

Smoke Alarm Action Day 1st June

DFES (Department of Fire and Emergency Services) have declared

1st June 'Smoke Alarm Action Day' and have a critical reminder:

You Can't Smell Smoke When You're Asleep!

I can personally verify this. In fact let me tell you about this one time...

I woke up in a bed with flames blazing along the top of the headboard, and coming around the sides of the bed starting from the bed base. One foot tall flames and a room full of smoke.

However none of that was what had woken me up. What woke me up was the sound of the smoke alarm going off in the passageway.



Naked and bewildered, I dragged the bulk of my flaming bedding down the hallway and out onto the front lawn. I turned around and the front door slammed and locked me out.

It turned out the smoke alarm also woke up my flatmate who saw the door open in the middle of the night and thought closing it would be a good idea.

I ran around the back of the house and climbed in a window, to find my flatmate standing at my bedroom door throwing water from a vase onto the remainder of my flaming bed. Not very effective. We dragged the rest of the flaming bedding out onto the lawn.

At that very moment my third flatmate rolled up to the house in a taxi, returning from a late night DJ'ing at The Builder's Arms Hotel. The poor taxi driver had to witness two naked men and a



burning bed in the front yard.

This fire had started from my carelessness with a candle. Fun times, no lives lost, but definitely some lessons learned.

Other tips from DFES:

- Use a vacuum cleaner with soft brush to Wipe down smoke alarms so that the vents to the sensors are fully open which no dust or cobwebs.
- Stop nesting insects by spraying surface spray onto scrap cloth and wiping down the alarm (don't spray directly onto alarm!).
- Replace your battery annually (unless it has a non-replaceable 10 year lithium battery.)
- Test (monthly) by pressing the 'test' button on the alarm and waiting for the sound. Use a broom handle if you can't reach but be careful not to damage the smoke alarm
- Alarms need to be replaced every 10 years.

Graham Evans

Free Bread

Thanks to a program called Secondbite, on Mondays Northcliffe CRC have a range and quantity of day old bread products available for free. These are provided on the initiative of some locals who bring them down from Manjimup each week.

Sliced and unsliced, wholemeal and plain, sourdoughs, rolls, foccacias, occasional scrolls, hamburger buns, dinner rolls and more!

The bread is available at the CRC most weeks arriving Monday with untaken bread disposed of at the end of the day on Wednesdays.

There are no limits on who can take them, or the quantity you take.

