

WITNESS STATEMENT

Criminal Procedure Rules, r27.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9; Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, s.5b

Statement of: HARRIS, PAUL

Age if under 18: Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')

Occupation: FIRE OFFICER

This statement (consisting of 7 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: PAUL HARRIS

Date: 17/01/2018

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded ☐ (supply witness details on rear)

This statement refers to my account of the fire at Grenfell Tower in the early hours of Wednesday 14th June 2017.

This statement is an account of an audio recorded interview I gave to DC Lina WHITBY and DC David MOYAH on Wednesday 13th December 2017 at Wembley Fire Station. Present during the interview was Matthew WILLIAMS, a representative from the Fire Brigade Union (FBU). During the interview I referred to my contemporaneous notes that I made on 14/06/2017 and exhibit as PRH/1.

I will mention a number of people;

Fire Fighter (FF) Leslie TUCKER, FF Nicky SAUNDERS, Crew Manager (CM) Paul CHARITY, CM BENNETT, Watch Manager (WM) Helen CHRISTMAS. All are part of the London Fire Brigade (LFB).

I have been a firefighter, in the LFB, for 19 years. I started my career at FELTHAM FIRE STATION and worked there for 2 years. I then moved to HEATHROW FIRE STATION, where worked there for 4 years and finally moved to WEMBLEY FIRE STATION, when they implemented a new truck called a Fire Rescue Unit (FRU). I have been here for the last 13 years part of the Red Watch.

I am qualified and trained to use breathing apparatus (BA) which comes in two forms; standard duration breathing apparatus (SDBA) and extended duration breathing apparatus (EDBA).

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For BA equipment we do regular refresher training for which I am up to date. I have tackled real fires as part of my training and competent in my role as a fire fighter.

SDBA is normally used for firefighting and has a single cylinder of air, which is carried on normal appliances whereas EDBA has two cylinders of air and is mainly used for search and rescue of persons who are trapped and need assistance escaping. EDBA sets are bigger and weigh more. To be trained in EDBA, I did an initial 2 day course, which meant I could assist the FRU if they needed EDBA wearers at incidents. Normally once qualified in EDBA there are no further training courses. The duration of an EDBA set is approximately 40-45 minutes, whereas an SDBA set will last approximately 20 minutes. SDBA kits have a blue cover and EDBA kits have an orange cover to be able to easily identify them.

Number of years later I did an FRU course which was another months training at SOUTHWARK TRAINING CENTRE, which mainly revolves around extraction techniques around cars. We did multiple more intensive EDBA drills there in confined areas. Other areas I am trained in is power boat, water rescue, large animal and hazmat/DIM support.

I started on duty on 13/06/2017 at 8 o'clock and on roll call. As part of the roll call we are expected to be in the appliance bay, fully rigged with all our kit on and stand in a line to attention and call our names. We get told what appliances we are riding. I was assigned to ride the FRU, call sign G306, with CM Paul CHARITY, who was long term acting up and in charge, Driver was FF Leslie TUCKER and FF Nicky SAUNDERS.

Prior to roll call I checked my equipment was working. Including the EDBA set. The equipment consists of a smoke hood, which is what we wear to cover the ears and the side of the face when we have BA on. Helmets, boots, leggings, tunic, gloves, torches, radios. Everyone has same equipment at roll call and it's all personal issue. Tunics are fire resistant outer material that is insulated to stop heat penetrating to the body, but it doesn't let heat out. The smoke hood prevents embers falling behind the back and exposed skin on face.

There was no FRU shouts on the night that I can remember prior to the Grenfell Tower fire.

Before I was assigned to the call I was in the dormitory about 12 o'clock. The lights came on in the

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station and we were being mobilised one at a time. At this point 3 trucks had already been sent out, I'm not sure in what order but the only truck that were left were the FRU and Ariel Ladder Platform (ALP).

At 1255 on 14/06/2017 the bells dropped again. This meant the mobilising system was activated and it alerted us there was a call. The tannoy system detailed which machines were needed for the call. The mobilising system is a machine that prints out a tip sheet, which is a piece of paper, so when we get mobilised to an incident it can be given to all drivers of any appliance going to the same call. Once mobilised we have to be out of the door with in a minute from the time of call. If there is a problem in the mobilising system, then there is red phone, directly linked to our control who can call in and speak to the watch room attendant.

