



County Durham and Darlington
Fire and Rescue Service

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Letters of Appreciation – July to September 2023

No	Date	Personnel involved	Brief Details
1	7/7/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	Daniel Tempest of Seaham RDS sent the following message: I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who sponsored me & donated to The Tiny Lives Trust, your kind generosity will help families who are going through incredibly hard times.
2	7/7/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	CFO Steve Helps issued a message of thanks to everybody involved in Darlington Emergency Services Day, with a special mention went to members of Darlington Green Watch and Green Watch Control for keeping everything going. He also applauded Harry Binyon and the team for the usual fantastic fundraising they did for the Fire Fighters Charity, they raised a whopping £1,735.01
3	7/7/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	Christine Robson, who retired from the Service in June asked for the following message to be passed on to staff: <i>As it was officially my last day on Friday 30th June, I just wanted to thank everyone for sharing my last working day and for the lovely gifts, cards, and flowers that I received. My family, who were invited to attend my presentation, were especially proud.</i> <i>After 46 years and a very varied career in the Service I am not sure how well I am going to adapt to being a lady of leisure. but I do know that I will miss the camaraderie, support and companionship I experienced from all the teams I worked with throughout the years.</i> <i>So, a big thank you and best wishes to you all for the future.</i>

4	14/7/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	An email was received from Joanne Cooper of Acre Rigg Academy thanking the service for attending their school for a 'Careers' presentation.
5	14/7/2023	Community Safety and Arson Reduction Team	Headteacher of The Woodlands Pupil Referral Unit has thanked us for allowing their young people participating in the Developing Resilience programme to pay us a visit.
6	14/7/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	CDDFRS personnel who took part in Armed Forces Day have been thanked for their involvement.
7	28/7/2023	Durham Blue Watch	St Godric's School, Durham have thanked Durham Blue Watch for facilitating a school visit to Durham Fire Station.
8	4/8/2023	High Handenhold Red Watch	The following thank you message was received on Social Media <i>Just wanted to say a big thank you for rescuing my dog Reggie from Congburn Woods on Monday morning. We were both fine just very muddy !</i>
9	4/8/2023	Newton Aycliffe	A letter thanking crew from Newton Aycliffe for attending a house when smoke alarms started going off and beeping all the time.
10	18/8/2023	Darlington Green Watch	Darlington Borough Council emailed to express their sincere appreciation for your excellent work during the delivery of an educational session involving young people and parents which was held at Darlington Community Fire Station on Thursday 10th August 2023. The event was held in response to the young people illegally entering a derelict building Northgate House, Darlington and placing themselves at significant risk of harm. Having reviewed the session including the content it is clear that the workshop was most successful and valuable safety lessons were learnt by both the young people and parents who recorded their support and appreciation for your personal contribution on this occasion. Such actions truly portray the finest traditions of our services.

11	25/8/2023	Consett Red Watch	<p>CFO Steve Helps received the following email of thanks from Northumberland Fire Service:</p> <p>I would just like to pass on our thanks to yourselves and the service for your support with a fire appliance at an incident in Newbiggin Home Farm near Hexham, during the early hours of this morning.</p> <p>This was a significant and remote fire, and your support was invaluable in achieving a safe and effective conclusion to this incident as quickly as we did. It is hugely appreciated.</p>
12	1/9/2023	Durham Red Watch	<p>The following email was received:</p> <p>Our home was hit by lightning on 15 July 2023 at about 13.30 and we called 999 as there was smoke coming into the upstairs of our home from the loft.</p> <p>The crew that attended were amazing. They were quick to respond, calmed us down and were lovely with our two boys who were terrified. The crew did a really thorough inspection and called Northern Powergrid to get our external electricity supply isolated.</p> <p>As a family we wanted to pass on our thanks and gratitude to the team who helped us at an awful time.</p>
13	8/9/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	<p>The below email was received from Ian Ferguson Secretary of the Durham & Darlington branch of National Association of Retired Firefighters (NARF).</p> <p>On behalf of Paul Reay (chairman of the Durham & Darlington branch of NARF) and myself, could you please pass onto the Chief Fire Officer our gratitude and compliments for supporting the Fire fighter's Memorial Trust service of Remembrance yesterday (4th) at the National Memorial Arboretum.</p> <p>It was really heartening for me to see my old Brigade represented and with the Brigade standard present too. The two officers who attended were a credit to the brigade and conducted themselves immaculately and I was proud to see the service represented so well.</p>

			Several people commented on the lack of Brigade standards present at the service, but I can assure the presence of the Durham & Darlington standard was most definitely noted and appreciated. Thank you for supporting such an important event.
14	8/9/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	<p>Mark Bryden of Consett Red Watch has emailed all CDDFRS personnel regarding the North - East Fire Services Boxing event which took place on the 1st September 2023</p> <p><i>Can I say a huge thank you for support with our event this year. It is fantastic that during the current climate with cost of living and the fast pace of life and what goes with it you still stepped up and got involved with our Emergency Services Tournament at the Crowne Plaza in Newcastle.</i></p>
15	10/9/2023	Fire & Rescue Service	A letter has been thanking the service for taking part in the 2023 Annual Service of Remembrance and wreath laying ceremony at the National Memorial Arboretum on Monday 4th September.
16	22/9/2023	High Handenhold Fire Station staff	At the CFA meeting on 15 September Cllr Alison Batey thanked all those involved with the High Handenhold Fire Station open day. She had attended on the day and noted the day great success.
17	22/9/2023	Bishop Auckland staff	Cllr Shirley Quinn thanked all those involved with Bishop Auckland's open day, she had attended the event and thought it was a very successful open day.
18	29/9/2023	Durham Blue Watch	Mrs Bethapui called to thank Durham Blue Watch crew for their actions and support at the incident she was involved in that they attended.