

MAY 2024

SWANSEA PRIDE PAGE 20





Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru

> Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service

LARGEST EVER UK FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CONVOY

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Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service is responsible for providing emergency response cover to nearly 12,000 square kilometers - almost two-thirds of Wales. Here's what kept us busy last month:



















THE FIRE FIGHTERS CHARITY CLOTHES RECYCLING PERFORMANCE UPDATE 2023-24

Across the UK The Fire Fighters Charity's
Clothes Recycling generated just over £956,000,
collecting over 4,700 tonnes of clothing, rediverting this away from landfill. Mid and West
Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS)
was responsible for £42,955 of this figure with
a total sum weight of 208,882kg which is pretty
impressive!

Every penny raised through clothing donations assist in helping The Fire Fighters Charity continue their work in supporting all serving / retired members and their families, of the UK's fire services community.

The Fire Fighters Charity clothes banks accept donations all year long and all donations help make a real difference to people's lives. FFC clothes banks can be found at many of our <u>fire stations</u>, community sites and supermarkets, and they have the Charity's logo on them.

Planning on having a clear out as we approach Summer? Find your nearest clothes bank and what type of textiles are accepted **here**.





NORTHERN

HAVERFORDWEST CREW WELCOMED COUNCILLOR THOMAS TUDOR

On Tuesday 7th May, Councillor Thomas Tudor – former Chair of Pembrokeshire County Council visited Haverfordwest Station, along with Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS)

Deputy Chair of the Fire Authority - Councillor John Davies, for a tour of the station and their new fire appliance.

Crew members gave a presentation highlighting all the resources that Haverfordwest Station has to offer the community, Councillor Tudor was eager to learn all about the important work they do and gain a better understanding of the challenges they face daily.

Read more here: <u>Haverfordwest crew welcomed</u> Councillor Thomas Tudor (mawwfire.gov.uk)



LLANIDLOES FIREFIGHTER RETIRES AFTER 45 YEARS OF SERVICE

Firefighter Brian Hamer has recently retired after a remarkable 45 years of dedicated service to the community of Llanidloes.

On Wednesday, May 1st, the Llanidloes crew gathered at Llanidloes Fire Station to celebrate Brian's retirement and his final drill night.

Brian joined the then Powys Fire Brigade on April 25th 1979 and since then has consistently demonstrated dedication, commitment and bravery.

Station Commander Martyn Field commented:

"Brian has given an exceptional service to the Fire and Rescue Service and his community. It is extremely rare to have someone serve this

WATCH MANAGER STEVE AMOR RETIRES AFTER 35 YEARS OF SERVICE

In April, Watch Manager Steve Amor retired from his role at Llanwrtyd Wells Fire Station after 35 years of dedicated service.

Steve joined what was then the Powys Fire Brigade as a Firefighter in 1988, before being promoted to Lead Firefighter (now Crew Manager) in 1998 and in 2011, he became the Fire Station's Watch Manager.

As well as his dedication to his role at Llanwrtyd Wells Fire Station, Steve has also volunteered his time and knowledge to promote fire safety and first

long and Brian will certainly leave a big hole at Llanidloes Fire Station and he will be sorely missed by all.

We all wish him well in his retirement and thank him for everything he has done during his career."



aid awareness within the local community through various groups and organisations.

The crew and everyone at Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service thanks Steve for his invaluable service and contribution and wish him a long and happy retirement.









COLLABORATIVE FIRE TRAINING AT TATA STEEL

Recently, the Port Talbot crew and TATA Steels Fire Team have entered into a new collaborative training agreement.

Once a month both crews will join forces and train together. This is to better prepare both the Service crews and TATA Steel crews for real operational incidents.

Port Talbot Station Manager and organiser of these new training sessions, Spencer Lewis said:

"I have created a working relationship with TATA Steel in Port Talbot and their Fire Team, where on a monthly basis. They will visit Port Talbot Fire Station in order to train with firefighters from MAWWFRS who they are likely to meet up with, should an operational incident within TATA Steel dictate.

