

News Release

22 July, 2010

Media & PR, Oakroyd Hall, Birkenshaw, West Yorkshire, BD11 2DY
Tel: 01274 655807/655717

MEDIA INVITE

What: West Yorkshire Chief Fire Officer Simon Pilling will present a cheque to Professor David Sharpe of the Bradford Burns Research Unit and Dominic Furby of The Fire Fighters Charity.

Where: Function Room, Training Centre, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service HQ, Bradford Road, Birkenshaw, BD11 2DY.

When: Tuesday, 27 July at 2pm.

Contact: Paul Austin on 01274 473821 or Mick Brennan on 01274 473871.

FIRE SERVICE SMASHES £25K TARGET

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service staff have surpassed their target of raising £25,000 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Bradford City fire, reaching almost £30,000!

Firefighters and support staff have spent months raising money through bucket collections at Bradford City's home games, Bradford Bulls matches, visiting galas, doing supermarket bag-packs and selling raffle tickets. A celebrity golf day and charity auction was also organised at Hollins Hall Hotel, Baildon, which attracted former players such as Lee Sharpe, Trevor Cherry, Bobby Campbell, John Hendrie, Mick Bates, Duncan Mckenzie, Dean Windass, Martin Buchan and former snooker champion Joe Johnson.

Chief Fire Officer Simon Pilling said: "It is with great sadness that we look back 25 years to that fateful day in May 1985 when, despite the efforts of some incredibly brave firefighters, police officers, supporters and members of the public, 56 people lost their lives and hundreds were left traumatised by the tragedy.

"The disaster had a huge impact on West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service and the wider fire service community as a whole; it is an event we will never forget. I would therefore like to congratulate everyone involved in raising this incredible amount of money and I sincerely hope it will improve the lives of people affected by fire."

The money will be split between The Bradford Burns Research Unit (75 per cent) and The Fire Fighters Charity (25 per cent).

-ENDS-

Further information: Kelly Thornham, Media and PR – 01274 655807