



Chris West who had been released from the wreckage of a serious road accident at Harbridge in September 2009 came to the station to say 'thankyou' on the 21st April 2010.

L-R: Pete White, Shaun Lincoln, Steve Coles, Mark West, Lee Dorrington, Paul Dorrington, Chris West, Jim Hesford, Derek Jones, Colin Dedman, Des Smith, Dan Palmer, Steve White, Ross Freeman



Crew Manager Colin Coley pictured on his last ever fire shout before retiring – 23rd April 2010



The charred remains of a lorry fire on the A338 Road at Downton – 14th May 2010



Mark West & Steve Coles taking a break during Operation Orion – 8th September 2010



***After cycling from Fordingbridge to Romsey Fire Station on the 'St Marys Fire Station Thankyou Bike Ride' – 9th October 2010
L-R: John Moulard, Dan Palmer, Pete White, Paul Dorrington***



Fordingbridge firefighters December 2010

Back Row L-R: Paul Dorrington, Colin Dedman, Steven White, Colin Reeves, Shaun Lincoln, Dan Palmer, Des Smith, Jim Hesford, Lee Dorrington

Front Row L-R: Derek Jones, Steve White, Pete White, Steve Coles, Ross Freeman, Mark West, Dave Stone



Fordingbridge firefighters December 2010

Back Row L-R: Paul Dorrington, Colin Dedman, Steven White, Colin Reeves, Shaun Lincoln, Dan Palmer, Des Smith, Jim Hesford, Lee Dorrington

Front Row L-R: Derek Jones, Steve White, Pete White, Steve Coles, Ross Freeman, Mark West, Dave Stone

*The above photos were taken to mark the completion of 40 years service by
Watch Manager Steve Coles on the 1st December 2010*



Watch Manger Steve Coles pictured on the bicycle presented to him by the fire station to mark his '40' years service – 4th December 2010



The rescue of Mischief the horse from a swimming pool at Godshill – 23rd January 2011



Fordingbridge firefighters pictured putting out some Forestry Commission 'Controlled Burning' that had got out of control due to a strong wind at Ditchend Bottom, Godshill – 9th March 2011





***Fordingbridge's 'WHITE Watch' in action at Crossways Farm, Damerham – 13th April 2011
Crew Manager Steve White, Crew Manager Pete White & Firefighter Steve White***



Fordingbridge's Water Tender Ladder lined up with appliances from London & Surrey Fire Brigades

at Swinley Forest in Crowthorne, Berkshire – 6th May 2011



Crew Manager Pete White with an unusual onlooker at a 5 pump fire at SDA Motors in Hangersley Hill, Ringwood – 23rd May 2011



Crew Manager Pete White with a group of pupils from Forres Sandle Manor School after the final leg of their journey from Lands End to Fordingbridge was completed with a ride in the fire engine – 17th June 2011



*Fordingbridge firefighters at Sandleheath Village Fete – 25th June 2011
L-R: Dan Palmer, Shaun Lincoln, Colin Dedman, Paul Dorrington, Pete White, Ross Freeman*



Fryern Court, Tinkers Cross with the damage to the rear of the property clearly visible – 30th June 2011



Overturned tipper lorry at Ogdens Dairy Farm from underneath which Fordingbridge firefighters had to release a farmer trapped by his left leg – 4th July



***A 'Charity Car Wash' in Fordingbridge Car Park with members of Red Watch Control – 9th July 2011
L-R: Lee Dorrington, Paul Dorrington, Steve White, Colin Dedman, Pete White***



Filling up a Traction Engine at the Fordingbridge Festival – July 2011



Fordingbridge Festival – July 2011

L-R: Steve White, Shaun Lincoln, Colin Dedman, Pete White, Paul Dorrington



***Fordingbridge firefighters up in the Turret of Burgate House during a visit – 10th August 2011
L-R Ross Freeman, Steve White, Lee Dorrington, Pete White, Paul Dorrington, Jim Hesford***



***JCB Diggers being used to help put out the 90,000 tonnes of household waste
on fire at Blue Haze Landfill Site in Ebblake – 4th September 2011***



Manager of the Fordingbridge CO-OP Supermarket, Mark Dobb, being presented with a 'National Employer Recognition Scheme Award' to mark the CO-OP's support to HFRS and the local community as an On-Call Firefighter employer – 23rd November 2011
L-R: Steve White, Steve Coles, Station Manager Ben Smith, Mark Dobb, Steve White, Pete White



Removing a diesel tank ripped off a lorry after a Road Traffic Collision on the A338 Road, Gorley – 9th February 2012



Foam training exercise at Hardley – 9th May 2012



Fire in a builder's yard at Folds Farm, Godshill – 1st June 2012



Fordingbridge Firefighters 2012

Back Row L-R: Dan Palmer, Pete White, Colin Reeves, Steve White, Shaun Lincoln, Callum Dedman, Mark West, Pete Clarke