We will be training together, both practically and theoretically covering subjects of Breathing Apparatus, Road Traffic Collisions, Emergency First Aid, Pumping Operations, Hose Drills, Knots and Lines, and Hazardous Materials.

The TATA Steel Fire Team will in turn, share their 'Specialist Knowledge' of the TATA site and its associated risks."

It's vital that these training exercises take place so that crews are prepared to respond to emergencies and understand the hazards associated with the TATA Steel site. We would like to thank TATA Steel for their assistance, and we look forward to next month's training exercise.







RHYS FITZGERALD MOUNT EVEREST

MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE FIREFIGHTER TO CLIMB MOUNT EVEREST IN FULL FIREFIGHTING KIT

Reaching the summit of Mount Everest - the highest mountain on Earth - is no mean feat and isn't a challenge taken on by many people.

Not only is Rhys Fitzgerald, a Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) On-Call Firefighter at Kidwelly Fire Station, taking on the daunting task, he's also aiming to become the first person to do so in full firefighting kit.

As part of his training to climb the 8,848m to the summit of Mount Everest in 2025, Rhys has set himself a series of events and goals to achieve.

Rhys has chosen the following charities to support:

<u>The Fire Fighters Charity</u> – a charity that provides lifelong support to serving and retired firefighters and their families.

<u>Mind</u> – which provides information, support and campaigns for people with mental health problems.

<u>The Nimsdai Foundation</u> – which works to clear rubbish left on mountains in the Himalayas from previous expeditions as well as supporting the 'unsung heroes of the mountains, the Everest Base Camp Trail's Porters.

Rhys will also achieve two world records as part of his expeditions by becoming the first person to climb Ama Dablam and Mount Everest in full firefighting kit.







Meet the Team

MEET THE CORPORATE RISK TEAM

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service employs over 1,300 members of staff who deliver emergency response, public safety information, prevention and protection programmes and more to almost 12,000 square kilometres almost two-thirds of Wales.



The Corporate Risk Department, based at the Service's Headquarters in Carmarthen, is responsible for providing advice and direction on six distinct subject areas including, Liability Claims and Litigation, Business Risk, Health and Safety, Insurance Management, Environmental Management and Sustainability, and Business Continuity & Security.





Alex Roberts Head of Corporate Risk

Hi, I'm Alex, Head of Corporate Risk, and I've been undertaking this role for the last six years.

I can honestly say not one day is the same as the last. With that said, although we are a small team in Corporate Risk, I have an incredible team, that constantly go over and above to ensure the Service's compliance and risk management responsibilities are followed. Whether those under the Insurance Act, to our Environmental and Security obligations, to the well-being and safety of our staff, as well as ensuring that we can respond to any emergency, even in the most challenging times, through our business continuity planning. Our workstreams impact all parts of the Service and all members of staff.

We have seen many changes in recent years, we have and continue to implement Evotix Assure our online management system, we have supported the water provision within the operational environment and in doing so, changed Welsh legislation! I'll let Seamus update on that one and we are hoping to introduce our Carbon Management Roadmap to work towards the Welsh Government's ambitious net zero aim very soon.

The team are always keen to shape our risk management arrangements to best suit the Service needs, as well as our colleagues and we encourage any feedback on how we do so moving forward.





Seamus Doyle Temporary Corporate Risk Assurance Manager

Hi, I'm Seamus, and I'm responsible for providing competent advice and guidance to all employees within the Service on all Corporate Risk matters, including health, safety, welfare and insurance matters.

I also assist the Service in improving risk management and compliance across the organisation, ensuring the Service is operating in accordance with all legislation, regulatory requirements and best practice relating to its activities. I advise members of Service management of the strategic risks within the Service and undertake work associated with the Service's Insurance Portfolios.

