

Closing Address

Simon Thorp
Vice Chairman, England & Wales Wildfire Forum



Reflections

Reflections 1



Andy Thomas - Opening Address

- Value of Wildfire meetings
 - establish relationships, forge links



Reflections 2



Andy Moffat

- Light bulb moment in NZ
- Emergency Risk Management
 - 4Rs: Reduction, readiness, response, recovery
- “managing fire-related risk to land is fundamentally an issue of land management and not fire management” (Dudfield, 2011)
- Learn from other countries



Reflections 3



Ciaran Nugent - Irish perspective

- Need to adopt a cross-sector approach
- Disconnect between policies for wildfire & land management
- Not enough consideration of social issues
- Part-time problem – difficult to get political traction
- Resilience comes from organisation
- Best to work within existing groups & structures

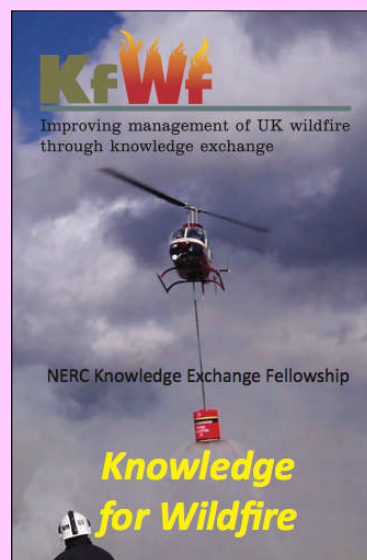


Reflections 4



Julia McMorrow – scientific view

- Knowledge for Wildfire
- Other research
 - Pushing back the boundaries



Reflections 5



Graeme Smith

- Urban / rural interface
 - Unique ignition circumstances
- Report all arson incidents as crimes
 - Come out from the shadows
- Right equipment?



Demonstrations

- Offensive burning techniques
- Imagination & experience
 - Use of a blower
- Lack of senior staff engagement

Reflections 6



Robert Scott

- Launch of the Wildfire Operational Guidance
- The power of partnership



KAREN APPELYARD

Reflections 7



Workshops

Ignition Patterns

Scotland – 2013 Wildfires

- Fire Danger Rating System



Computer Simulation Modelling Australis Wildfire Simulator

Reflections 8



Good year for wildfire

- National Risk Register
- Scottish Wildfire Forum
- Wildfire Operational Guidance
- Well-supported conference



Reflections 9



What has not been covered?

- Sky Lanterns
- Fire ground (1999-2011) (1999-2011)
- Prevention
- Impact
 - Esp



...and Finally 1



Key messages - organisation

- Power of partnership
 - International engagement
- Joined up working
 - UK-wide
 - Cross-sector
 - e.g. policy, regulation, conservation, FRS, management
 - Clash of cultures
- Audience gaps

...and Finally 2



Key messages – target areas

- Engagement with Government
 - Resilience & risk planning
- Engagement with science
 - Fire Danger Rating – better quality & timing of information
 - UK-wide approach
 - Definitions, language & acronyms
- Prevention
 - Role of prescribed burning
- Planning & Preparation
 - Smoke rising = too late
- Training
 - Operational Guidance – development – FRS & land managers

...and Finally 3



Key messages – solutions

- Need for leadership
- Role for the Wildfire Forums - liaison
 - Northern Ireland??
- One stop shop for wildfire issues?
 - Links to Chief Fire Officers Association Wildfire Group



Thank you

and next..
Wildfire 2015