

Helicopter Crash!

On Wednesday 16th January 2013, a helicopter crashed into a tower on One St George Wharf in South Lambeth, South London. This unexpected accident has left 12 people injured, 5 of them in hospital and 2 people killed.

A crane operator(who was meant to be working nearby) could have got hurt if he was there at the time of the accident, but he was late for work on the day. The crane operator was 30-year-old Nicki Biagioni from Essex. Nicki described himself to be 'lucky' that he was not around the tower when it was crashed. 'I'm very lucky. It is unbelievable. I am still in shock. I can't believe it.', said the crane operator. Nicki Biagioni was late for work because his two sons normally wake him up for work everyday, but on Wednesday, they slept an hour later and so did not wake him up. 'If it wasn't for my boys not waking me up, that would have been it.', says Nicki.

The 50-year-old pilot named Pete Barnes(from Reading in Berkshire) died along with a pedestrian(39-year-old Matthew Wood from Sutton) who was walking to work at Rentokill when the accident happened. Pete Barnes had flown for Redhill firm Rotormotion for 15 years and he was an extremely experienced & skilled pilot, one of the best in Britain. We believe that this horrifying event happened due to the fog covering the pilot's view on Wednesday morning. Many cars and two buildings caught on fire after the burning wreckage fell onto Wandsworth Road and Nine Elms Lane(which are now closed) between Vauxhall Cross and Queenstown Road and up to eight bus routes are on diversion.

On Wednesday morning, around 40 people left their central London properties and spent the night away from their homes. People were evacuated and most found shelter with their friends. Although, two people from France & Australia had no friends in the area that they knew and could stay with for the night, and they were 'left stranded' all night. They both needed to get to work in the morning(17th January) but they were 'frustrated, sleepy & dirty' as they walked around all night. People were allowed to return to their homes on Wednesday evening, but most knew none about this.

This terrifying crash has injured and killed people & has wrecked buildings and cars, but we all hope that such a tragedy never happens again.