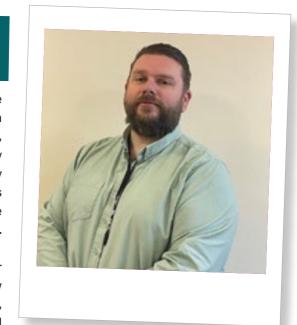
I have over 30 years of experience, the last four in the Service, developing and embedding Evotix Assure across the Service. I'm working with Welsh Water on a project to use Ultraviolet (UV) treated Water for fire incidents and, in partnership with Natural Resources Wales, we were able to make changes to Welsh legislation to enable the use of this provision. This is a big step, and it is hoped that this initiative will be utilised across the UK in the future.

I'm a member of several external Health and Safety Committees across Wales and the UK for IOSH.

Mark Corker Temporary Health, Safety and Welfare Manager

Hi, I'm Mark and I am the Temporary Health, Safety and Welfare Manager having joined the Service in January, after over a decade in Automotive Manufacturing working in Health, Safety, Environmental, Data Protection/HR and Business Risk Management speciality roles. My role is very engaging and fulfilling, working with many other departments and helping the Service to ensure the safety of its personnel and maintain its legislative requirements. The Corporate Risk Team is also a great team to work within, which always helps.

Outside of work I have a busy time with my two daughters, partner of 9 years and a Cavachon dog. I also have one son who is now grown up and has "flown the nest", who I enjoy spending time with, especially with his interest in the paranormal. I volunteer for the local Sea and Royal Marine Cadet unit in Pembrokeshire and enjoy reading (a lot), drone flying, photography and wild camping, although my main passion is music.







Jess Millard Sustainability and Environment Manager

Hi, I'm Jess, the Sustainability and Environment Manager for the Service. My role involves managing the Service's Environmental Management System, gathering statistics and information on our emissions, environmental objectives and projects, and developing reports and road maps to highlight all the good work we are doing towards achieving net zero and to encourage nature and biodiversity back onto our sites.

I have two young daughters, who love going camping, to adventure parks, and making a lot of 'creative mess' for me to clean up from sand, paint and Play-Doh! I love music and comedy gigs and often go to big music festivals during the summer with my partner, Mark.



Jo Artis Business Continuity and Security Manager

Hi, I'm Jo Artis and I've been in the Service for 22 years.

My role in the Corporate Risk Department is the Business Continuity
and Security Manager, which involves ensuring the organisation is
prepared for events that disrupt the services we provide by planning
and exercising a range of scenarios.

I worked most of my career as part of the Green Watch in Morriston Fire Station, before moving to Swansea Central Station as a Crew Manager. Since then, I have been an instructor in the Training Department and worked as a Station Liaison Officer in Southern

I have been married to my husband Dean for seven years, although we've been together for 19 years. We have four children, four grandchildren and four dogs, all of which keep me very busy!

I love spending time with my family and dogs and on the rare occasion
I have spare time, I like to watch as much sport as I can.





Sarah Davies Health, Safety and Welfare Officer

My name is Sarah Davies and I am the Health, Safety and Welfare Officer.

My job is to assist and support the Health Safety and Welfare Manager and to coordinate health and safety projects.

I spend most of my free time on outdoor adventures with my husband
Tom and two children, Jimmy and Ellie, my love of the outdoors
is something that Tom and I share and together we have scaled
mountains, visited the Svalbard in the Arctic, and ridden horses through
the Nevada Desert. I have competed in many endurance events, I
continue to try to improve my fitness and I am always looking for my
next adventure.

My family know me as the accident prone one, by the time I was 11 I had many accidents including falling out of a car at 30mph, breaking my arm and leg in separate horse riding accidents and had stitches on two separate occasions, the irony of then falling into Health and Safety never escapes me!



Ffion James Evotix-Assure Coordinator

Shwmae. My name's Ffion, and I have worked within the Service since August 2018.

My role within the Corporate Risk Department is Corporate Risk Evotix-Assure Coordinator. This involves developing, implementing and providing help and support to colleagues, with all things Evotix-Assure related. According to my Colour Works assessment, I am a strong yellow, which is classed as an 'Inspirer'. Some of the key words which describe a strong yellow are – dymanic, enthusiastic and sociable, which I would strongly agree with. Anyone who knows me well, would describe me as being energetic, passionate and a 'positive polly.'