The FRU was called out and when the FRU gets called out, it normally indicates something big was going on. I came downstairs and was met by CM BENNETT, who was in charge of the ALP, and he was shouting out "IT'S A 40 PUMP FIRE".

I thought that was nonsense, we don't have 40 pump fires, there's no such thing as a 40 pump fire. 25 pumps is the biggest you normally get and that after they don't normally count it after that. I thought someone had got something wrong. CM BENNETT said that wasn't the case and there was one in KENSINGTON.

We all got on the truck to go and FF TUCKER started going to the call, CM CHARITY asked FF TUCKER if he knew were going and FF TUCKER has said "YEA" CM CHARITY, brought the details of the call up on to the Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) and decided to make out way to the call along the A40.

We took a left out of the station and went along BRIDGEWATER ROAD, EALING ROAD, HANGER LANE and on to the A40. We tend to go that way because the roads are bigger, less lights and traffic we can get caught up in. We were given no commands on the way to the incident in the cab. We had to get to the rendezvous point as soon as possible. On the way there I had my radio off because the batteries don't last long. I didn't turn my radio on till I got to the incident.

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We got on to the A40, I was sitting behind CM CHARITY, on the rear left side position. It was a summer's night so it wasn't pitch black and I could see in the distance, something that could be smoke or clouds but there was no other clouds around. I said "IS THAT SMOKE?" and FF TUCKER looked up and said "I THINK IT IS". As we got further along the A40 I could see a glow in the air and I thought that something was wrong here. We worked out it was a high rise, and my initial thought was maybe the top floor or the roof was alight. I thought maybe it was the equipment which is at the top of the building that was alight.

We got to the WHITE CITY flyover I could see more of it, it was astounding, the whole side of the building seem was on fire. Everyone was shocked. We went towards SHEPHERDS BUSH roundabout. We could see the second side of the tower which was 100% alight. We were shocked further and were glued to it. As we went past we could see the third side was alight too. All our jaws fell to the ground. It just couldn't believe it, it was something like out of a movie set. The fire seemed to be a spiral going around the building which I noticed we were driving past. I didn't spend a huge time looking at the building.

When we practice our drills it is normally for one fire, one flat. The problem was this one was so huge, the scale of it was massive. If you said this to me a year ago could this happen I'd have said no there's no way this could happen and there is no way a fire to develop this quickly.

We turned left on to I think HOLLAND PARK ROAD towards NOTTING HILL GATE and turned left again and then left again towards the fire as we were told to rendezvous at BRAMLEY ROAD. When turned down the road we could see fire engines driving towards us and racing past us. CM CHARITY directed FF TUCKER and informed him to keep going along the same road. As we got right near our rendezvous point, BRAMLEY ROAD, the road was shut because of road works. There was no passing through it. We came back the way we came and eventually made it to BRAMLEY ROAD.

We pulled up the truck next to a block of flats which prevented us from seeing Grenfell Tower, as they were quite high. Across the road from where we parked, just behind us, was HESTON FIRE STATION's FRU. The normal protocol is the crew stay by the truck and the officer then finds the Command Unit (CU), which is easily noticeable wherever the incident is as it has a mast up and blue flashing lights. The

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officer then goes to the CU and normally finds out is needed and they come back to us and tell us. CM CHARITY and the CM, I think his name was Paul GRAY, from the HESTON FRU both went off to the CU.

The two CM's came running back and said they wanted EDBA, spare sets, cylinders and first aid kits and any breaking in gear we have but we don't carry breaking in gear on those units. I got my EDBA set and grabbed the spare set. FF SAUNDERS and FF TUCKER got the spare cylinders and first aid kit and went round the corner.

When I was told I needed to grab this equipment I didn't think I would be going in to the tower, given the size of the blaze in the building. I didn't think anyone would be allowed in. I've been to small fires where they won't let you in. I thought the building could collapse because the whole building was alight. At this point I didn't know there was loads of people in the tower nor did I know how many people got out.

We followed the road around and could see the building again. The path lead us to a big grass embankment just outside the sports centre. There was a lot of fire fighters there in EDBA sets. To the right of us there was some tents set up and inside the tents there were deceased bodies. Inside the tent there were some guys, who we knew, that were putting people in body bags.

