

*Press Release*  
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# UNDERFIRE

The Dramatic Life of a London Fireman

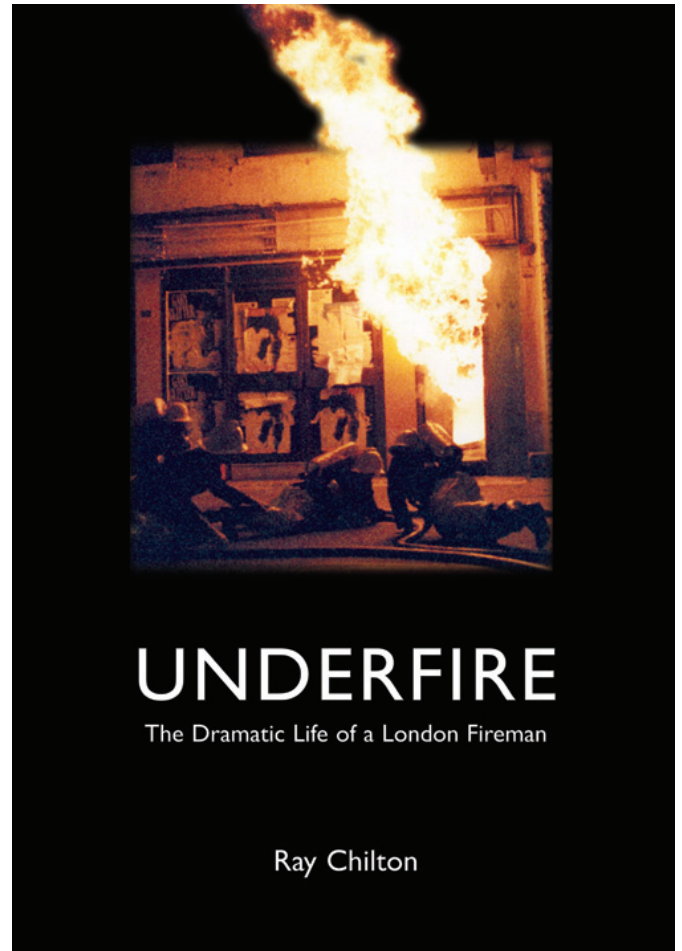
Ray Chilton

Described by former New York firefighter Dennis Smith as 'a great and thrilling narrative that made me realize just how universal the work and culture of firefighters is', *Underfire* is a gritty memoir of passion and professionalism set in the heart of London.

Written by former London fireman Ray Chilton, *Underfire* is an extraordinary true account of the friendship, humour, danger and heartache that firefighters face each day. Soho Fire Station is in the centre of London's West End, and is one of the world's busiest and most exciting Fire Stations. Surrounded by Theatre Land, China Town and Soho nightlife, there is always something exciting happening!

The book examines high profile incidents such as the 1984 Oxford Circus underground fire, for which the author was commended, the Aldwych bus bomb and the King's Cross underground fire. *Underfire* is not, however, simply a book about fire; it is an account of a world in which camaraderie plays a huge role. Chilton, as Soho Station Officer, builds and inspires a team, and guides his colleagues on a journey that involves bravery, conflict, grief and tragedy. As a result, *Underfire* is a fast-paced mix of dramatic action, impressive rescues and senseless tragedy; but Chilton also softens the grit with lighter moments, such as his fellow firefighters' inventive pranks and humorous anecdotes about some of his Watch's more bizarre call-outs. Chilton's affable, no-nonsense style paints a vivid picture of his colleagues' personalities, the mess hall banter and the non-stop goings-on of Soho's teeming streets.

An exhilarating and compelling book, *Underfire* will not only appeal to firefighters, but to all those with an interest in the city of London as well as general readers.



*About the author:*

Ray Chilton was a London Fireman for 30 years and served at Battersea, Westminster, Manchester Square and Paddington before becoming Station Officer at Soho Fire Station.

*Book Information:*

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**\*\*End of Release\*\***