In my spare time, I enjoy listening to all types of music including going to watch musical theatre shows, paddleboarding and spending time with close friends and family. I'm also a keen foodie and love experimenting with and trying new foods and flavours. Brunch, tapas or a street food festival, I'm there!





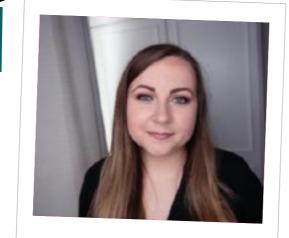




Jessica Jenkins Corporate Risk Assistant

Hi, I'm Jess and I am the Corporate Risk Assistant, I started working for the Service August 2023.

In my role I make sure that all our vehicle accidents are dealt with as well as parking or speeding fines. I recently moved from Cardiff, and I currently live with my partner and our two-year-old spaniel. I occasionally deliver courses to the community such as stress management, well-being and foodwise. I enjoy going on walks and spending time with family and friends.



ON-CALL CONFERENCE

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service's (MAWWFRS) inaugural On-Call Conference, hosted as part of the On-Call Improvement Programme (OCIP), was held on Sunday, April 28th, at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society Showground in Builth Wells.

The Conference was designed to revolve around the Service's On-Call Personnel and to provide the opportunity to hear from those who are leading the way in improving the On-Call Duty System, both from within MAWWFRS and from external organisations, such as the National Fire Chiefs Council, The Fire Fighters Charity and more. There was also an overview of the Service's newly established Community Risk Management Plan, which has replaced the Service's corporate planning process, the On-Call Improvement Programme and the Training Delivery and People and Organisational Development review.

The Conference aimed to focus and discuss the future landscape of On-Call Firefighting and provided the opportunity to gain a better understanding of the Service's specialist services, as well as a question-and-answer session to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the current On-Call Crewing System.







EXCITING EVENTS AHEAD!







From action-packed open days to car washes and experience days, there's something for everyone.

31st May - Pontarddulais Open Day

1st June - Welsh Firefighter Challenge

1st June - Newcastle Emlyn Show and Tell Day

15th June - Welshpool Experience Day

15th June - Haverfordwest Car Wash

19th June - Newtown experience Day

24th June - Hay-on-Wye Recruitment Evening

29th June - Llandeilo Car Wash

11th July - Haverfordwest Experience Day

13th July - Port Talbot Day

31st July - Pembroke Dock Open Day

Our community-based events offer a warm welcome to all, a great opportunity to connect with your local firefighters and support their station led events.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned to our social media pages for event updates and details.

Don't miss out on the excitement - follow us on social media and invite your friends and family.

Follow us on











STATION NEWS

'CONNECT FOR' EVENT AT NEWTOWN FIRE STATION

On Wednesday, April 24th, Newtown Fire Station hosted the second annual 'Connect for' event.

'Connect for' provides the opportunity for local organisations with the overall aim of enhancing service delivery, reducing risk, supporting health and well-being and to understand some of the priorities for regulators.

The event saw 33 attendees from organisations from around Powys and Ceredigion to re-affirm professional relationships that were established at last year's event.









STATION NEWS

ABERYSTWYTH FIRE STATION'S ANNUAL CAR WASH

On Saturday, May 18th, crew members at Aberystwyth Fire Station held their annual charity car wash and raised an impressive total of £1,272!

This year, the proceeds of the car wash will be shared equally between two very worthwhile causes – <u>The Fire Fighters Charity</u>, which provides lifelong support for serving and retired members of the UK's fire and rescue services, and <u>Tŷ Hafan</u>, which supports families with children who have life-shortening conditions.

Joining the Aberystwyth crew to wash as many vehicles as possible throughout the day was the Humphreys family. Cerys, Andrew, Maisie and Nel are taking on various challenges and events to raise funds for Tŷ Hafan, after the support the family have received from the hospice charity following Nel's diagnosis of Wolf-Hirschhorn Syndrome, a rare, life-limiting chromosome disease affecting 1 in 50,000 people.





MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE FORMS PART OF THE LARGEST EVER UK FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE CONVOY

Nine personnel from Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service recently volunteered their time to deliver three fire engines and equipment to Ukraine as part of the largest ever UK Fire and Rescue Service convoy.

The scale of the convoy was unprecedented, which comprised of 33 fire and rescue vehicles, two mechanics vehicles and more than 2,800 pieces of equipment that was donated by UK Fire and Rescue Services (FRSs) and supported by the Home Office.

Ukrainian fire and rescue services have been decimated by the impact of the war and the demands placed upon them have skyrocketed.















PROTECTING WILDLIFE AND THE COUNTRYSIDE FROM FIRE THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) has been working closely with Wardens from Bannau Brycheiniog National Park, as well as landowners and graziers, to cut firebreaks ahead of the summer months.

Every year fire is responsible for the destruction of thousands of hectares of countryside, open space



and wildlife habitats, and team members from MAWWFRS and <u>Bannau Brycheiniog</u> recently cut firebreaks across the Mynydd Du range.

Firebreaks are essential elements in protecting wildlife and the countryside from wildfires. They are strategically placed gaps or cleared areas in vegetation that are designed to impede the spread of fire. By creating a barrier, firebreaks help prevent wildfires from engulfing vast areas of land, thereby safeguarding wildlife habitats and minimising damage to the natural environment.

Not only do they slow the spread of wildfires, firebreaks also serve as access points for firefighters, allowing them to better control and extinguish fires before they escalate.



HIGH SHERIFF COMMENDATIONS

HIGH SHERIFF COMMENDATIONS FOR MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE STAFF

Earlier this year, two members of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) staff received Commendations from the High Sheriff of Dyfed.

Watch Manager Steve Jones and Community Education Officer Elinor Goldsmith were both recognised for their exceptional service to the community by the then High Sheriff of Dyfed, Meurig Raymond CBE.

Joined by the Lord Lieutenant of Dyfed, former BBC newsreader Sara Edwards, a special presentation ceremony was held in Crug Glâs Country Hotel in Pembrokeshire on Saturday, March 16th.

Elinor Goldsmith Community Education Officer

Elinor is currently in her 26th year of working at MAWWFRS, having joined in March 1999, and has been working within the Service's Community Fire Safety team for over 22 years.

As part of her role, Elinor visits a large number of schools across the Service area every year, delivering fire safety and arson reduction information to approximately 12,000 school children per year.

Elinor is recognised locally as a true role model, and is affectionately known as 'Elinor Tân', she often gets recognised by children, parents and teachers who she has worked with to deliver her engaging, informative and inspiring sessions.

As well as her school visits, Elinor also conducts Safe and Well visits on behalf of the Service throughout the year, which include fitting smoke alarms, home fire safety information, scam awareness, tackling loneliness and more.

Speaking on receiving her High Sheriff Commendation, Elinor said:

"I have embraced my role as Community Education Officer over the last 22 years and continue to enjoy delivering and instilling fire safety messages to the next generation which will contribute towards safer communities within our Service area.

I feel very honoured to have been recognised by the High Sheriff for services to the community and I look forward to maintaining high levels of engagement with local schools."





SWANSEA PRIDE

MID AND WEST WALES FIRE AND RESCUE **SERVICE ATTENDS SWANSEA PRIDE 2024**

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) joined the colourful Swansea **Pride celebrations on Saturday, May 18th.**

Equality, diversity and inclusion is at the heart of what MAWWFRS does and are values which sit at the core of our organisational processes, practices and culture. It was therefore a pleasure to show

our support and attend the annual Swansea Pride celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

The day involved a parade through the town centre as well as live music, traders' stalls, and plenty of food and refreshments at The Guildhall and Brangwyn Hall.