Some officers came over, not sure who and said to us to take it easy and take off our sets, have a sit and grab a drink. I turned around and saw my crew, the 3 I was with, had dropped their sets. I was told when I first started to never take off your set in case they needed you. I was told I could take off my set but I decided to keep it on.

I sat down and within a couple of minutes WM Helen CHRISTMAS came straight over and her words were "RIGHT I NEED 10 EDBA WEARERS NOW". Normal practice is to try and keep crews together but not this time. I stood up and stepped forward and it just happened there was 10 of us there. I looked around and I think my crew wanted me to stay with them as we were a crew, but they needed 10 firefighters immediately.

In my opinion most people would say no to go into a burning building but with firefighters when one does

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it there is a knock on effect. I just want to do my, to do the job. The training helps but I've never been on an incident where it looked like everyone was working together. I was quite impressed with it.

I was told that we had to get round to the back of the building. The front entry point had been closed down at that point. While we were standing there were loud bangs and everything seemed to be falling down.

Every 30 seconds or less I could see these cladding sheets coming down and it was like bang, bang, bang, bang. The insulation was also falling and burning everywhere. At first I didn't know what it was but looking back I know it was metal cladding. The area past the safety zone was littered with debris. By the back, near the playground again was full of debris. This was the new entry point into the building.

There was confusion on how we would get round to the back because no one was marshalling us off that way. As we were trying to do this I noticed a fireman, who didn't seem to be with his crew. He told me his name was Bob. He had spiked Mohican hair, I've seen him in brigade publications before. I told him my name. We decided to pair up. We then tried to get through to the back part but this was a bit weird, because the side of the building where you naturally wanted to go was shut due to the debris that was falling down.

We then thought we could go through a car park area but that didn't work. Then we came back and officer said "WHEN I TELL YOU RUN, YOU RUN" he looked out, held us back and then next thing he said was "GO". We ran past and went down to the side of the building and at the back there was loads of firefighters wearing SDBA, who were queuing to go in. One of the officers present then said no more firefighters in SDBA were required, only those wearing EDBA. We went past and congregated to the left. I waited there for a minute and was told I would be going in.

This was surprising given what was going on, because normally in a fire like this we wouldn't normally go in. I could see people from my fire station in SDBA. I wanted to tell them to tell the officers there that they were EDBA trained because there is no way of knowing anymore which BA set you were trained in. Before you would have a sticker on your helmet that said we were EDBA trained but they have been taken away now. It used to be very clear.

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I was told get ready and someone would assist us with police riot shields and told us we would be taken to the back and enter the building. Either side of the wall there was two glass windows, top to bottom. As the main entrance was closed off and they couldn't come in the front, it was decided the safest route into the building would be from the rear through the kids playground. All the glass was taken out before and a gap was made for people to get in to the building. I'm not sure who created this entry point. I was then told to go forward under a shield and we would be run into the building through the gap.

As I went towards the gap and attempted to get into the building I couldn't because of the set I was wearing. I was fixated on getting in to the building. The officer told me to wait and then told me to cross arms. I was then pulled into the building by my harness.

This was the first time I had been inside the building. It was quite smoky. It was the first time I had ever been inside Grenfell Tower, I didn't know about the layout or plan of the building. I had no previous knowledge of the building. At the time I don't recall a fire exit sign but I wasn't looking for one. It was a strange layout.

It was a large area and there were police and LAS crew and a couple of fireman. Then through the next bit was all the fire brigade. I saw some lifts but I don't know if they were being used. The lift is normally used to carry the equipment to the bridgehead.

There was some stairs there that led up and the Entry Control Board (ECB) was located at the base of the stairs on the ground floor. At the ECB there is an entry control officer that keep a record of how many firefighters have been committed, how much air they have, time they went in. I was aware the entry control officer had been located above us at some point but it had to be moved down because the smoke had got so bad. I wanted to get my brief and go up. This is where the senior officers were committing the firefighters. There was 2 boards set up, on the wall above the ECB there was writing about the incident, none of which I focused on.

I looked down and noticed my gloves were missing. I told an officer, who was present, and said "GUV MY GLOVES ARE GONE". I knew they were there before because I checked them but I knew they

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wouldn't let me in any further without them. I informed this officer that I thought they might have been torn off when I was pulled into the building. He told me to wait there. He went to the entry point of the building and came back with my gloves. The gloves were covered in glass and water. Again I thought they wouldn't let me in because the gloves were wet but he just told me to wash them off. I was then then were detailed as a crew of 4, along with Bob but I didn't know the other two guys, I think one of them may have been a CM.

