



Press Release

Press release from **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service** and **Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Authority**
Making Derbyshire Safer

21 JANUARY 2016

The Importance of Working Smoke Alarms Highlighted in Kitchen Fire Incident

At 11.52am today fire crews from Alfreton and Matlock were mobilised to chip pan fire at a property on Grange Street in Alfreton.

Thanks to an elderly neighbour who lunched every day with the female occupant of the property, the fire was discovered and the alarm was raised.

On route to his neighbours for lunch, the gentleman heard the smoke alarm sounding and on entry into the property discovered the occupant on the floor having suffered a fall whilst responding to the fire alarm. The gentleman was able to safely remove the pan from the property and await the arrival of the fire brigade.

On arrival crews were able to ventilate the property and safely pass the care of both people over to the ambulance service.

Crew Manager Wayne Boston said: "This incident serves as a stark reminder of the importance of having working smoke alarms on every level of the home and testing them weekly – today's incident shows that not only do smoke alarms alert you to the presence of a fire, but also neighbours or passers-by who may be able to raise the alarm in the event of an emergency.

email: reception@derbys-fire.gov.uk
www.derbys-fire.gov.uk

Terry McDermott MA
Chief Fire Officer / Chief Executive



“It’s so easy to forget our elderly friends, neighbours and relatives, but this incident also highlights the need to think about our elderly community and taking a minute out of our busy lives, to check that they are ok.”

Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service offers FREE Winter wellbeing checks for anyone over the age of 60 as part of the Age UK ‘Ice’ initiative,. If you would like to arrange a visit for yourself, or for someone you know, please visit <http://www.derbys-fire.gov.uk/keeping-safe/home-fire-safety-check/winter-ready-check>

Alternatively call quoting ‘ICE’

North Derbyshire (01246) 223500

South Derbyshire (01332) 291134

East Derbyshire (0115) 9326832

West Derbyshire (01298) 22620

ENDS

Rachel Palmer
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