

PRESS RELEASE

Vibrating pad saves pensioners life

6th July 2009

A deaf man living in West Sussex survived an arson attack on a block of flats.

The man's life was saved because a FireAngel vibrating pad, which is placed under the pillow, was triggered by a wireless [smoke alarm](#), giving him time to awake and take action.

He was able to put the fire out himself but was taken to hospital for smoke inhalation.

West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service said they believed the fire was started deliberately, by flammable material being put through the letter box.

Fire crews were called to the four-storey property in Shoreham on Saturday.

Firefighters then led a man, who lived in a ground floor flat, to safety.

Investigating officer Gary Townsend commented "It would appear at this stage of the investigation that something was put through the letter box. We are looking at an arson attack on a 64-year-old male with hearing problems.

"Thankfully something we call a Fire Angel was installed last July under his pillow.

"He actually put the fire out himself but only because he was woken up by the pad."

Sussex Police are investigating the incident.

The equipment, installed as part of a free home fire safety check carried out by West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, was a [FireAngel Wi-Safe vibrating pillow pad and](#)



[flashing strobe](#), linked to a wireless [smoke alarm](#) that detected the fire.

These products are from a range of solutions within the FireAngel Wi-Safe range, designed specifically for vulnerable groups such as the hard of hearing. The Wi-Safe range incorporates smoke and [carbon monoxide alarms](#) which send wireless signals to any combination of warning handset, flashing strobe or vibrating pad. Wi-Safe products are ideal for people with hearing impairments, the disabled, the elderly, the infirm, children and heavy sleepers who may have a reduced capacity to be alerted to danger and escape in time.

For more information see www.fireangel.co.uk

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Editor's Note:

Nick Hickman is available for interviews and can also supply images, advice and a more detailed overview of Wi-Safe products.

More images available upon request.

To arrange an interview or appointment, please contact:

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