We went up the committing officer, I think it may have been Pat GOLDBOURNE. He shook our hands which surprised me as that not a normal thing between senior officers and firefighters. He said "DON'T LISTEN TO ANYONE ELSE, I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A BRIEF AND I WANT YOU TO STICK BY THIS BRIEF". He wanted us to go up to a floor, and look out for a flat where it was believed there may be someone trapped inside. I think it was the 10th floor but can't remember which flat.

When we were waiting to go up I remember a crew came out with a child and a fireman had someone over his shoulders but my focus was on the brief and what I had to do.

We started at the bottom of the stairs via entry control up to mezzanine level. The layout was strange. It was all open. We found the stairwell and went in. I couldn't believe the size, it was tiny, especially for such a big building. The stairwell wasn't wide enough for two of us to walk comfortably side by side with all the gear on. It was about 4 feet wide. The stairwell was all grey coloured, plain, nothing on the stairs, just plain concrete. I thought to myself this can't be the main stairwell, it just seemed too small, there didn't seem to be much space. It was lit up, but not well, and wasn't pitch black but there was no signs to indicate which floor it was.

Our crew of 4 took in in turns to lead the way. In the stairwell where we entered you could see where you were going but with the weight of the sets, which is about 23kg plus the weight of the fire gear and the heat, it meant it took time to get up the levels. I felt normal walking up the first few floors and we kept going at a marching pace. After 5-6 floors we were getting tired. We checked everyone was alright and continued up. The higher up we went the visibility got worse. It was getting darker and darker from the smoke. I couldn't tell how thick the smoke was because I had my BA set on.

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I kept trying to keep count of what floor we on but this was getting difficult. As we were going up, I think I was in front on the right-hand side of the stairs, I could then see something on the dog-leg part of the stairs. The part where there is a landing between the floors, but I don't know which floors, it may have been the 9th floor. It was a mound, a huge mound. It was really hard to make sense of what was in front of us. I was thinking what it could be is and I stopped because it threw me a bit. I looked closer and closer and noticed it was a person or casualty. I don't know what caused her to collapse or what the temperature was inside the stairwell, as we didn't have a thermal imaging camera (TIC) but I don't think it was scorching as I didn't see any blisters on her skin.

It was a black person, although I don't remember what she was wearing, I saw her hair was in fine plaits like cane-row. My initial thoughts was it was a woman, although I didn't see her face. I could see the chest and the top of the clothing she was wearing seemed lower than of a man's top so I presumed it was a woman. She was against the railings. I turn around to say the rest to tell them we had a casualty. The other crew members came around me, to get to the top. They were checking for signs of life but with face masks and gloves on, it made it very difficult. Normally we check for life is putting your head down and see if you can feel the breath on the cheek but we had BA masks on and she was in the smoke so you can't see any movement. Her pulse couldn't be checked because we had gloves on.

They said they couldn't tell if she were alive or dead. Our initial instincts were to get her out of there. This was because it wasn't clear if she was dead or alive and also because she was a big girl on a small stairwell, which meant it would cause a problem for the other crews if we left her there. We had a brief to get on with but we knew we couldn't leave her there. Due to her size we couldn't lift her so we thought we could drag her down the stairs.

Bob was to the side of me and we both took an arm each and the other two got behind her and we started to pull. I grabbed her right arm which was very big. I put my foot against the step bracing myself, and pulled back. I could feel I was pulling her arm out of the socket and she wasn't budging. We were trying everything just to move her, but there was a lack of room to manoeuvre, including trying to roll her but she just wouldn't budge an inch. I think this was down to her weight and that her body was limp. Whilst we were trying to move this lady no other crews past us.

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We couldn't move her with a crew of 4, and we knew we would need more people. Still mindful of our brief, Bob and I tried to use radios to call down to entry control to get help sent up but the communication systems were awful and they weren't working. No one could hear anything. I tried other channels but nothing was working. We came to a conclusion that the other two would continue on upwards to carry out the brief. Bob and I went back down and told Pat GOLDBOURNE at the ECB about the lady we had found. Bob referred to her as bariatric, because she was that big. Pat GOLDBOURNE, quite quickly, said "TAKE IT AS SHE IS DEAD". This information wasn't told to us as part of the original brief.

