fire authorities in England puts the Isle of Wight in the bottom two. The list is based on Audit Commission inspections from last year. The Island was rated as "poor" because of problems with the management and modernisations. The inspection didn't look at how our firefighters respond to emergency calls. The Island's Chief Fire Officer retired three months ago after he had been suspended for eight months.

Fire control room consultation due to close (Solent TV Website)

Plans to build a regional centre, housing Fire and Rescue service control room operators from across the south east of England, are due to move forward, from next week.

Public consultation over the Kites Croft Business Park proposals, on land between Southampton and Fareham, finishes on Tuesday. Outline planning permission has already been granted for the employment use of the site, off the M27 Titchfield. If it gets the go ahead, the building is likely to house around 125 staff controlling firefighters from 9 brigades, including the Isle of Wight, Sussex, Hampshire and Oxfordshire. Concerns about the building's impact on wildlife have been lodged. If you want to comment on the plans, which are available on the authorities website www.fareham.gov.uk, write to: Fareham Borough Council, Civic Offices, Civic Way, Hampshire, PO16 7PU. Nine members of the authority's Planning Developments Control Committee are due to consider the scheme on the 22 February 2006.

Fire Service Report looks at ways of combating "poor" performance (Solent TV Website)

An independent report published on Thursday rates the Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority as one of the two worst performing in England. The Audit Commission report looks at the findings of performance assessments carried out at 47 fire and rescue authorities across the country in 2005. Nearly half of the FRAs were only authorities to be rated as "poor", the lowest grade. Comprehensive Performance assessments look at the way the service works within the community to make it safer and prevent fires happening in the first place. The results of the Island's assessment were made public in July 2005. Thursday's report highlights that two-thirds of county fire and rescue authorities, the Isle of Wight's category, were rated as 'fair', 'weak' or 'poor'. The Audit Commission is urging local authorities to play their part in providing services fit for the 21st century 'by ensuring councillors have the necessary skills to provide strategic leadership'.

Horses hurt in stable fire – Two cars also set alight in Apse Heath (Isle of Wight Radio Website)

Police say they are treating tree fires in Apse Heath in the early hours of Thursday morning as 'potential arson attacks'

Firefighters were first called out to put out a fire in a car on Alverstone Road at around 2.30am. Then as they were leaving the scene, they were diverted to a fire at a property on Newport Road. When they arrived, at around 3.10am, a number of outbuildings were ablaze. The owners of the property had been alerted to the fire when their dog's barking woke them up. A tack room, two stable, hay barn and aviary were destroyed in the fire. Two horses, in the stables at the time, were caught in the flames, with one even being set alight. A vet found they had suffered "superficial burns". Two parrots in the aviary were found lying on the floor, seemingly dead, but have since been revived. The damage caused to the property is estimated to be about £40,000. The cause of the fire is not yet known, but the police are treating it as suspicious. A forensic scientist is travelling from the mainland on Friday in the hope that they might be able to tell how the fire began. Police are linking the incident to that of another car fire in Apse Heath, on Newport Road, that they found out about as they were making inquiries on Thursday morning. Police are appealing to anyone who saw any suspicious activity in Apse Heath in the early hours of Thursday morning to contact Newport CID on 0845 045 45 45.

Friday 13 January 2006

Car crashes into hotel reception (Isle of Wight Radio website)

A car has crashed into the Bembridge Coast Hotel. A Rover 25 went into a side wall at the front entrance just after 6.00pm on Thursday evening. Firefighters tell us the wall was moved three feet by the collision but a building inspector has said the hotel is structurally safe. No-one was hurt. It's understood a member of the hotel's Bowls Club selected the wrong gear when trying to drive out of a parking space.

Thursday 19 January 2006

Van crash closes Cheverton Shute (Isle of Wight Radio website)

A motorist has suffered serious injuries after the van he was driving hit a wall outside Cheverton Farm near Shorwell. The man wasn't trapped but firefighters cut the doors off his Ford Transit so he could be removed safely on a spinal board. The driver was taken to hospital but police say his life is not at risk. Part of the Carisbrooke to Shorwell road was closed for more than two hours on Wednesday night because of the crash, which happened just before 5.20pm.

Monday 23 January 2006

Women freed after Shanklin crash (Isle of Wight Radio website)

A woman's been cut free from the back seat of a car after a crash in Shanklin.

Firefighters say a Toyota Yaris was on its side after a collision with a van at the junction of North Road and Clarence Road at half past twelve yesterday afternoon. The woman was removed on a spinal board and taken to hospital. It's not known how serious her injuries are. Three other people were travelling in the Toyota.

Chinese Takeaway fire (Isle of Wight Radio website)

Three people have been escorted to safety because of a fire at a Chinese Takeaway in Ryde. Firefighters tackled flames on the first floor of Hong King Express in the

early hours of Sunday morning. The cause of the fire is believed to be an electrical fault.

Firefighters Undo Careless Nail Gun Shot (Isle of Wight Radio website)

One man on the Island is recovering after he was careless with the aim of his nail gun. He went to hospital because he had stapled himself to a piece of 4x2 wood. Firefighters were called to the A & E department at St. Mary's Hospital in Newport where they used a junior hacksaw to free the man.

Monday 30 January 2006

Man Dies In Car Crash Near Arreton – IW Radio Website

A 20-year-old man from Brading has died in a car crash near Arreton. The black Toyota Starlet he was driving left the road at Hale Common at 00:20 this morning and overturned in a field. His front seat passenger, a 21-year-old man also from Brading, suffered lacerations, bruising and shock. He's being treated at St Mary's Hospital in Newport where his condition is described as "comfortable". The A3056 main Newport to Sandown road was shut for three hours. Police would like anyone who saw the crash or the Toyota travelling from Arreton to phone Shanklin Roads Policing Unit on 0845 045 45 45.

Four-Year-Old Girl & Pregnant Mum Escape Cowes House Fire – IW Radio Website

Firefighters say a four-year-old girl and her pregnant mum were lucky to escape from a house fire in Cowes. Flames broke out on the ground floor of a two-storey home in Grove Road this morning. Firefighters are praising the actions of the four-year-old girl who raised the alarm when she saw flames in the front room at 7.30am. She alerted her pregnant mum who was upstairs in the bathroom. Firefighters put out the flames within 20 minutes and a pet cat was rescued from the property. Experts are describing the fire as "severe" after it caused "substantial" damage to the house. Firefighters have now finished their enquiries at the scene. They're still not sure of the exact cause but believe it was an "accidental" fire.

House Fire in Cowes – Solent TV website

A pregnant woman, aged in her 30s, was treated for the effects of smoke inhalation at the scene of a house fire in Cowes. Fire crews from Cowes and Newport were called to the property in Grove Road, at 7.30am on Monday. The ground floor was described as "well alight" and 6 firefighters wearing breathing apparatus tackled the blaze. A cat was rescued from the property and was being treated by a vet.



