



The Fire Brigade Society's 2019 - 2020 Annual General Meeting & FBS East Midlands Visit

'Storm Ciara' failed to dampen the spirits of The Fire Brigade Society AGM held in Leicester over the weekend of 8th & 9th February 2020.

Saturday morning was spent enjoying the heritage and multi coloured fire engine collection assembled, in sunshine, outside Abbey Pumping Station, Leicester. On display was a Dennis F7, F8, F12 pump and pump escapes in red, silver and maroon; a Forward Control Land Rover converted to a sky blue recovery truck, a dark green 'Goddess', and possibly 'the truck of weekend', an ex-London Fire Brigade Dennis breakdown lorry.

Once this 'extravaganza' had been admired, together with the staff of the pumping station, attendees moved indoors, allowing a further opportunity to explore the ornate Victorian pumping station.

The Annual General Meeting, the 'formal element' of The Society's year, started at 14.00hours. Minutes of the meeting will be published in due course. Following the Annual General Meeting a question and answer session concluded the day.

The following day the start point of the FBS East Midlands Visit to Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service was Birstall fire station.

Here was seen a Scania pump, Scania Aerial Ladder Platform (ALP), the specialist Fire Investigation Unit and a motorbike used at major motorbike related events in the county. The motorbike, along with a 'specialised' car, are used to spread 'fire prevention' and 'safe driving' messages.

Leicester West fire station provided the opportunity to explore a 'new generation' Scania and a guest vehicle from Leicestershire Search and Rescue before moving on to the large number of appliances at Southern fire station.

Travelling from Southern fire station to Wigston fire station allowed the viewing of their two pumps and Command Unit.

Eastern fire station had been a very busy station during the day attending numerous incidents.

Leicester Central fire station more than made up for the visit not going to Eastern fire station with their two Scania pumps and ALP, plus a welcome cup of tea and the opportunity to explore their small museum.

The fire crews met throughout the visit brought humour, interest and stories to the day, that is between shouts, rain, wind and sun!

Thanks go to all those involved.