I thought to myself that it was a big call to make because it couldn't be proven if she was alive, dead or how long she had been there. I was thinking that Pat GOLDBOURNE made the right call because of the space in the stairwell. The size of the casualty and the resources and equipment required to either rescue or move her would have meant the stairwell would be blocked and unusable to all others for some time. I felt really bad that we couldn't get her out.

I asked Bob "ARE YOU READY TO GO BACK UP?" and bob told me he was too tired and had enough. I knew that was it, it was over then and we shut down our sets and got our tally's. This transmits information between the BA sets and the ECB, so the entry control officer knows which firefighters are inside the incident and the pressure of the sets.

Again we went under the shields to get back out. Everything was falling and everyone was telling us to watch a hole that had been covered up. Just staying on your feet was hard. We got back out and past the muster point. Turned left and there was a big walkway that went up to the main road. There was a lot of policemen standing there.

We took the sets off and I thought I needed to get something sweet inside of me for energy as I was tired. Two firefighters came up to us, persons I had never seen before, and asked for our EDBA sets. One of the firefighters found a spare EDBA set on the floor and I therefore didn't have to give him my set. Bob gave his set over. I was protecting my BA set because I felt like I could do more as I felt that I had the energy. In that situation you would get another cylinder and go back in. If I had given my set away I would have had to find another one in order to go in. I didn't want to come away without doing more. I felt like I had more to give.

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Another female firefighter asked me if I need a cylinder and a police officer gave me a chocolate bar. I changed my cylinder over and tested my set. I went back to the muster point and tagged along with firefighters from CHELSEA FIRE STATION. I was concerned that if I didn't tag along with them then I wouldn't get back in to the building. We were then sent to where the lifts were and were mustering there. There was 3 guys from the rapid response team (RRT), these are the firefighters that go out to chemical/biological/radiation jobs, and as there was 3 of them I joined them. Again I didn't know two of them by name but I presumed they were temporary watch managers because they were from a specialist role and they don't allow you to be a firefighter generally in that role. One of the three was a female fighter who was called Mandy.

Again we were briefed and we were told to go back up. However, this time, I was told that there was a body on the stairwell floor who won't be able to be moved and to take it as she was dead. She was used as landmark which helped identify and navigate the building as the visibility was so poor inside the tower. We were told go to a floor above her, to flat 71 or 81, I can't remember exactly. We were told there was a male definitely trapped in there. As it was far too hot and he couldn't even get near his door and we needed to make our way up there and get him out. We were also given a second brief, if we had time, and this was to extend the hose internally if we could after rescuing the trapped male. We made our way back into the stairs and past the body on the floor. This time she looked like she had been trampled on where she was. Seeing her a second time, still there, was quite hard.

I could see people walking around her. We counted as we went up the floors and we got to the floor which we had been briefed to go to and we all agreed we had the right floor. We turned right to go into the lobby area. This is where the flats were off the stairwell. The heat there was incredible. There was no flames in that that part, but the heat was contained. We has no firefighting medium, no water to try and do anything with. We just went in to the lobby and turned to the left. I was thinking that you wouldn't last long in here due to the heat and smoke. It was so hot that the heat was penetrating through the fire gear.

I heard fire alarms coming from inside the flats but I didn't see any sprinklers. The flats had personal alarms but there was nothing in the actual not in the communal areas. There was nothing in the stairwells. This was a bit strange of given the size of the building.

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We couldn't see the flat door number but believed it was the right door. The flat door was banged on and something was heard inside. Two of the firefighters I was with went in and shut the door behind them. I stayed by the door to the flat with Mandy and we protected the doors, so it was ready to be opened when the other two fire fighters were ready to come out.

The two firefighters that went into the flat shouted they were coming out a few minutes later. We opened the stairwell door and they ran forward with the male from the flat towards the lobby exit to the stairwell. He was covered in damp towels. The height of the man they pulled out was maybe 5'10" or a bit taller as he was hunched over a little.

Mandy and I stayed, in the building, on the floor and checked any other doors that we could. We had no breaking in gear so we were kicking and banging on doors. Trying to find out how many doors there was and trying to figure out the layout, but it was pitch black, I couldn't see anything and had to only feel my way. We didn't hear any responses from any of the doors we banged on. We could have tried kicking the doors in but this could have compromised the area that we were in even more so we decided not to. I saw one door which was burnt through. I could see straight through the flat and out of the window. By this time it was getting too much for me.

