



# THE FIRE BRIGADE SOCIETY

[www.thefirebrigadesociety.co.uk](http://www.thefirebrigadesociety.co.uk)

*The organisation for fire and rescue service enthusiasts*

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## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE No 5 – AUGUST 2023**

Dear Member,

The visit to the Scottish FRS on Saturday 2 September has been cancelled. A number of appliance reallocations and reductions are due to take place on this date and following discussions with senior officers from the SFRS and the Scottish Area Secretary it was felt that it would be appropriate to cancel the visit and rearrange at a more suitable and convenient time.

The Society Management Team were recently made aware of several posts on social media concerning a visit made to Dublin Airport Fire and Rescue Service that inferred the visit was an official FBS visit. Liaison with one of our members who attended confirmed the visit was not an official visit but was a private visit attended by some FBS members.

The social media posts have been seen by many members and has caused some concerns amongst you that the visit was arranged by the FBS but not advertised to all members. This is not the case.

Can we respectfully request that if any member organises or attends a private visit which has not been organised by the FBS and social media posts are published, the wording used is carefully considered and that no reference is made of the FBS.

Can we also remind you all that the SMT welcome members assisting with organising and hosting visits but any such visit must be arranged in liaison with, and with the full support, of the Events Manager and that all visits are open to all members of the Society and not restricted to members from a certain area or an individual group of members.

The SMT appreciates your understanding and hopefully an official visit to Ireland can be arranged in 2024.

With the visiting season is now in full swing and thanks to the efforts of our Events Manager and a couple of members we have enjoyed some excellent visits and have given you the most comprehensive visiting season for many years.

Those of us who have organised and hosted visits this year are doing their very best to give you an interesting, varied and well organised day out. Some fire and rescue services are very accommodating, others are not so helpful and are very difficult to work with often requiring a considerable amount of communication back and forth to ensure the visit runs smoothly.

It is very disappointing to report that some members feel the need to make unnecessary comments or make suggestions to the visit organiser that are unhelpful and on occasions abrupt and rude. There also seems to be a lack of courtesy being offered to those who are doing their very best as an unpaid volunteer and a thank you from some members at the end of a visit wouldn't go a miss.

We also must mention the hospitality extended to us during visits. Some stations are kind enough to supply tea, coffee and biscuits. Most stations fund this from their own finances and it's been

disappointing to see very few members leaving a small donation. Please consider this in the future, we want stations to remember us as courteous people.

Can we please ask you to consider the comments above and act accordingly when attending Society visits.

Please don't forget we do have a vacancy for the position of Society Treasurer. If you are interested in applying for this important role, please contact the Society Secretary.

It's now August and next month is our 60th anniversary AGM event being held in Manchester over the weekend of the 23rd and 24th September. We have an excellent two-day visit planned including both local and non-local authority locations.

The annual general meeting will be held at 16.00 on the 24th September and is being live streamed to give those who can't attend the opportunity to participate.

If you require details on the AGM weekend, or details of how to register to attend the AGM remotely please register your interest by contacting the Events Manager by email at [fbsevents1@gmail.com](mailto:fbsevents1@gmail.com) or by post to –

19 West End Road, Laughton, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, DN21 3GT

If requesting details by post, please include a stamped addressed envelope.

The closing date for entries is 12.00 Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September, don't delay, register today.

The agenda for the AGM is detailed below.

1. Welcoming address
2. Apologies
3. Appointment of Society President
4. Appointment of Chairman
5. Advise of minutes secretary
6. Matters arising from the last AGM held on the 8 February 2020
7. Result of vote – Revised Constitution
8. Result of vote – 2022/2023 Annual Report
9. Result of vote – 2022/2023 Accounts
10. Any other business
11. 2024/2025 AGM Venue

The SMT look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the AGM.

Colin Carter  
Society Secretary