

SMOKE ALARM STILL SAVING LIVES 40 YEARS ON

The smoke alarm is marking its 40th anniversary of saving lives this year. In 1969 the first battery-operated home smoke alarm was patented by two Americans - Randolph Smith and Kenneth House.

The advent of the smoke alarm has been one of the most important technological events in recent years. By giving people those precious minutes to escape from fire, the working smoke alarm has saved countless lives over the years. Nick Tharratt from Humberside Fire and Rescue Service says,

“Owning smoke alarms is not enough - test yours weekly to ensure it remains your potential lifeline for future years to come.”

Recently there has been a rise in the number of cooking related fires especially around tea time. Approximately 70% of fires in the home are cooking related. It is easy to get distracted when cooking especially if the phone rings.

Here are some handy tips to help you prevent a fire in your home:

- If the door bell goes take your cooking off the hob.
- Your grill can kill – keep it clean to prevent any excess food catching fire.
- use a deep fat fryer instead of a chip pan, which can overheat
- Create your own fire escape plan
- Pull your finger out! Make sure you have a full working smoke alarm and test it weekly.

Humberside Fire and Rescue Service are able to visit homes and carry out free Home Fire Safety Checks, smoke alarm fittings and offer any other information to help keep you safe from fire.

For more information contact Humberside Fire and Rescue Service on 01724 295935 or nlincscommsafety@humbersidefire.gov.uk.