Front Row L-R: Lee Dorrington, Dave Stone, Jim Hesford, Ross Freeman, Steve Coles, Steve White, Derek Jones, Colin Dedman, Paul Dorrington



Fordingbridge Summer Festival Road Safety Display – 21st July 2012

L-R: Ross Freeman, Callum Dedman, Derek Jones, Steve White, Lee Dorrington, Pete White, Colin Dedman, Steve Coles



Fordingbridge firefighters & The Olympic Torch – 21st July 2012



Firefighter Pete Clarke & Crew Manager Pete White after running the New Forest Half Marathon in fire kit & Breathing Apparatus for the Firefighters Charity – 23rd September 2012



Fordingbridge Fire Station – September 2012



***A visit to Stepping Stones Playgroup in Fordingbridge – November 2012
L-R Steve White, Steve Coles, Pete White, Ross Freeman, Derek Jones***



Watch Manager Steve Coles on his final drill night – 28th November 2012



Watch Manager Steve Coles with the 'boys' on his final drill night – Wednesday 28th November 2012



Watch Manager Steve Coles with the 'girls' on his final drill night – Wednesday 28th November 2012



Fordingbridge Town Mayor Malcolm Connelly presenting Steve Coles with a token of appreciation from the Town Council for his 42 years service to the local community.



Area Manager Steve Foye presenting Steve Coles with his Certificate of Service.



Group Manager Steve Quinn presenting Steve Coles with a HFRS Shield.



Steve White presenting Sandra Coles with her bouquet.



A well earned bouquet for Sandra Coles – 'Mrs Sub'



Steve White & Dave Stone presenting Steve Coles with his gifts from the station.



Debra Coles reading a poem to Steve celebrating his 42 years service.



Crew Manager Keith Prince from Cranborne Fire Station adding some 'humour' to the evening.



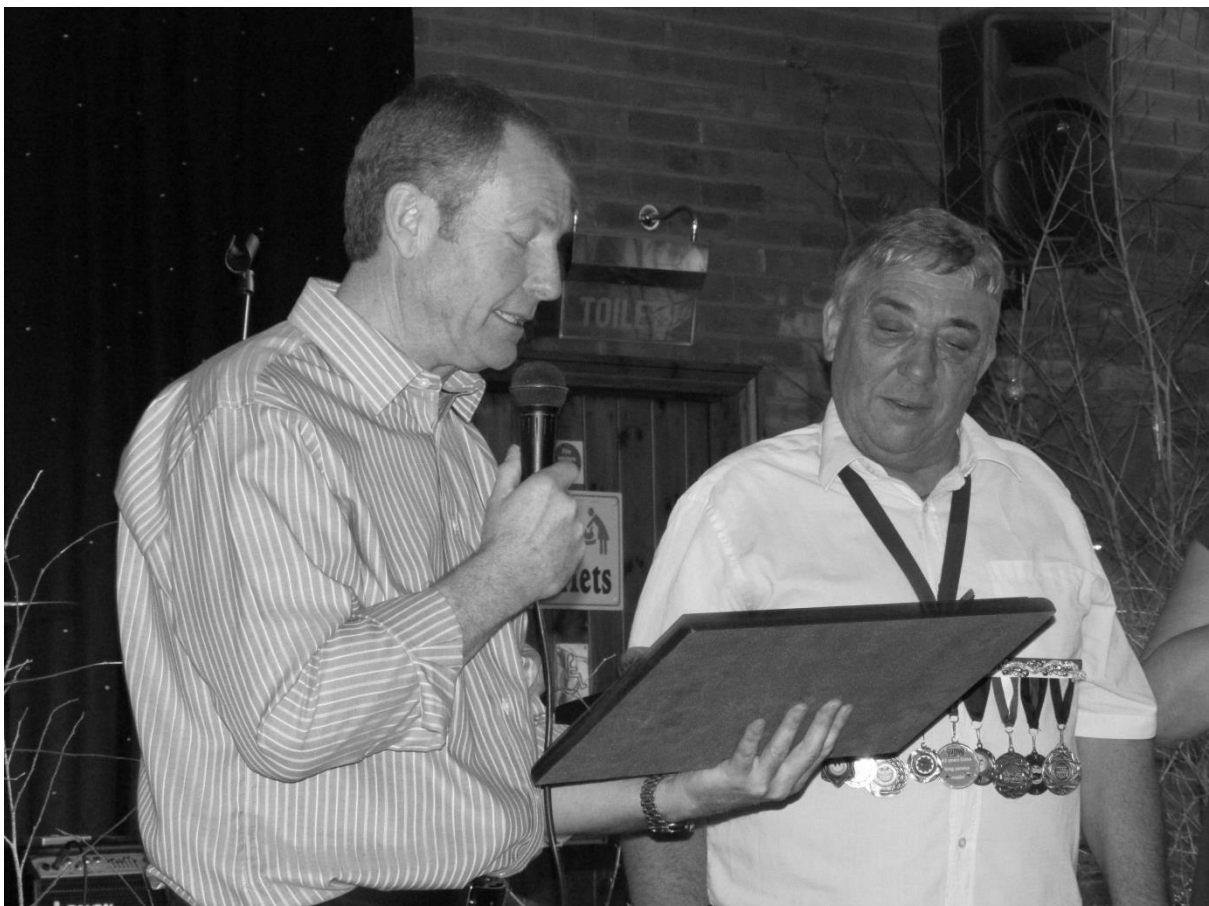
Crew Manager Ross Freeman presenting Steve Coles with the equipment for his 'honoury' position as the Fire Station Traffic Management Officer.