We decided to go back out and try and extend the hose. There was hose there, but it wasn't charged, it was 45 mil and it was messed up with other stuff. The hoses are connected to dry risers, which are on every or alternating floors, in high rise blocks. During this fire we weren't made aware of where they were located. Dry risers allow for hoses to be connected on the affected floor to deal with a fire. This means less hose is required. This then supplies the hose with water, which can be used to tackle a fire. The problem we had was if the dry risers are left open on other floors this can affect the pressure and amount of water that comes to the hose on the upper floors. Water can be lost if this isn't managed properly and can lead to a shortage of water. We tried to reorganise it and whilst doing so another crew came up.

Mandy was doing a really good job and then it hit me. To myself, I was thinking, that I had to just get out. I reached my limit. I didn't want to stop Mandy doing what she was doing so I crouched down in a corner

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feeling sick. I felt like I wanted to rip my mask off and got to the point that I told Mandy that I was really struggling and was in a lot of trouble. At this point I had to leave. We both went down the stairs and was in bit of a daze. I couldn't think straight. I had no energy. When we got back down to the entry control, we told them what we had done. I felt like I needed to get out and get some fresh air. I couldn't stop sweating and I was boiling.

I saw a CM from WEST HAMPSTEAD FIRE STATION, who I knew. I told him that I had leave and get out. The CM got a shield, I held on to him and we ran out. I got round the corner and then I just collapsed. Someone gave me something to eat. I couldn't even take my set off. Eventually I got the set off and Billy, a firefighter from my watch, came up and asked for my set and I gave it to him.

I sat there for 15-20 mins and picked myself up. I wanted to find someone from my watch. It was all a haze and I didn't know where I was going. On the walk back towards the truck I saw FF SAUNDERS. This made me feel relieved. CM CHARITY then turned up. He told me not to worry but FF TUCKER had got burnt down the back of his tunic and he's being taken to hospital. He told me it wasn't too bad. CM CHARTIY was a bit shaken up as he had seen a person jump from the tower and hit the fireman in front of him that had the shield up

I was speaking to CM CHARITY and this Muslim family came up to us and went to Tesco to buy stuff for us. They were giving us bananas to get energy back up and sweets. A member of the public came up to me and enquired about his dad on the 10th floor. This male was of an ethnic mix. Then a family then came up to us and started enquiring about quite a few relatives they had on the top floor. They asked if we knew anything about it and if everyone inside the tower had made it out. We knew not everybody had. CM CHARITY went away and broke down in tears because you couldn't tell them. I knew we had got people out of nearly every floor and I said told the family to go to the CU and enquire there.

At this point I knew I couldn't go in again, FF SAUNDERS and CM CHARITY went in once but were fatigued. By this time it was quite light and we didn't know what to do. We didn't have any orders and most of the main fire was out. We walked around and saw lots of faces we knew and tried to meet up with everyone and make sure everyone was alright. I tried to find the officer in charge and we went into the church to get a cup of tea.

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We were then old to go back to PADDINGTON FIRE STATION to do a statement of some kind. FF TUCKER wasn't there to drive us, but CM CHARITY said he would drive. It took us over an hour to get to PADDINGTON FIRE STAION. Once there we spoke to the senior officer, had refreshments and did notes. We returned to WEMBLEY FIRE STATION between 1400-1430hrs.

I was glad everyone was ok. The worst thing you want to hear is this one of your colleagues has gone down. [REDACTED] I think about it every day it's going to take time to move on.

I think several things could have helped firefighters in this situation. Some sort of rescue mechanism for people that are trapped, numbering the floors and better lighting, something for the doors, so that a hose can go through without having to leave them open. Possibly something that can keep our core temperature down in order help with the heat exhaustion, which really limits what you can do.

I have been asked about the stay put policy. It is when you stay in your own flat until you are rescued. You do not have to leave as you are not in any danger. By leaving you can expose yourself to more harm through smoke inhalations, being trampled, or injured through panic. The advice based on training is to stay put and we will come and get you. At one point we were told they had stopped the stay put policy. This was told to me by Pat GOLDBOURNE.

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