Sir Ken Knight accepts Honorary Membership of the BFC:

For those members who came to last years’ Annual General Meeting Sir Ken Knight will be no stranger. He gave us a most interesting, informative and at times amusing, insight into his work and thinking about fire protection today. Sir Ken, in June of this year, published his independent report commissioned by the government to examine the efficiency of the fire and rescue services in England. Facing the Future presents Sir Ken’s findings. (www.gov.uk/government/publications/facing-the-future).

Sir Ken has been the UK Government’s Chief Fire and Rescue Adviser for England from October 2007 to January 2013, advising ministers and senior officials on policy matters including the structure, organisation and performance of fire and rescue services and crucially, providing advice during major and catastrophic emergencies. He is also responsible for the enforcement Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 in Crown premises in England. (ref 1) His long and distinguished service was rewarded in the Queen’s birthday honours’ list in 2006 with a knighthood.

The British Fire Consortium Council members were delighted when he accepted their invitation to become an Honorary Member. We are all looking forward to seeing and listening to him at future Consortium meetings.


Amerex visit Buckingham Palace

Amerex Fire International Limited joined with over 200 other Royal Warrant Holders to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen’s Coronation Jubilee.

The exhibition, in the grounds of Buckingham Palace, was held over four days, 11-14 July, with a Gala concert each evening of the first three days.

Royal Warrants are awarded to persons and companies who have supplied the royal households for a period of at least five years. Amerex hold the warrant for the supply of fire protection equipment to Her Majesty the Queen.

To celebrate the event Amerex produced a special limited edition fire extinguisher.

Contact the British Fire Consortium: Telephone 0333 123 5306
Email: secretary@britishfireconsortium.org.uk www.britishfireconsortium.org.uk
AGM 2013

Come and join us in Bristol

October 4th

Details and Booking

agm@britishfireconsortium.org.uk
The Day
The Bristol Hotel is hosting this year’s gathering. It is situated in the vibrant waterfront area. Easy access to shops and sights. All delegates will be accorded complimentary parking in the NCP car park in Princes Street which is above part of the hotel.
10.00 am Meeting start tea and coffee is available from 9.30.
Guest Speakers
Brian Robinson—Chairman Fire Sector Federation, Phil Wright—Wrightway Safety
To book your delegates please e-mail: agm@britishfireconsortium.org.uk

The Afternoon
A buffet lunch is served at 1.00pm in the restaurant.
Those staying for our evening dinner may like to take a tour of Bristol by boat on the BFC private charter leaving from opposite the hotel.
Please book your boat charter places, there may be a small charge, no more than £5 per person depending on numbers. agm@britishfireconsortium.org.uk
The Hotel has delightful lounges for those who want to chat.

The Evening
7.00pm drinks reception before 7.30 dinner with entertainment, dress code smart.
Menu choices:

Starter... Leek & potato broth with cheddar dumplings * Feta cheese and olive tartlet with tomato coulis and balsamic vinegar * Vine tomato, avocado & buffalo mozzarella salad, pesto dressing * White bean and roast garlic soup

Main.....Supreme of chicken with bubble & squeak, sugar snap peas, red wine jus * Char grilled pork loin steak, lyonnaise potato, red onion confit and Madeira sauce * Baked fillet of salmon, crushed new potato, green beans, white wine and dill sauce * Slow Cooked Shoulder of Lamb, Mediterranean Vegetables, Garlic and Rosemary Fondant * Wild mushroom and leek tian with crumble stilton cheese

Dessert.....Sticky toffee pudding with toffee sauce & vanilla ice cream * Strawberry Pavlova with a red berry coulis-White chocolate cheesecake with cranberry compote * Fresh fruit tart with Cornish clotted cream & raspberry coulis

There will be wine available on each table and the meal is followed by tea or coffee

The Hotel
We have been allocated rooms at a special rate which can be reserved via the bfc, rooms available on a first come first serve basis. Rooms are £115 for double and £105 for single. This is very competitive when you consider that this includes breakfast and parking and you are located right in the city centre.

How to book
All booking requirements for delegates, lunch, harbour cruise, evening menu choices and rooms to: agm@britishfireconsortium.org.uk
PLEASE NOTE reserved room allocation only applies until Sept 4th
From the Chairman’s Desk

It is difficult to imagine that it is almost one year on from the day that I was elected by your council to be your next chairman and thank you, fellow councillors, for giving me the privilege and task of following in such illustrious footsteps as Colin Rhodes and Pat Pearl!!  Not an easy job, I can assure you.

I remember our last chairman, Colin, making the comment, “we need someone else to face up to the new issues that lie ahead”.  Good job he didn’t mention the word “younger” which would definitely have excluded me!

Anyway, like all new occupants of a role such as this, I have a clear vision of where I see that our efforts need to be made and the principle one is that of continuing to ensure that the British Fire Consortium continues to give the best possible service to all its members.

In this respect, I am very fortunate in having a vibrant and active group of councillors who are all committed to promoting and enhancing the reputation of the British Fire Consortium.  We have already taken the step to change our status to a limited company and have produced a set of Memorandums and Articles of Association for the new company which will be instigated on 1st October this year.

I believe in the policy of the British Fire Consortium exhibiting at major fire exhibitions as this shows the Fire Sector generally the quality of the services that our members can offer.  The recent Firex Exhibition at the NEC has only strengthened my belief that training is of the utmost importance and to this end, I will endeavour to make sure that the range of courses that we currently offer will be increased to cover more fire-related topics in the future.  We are already preparing new courses that will be launched in the next few months and be of direct benefit to you as members.

We will, of course, carry on with representing members on BSI committees and bodies such as BAFE.

This year we have joined the Fire Sector Federation as a full member as I see this organisation has the credentials to advise on so many of the fire related problems that arise within UK and I believe that it is important for the British Fire Consortium to be a part of this body.

Our meetings continue to be at the centre of our activities and hopefully we will carry on having quality speakers on topics that are important and of interest to you as a member, so that you benefit from attending.  Any suggestions would be welcomed for speakers!

I am aiming to introduce a “Members question time” into our meetings as I believe from experience, that so much is gained from discussion and, you, the members, are the best at that!  More later on that topic.

My overall aim is to ensure that the British Fire Consortium is involved in all aspects of the industry and that we continue to follow the leads set by our previous chairman.

**BFC members requiring technical support should contact the Secretary, Jacqui Teale, on 0333 123 5306 will refer them to the most appropriate council member.**

Communicate with Us

One of the services we provide to members is regular e-mail bulletins that give up to date information, safety updates, notice of changes to legislation etc.....

Are yours going to the wrong address?  If you are not getting them please can you ring the secretary to advise her of your current e-mail contact.  0333 123 5306

Perhaps they are going into your spam box?  Consider putting the BFC in your contacts list and this may stop our e-mails ending up as spam.  Is the information we hold on your company correct?  Please take a moment to check your data on the BFC website.