To mark his long & dedicated service Steve was given some additional medals by the station.



Russ Ferrett presenting Steve Coles with his 'unofficial' mounted axe.



Russ Ferrett presenting the 'official' mounted axe on behalf of all the retired Officers in Charge.



***Watch Manager Steve Coles – Fordingbridge Fire Station
Fireman 1970 – 1979
Leading Fireman 1979 – 1986
Officer in Charge 1986 - 2012***

Like Father....Like Son.

The story of Fordingbridge Fire Station is complimented by the number of fathers and sons who have served at Fordingbridge over the years. Hopefully there will be even more in the years to come and the family tradition will continue.

Wilf & Charlie Gouge
Bob & Roger Kenchington
Arthur & Richard Shearing
Ken & Steve Coles
Len & Derek Jones
John & Mark West
Alan, Keith & Andy Brooks
Dean & Dan Palmer
Paul & Lee Dorrington
Pete & Steven White
Colin & Callum Dedman



Steve & Ken Coles



Derek & Len Jones



Dan, Jim & Dean Palmer



Mark & John West

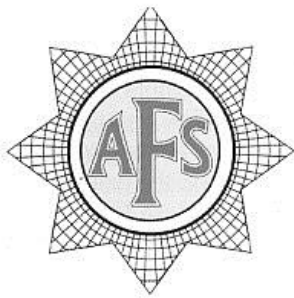


Paul & Lee Dorrington



Steve & Pete White

Fordingbridge Fire Station – Badges Of Service.



**AUXILIARY FIRE SERVICE
1938-1941**



**NATIONAL FIRE SERVICE
1941-1948**



**HAMPSHIRE FIRE SERVICE
1948-1974**



**HAMPSHIRE FIRE BRIGADE
1974-1992**



**HAMPSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE
1992-**



THE FIREMAN'S PRAYER

When I am called to duty God
Wherever flames may rage
Give me strength to save some life
Whatever be its age
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from the horror of that fate
Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout
And quickly and efficiently put the fire out
I want to fill my calling
To give the best in me
To guard my every neighbour and protect his property
If according to my fate, I am to lose my life
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my Wife.

AMEN

Acknowledgements.

The Author would like to express his grateful thanks to the following people for their help and assistance in making this book possible:

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Mr. Steve GREENAWAY
Mr. Simon ROWLEY
Mr. Anthony LIGHT
Mr. Colin CARTER
Mrs. Helen TAGUE – Fordingbridge Town Hall Clerk

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Mr. Steve GREENAWAY
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Mr. Charlie GOUGE
Mr. Arthur COX
Mr. Derek JONES
Mr. Jim PALMER
Mrs. Dorothy MOULAND
Mr. Alan GORDON
Salisbury Newspapers Ltd



A special thank you to Charlie Gouge for all his help and support in the writing of this book and most importantly for finding his 'special' books!

Finally thank you to my Wife and children for their support

About The Author.

Peter White joined Fordingbridge Fire Station on the 1st August 1987 at the age of eighteen. He was promoted to Leading Firefighter at Fordingbridge in November 2003 and with the change from rank to role in 2006 became a Crew Manager.

In May 2000 he was awarded a Chief Fire Officers Commendation following the successful rescue of five people trapped in floodwater and in 2002 he received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal. In August 2007 Peter was awarded the Fire Brigade Long Service & Good Conduct Medal after twenty years service at Fordingbridge. In 2012 Peter was awarded the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal and was also promoted to Watch Manager at Fordingbridge.



Married to Jane with three children, Gemma, Julie and Steven, Peter works full time as a Station Manager (Control) at the Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters in Eastleigh.

The first account of Fordingbridge Fire Station was published in 1994 when Peter researched and produced 'The History of Firefighting in Fordingbridge 1864 -1994.'