Forming part of the Swansea Pride Parade was MAWWFRS's Pride Fire Engine, a colourful addition to the Service's training fleet, which was joined by members of the Community Safety Team. Following the parade, members of the Service's Community Safety Team and Swansea Fire Station crew were on hand at their stand to offer fire safety advice and information, plus MAWWFRS colourful Pride merchandise.

It was a successful and luckily a very sunny day. We look forward to attending Swansea Pride 2025.





















UK SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS GATHER FOR TRAINING EXERCISES

Members of the UK's domestic and international search and rescue teams recently came together to carry out highly specialised training in Wales's capital city.



Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) and International Search and Rescue (ISAR) teams are typically deployed in the wake of events such as natural disasters or acts of terrorism, and are responsible for finding and freeing trapped people.

From Monday 22nd April to Wednesday 24th, teams from across the UK rallied in Cardiff and Gloucester for training exercises, travelling from fire service bases in Essex, Kent, Hampshire, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Merseyside, West Midlands, Scotland, South Wales, and Mid and West Wales.

COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM DIVES INTO WATER SAFETY TRAINING

On Monday 22nd April, members of Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) Community Safety team gathered to take part in Water Safety training along the River Teifi in Llandysul. The training exercise, organised by Technical Rescue Training manager Darren Wilson, was split into two sessions. The morning session involved a presentation from a trained MAWWFRS Swift Water Rescue First responder, which included the importance of water safety, common water hazards, drowning prevention techniques and how to perform basic water rescues on yourself and others.

Read more here: <u>Community Safety Team Dives</u> <u>into Water Safety Training (mawwfire.gov.uk)</u>











MULTI-AGENCY TRAINING



EXERCISE MERLIN

On April 23rd, 2024, several Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) crews attended a large-scale multi-agency training exercise held at various locations in the Carmarthen area.

The training session, named Exercise Merlin, involved several simulated wide-area floods which required a response from Tenby, Haverfordwest, Carmarthen and Pembroke Dock crews as well as crews from Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team, Coastguard Llansteffan, Ferryside Lifeboat and Loughor Lifeboat.

These agencies all joined forces to test their combined response to wide-area flood rescues. This allowed the emergency services to test their strategic and tactical responses, as well as evaluating how well they communicate with each other at large-scale major incidents.

Rapid Relief Team volunteers supported the event with cups of teas and coffees as well as their signature burger, which was well received after crews had become cold, hungry and thirsty during the exercise.

The event also allowed the MAWWFRS Drone
Team the opportunity to test the deployment of the
drone in a search and rescue scenario. This involved
streaming footage and images to the Emergency
Control room which not only helped maximise
firefighter safety, but also provided additional
situational awareness to incident commanders and
updated visual information.

The exercise gave crew members the opportunity to refine their emergency response skills when dealing with incidents of this nature, as well as discuss their valuable feedback during the exercise's debrief sessions.

Exercise Merlin was directed by Haverfordwest Watch Manager Nicholas Rees who said:

"Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service are committed to working with our partners to ensure an effective response in dealing with a wide range of incidents. Exercise Merlin that took place in April tested our response to a mass flooding event affecting a wide geographical area.

The exercise focused on bringing specialist teams from several agencies including Western Beacons Mountain Rescue, Coastguard, Ferryside and Loughor Independent Lifeboats. It was great to see the interoperability of these teams working alongside our own specialist water rescue teams. Multi-agency exercises like this allows us to better understand each other's capabilities and strengthens our response.

I would like to thank all the agencies that attended, along with personnel from Joint Fire Control and the Rapid Relief Team who provided food and refreshments."









SPORTS AND SOCIAL

BECOME A MEMBER OF MAWWFRS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB TODAY!

Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service (MAWWFRS) has its own Sports and Social Club. If you are a current or retired member of the Service, you are welcome to join.

The Sports and Social Club is a platform for keeping active, socialising, and having fun. Currently it consists of a variety of sections that you can join, including:























These are the official Sports and Social club section logos - for any logo enquires please contact our graphics team

We are fully supportive of starting new sections, so if you don't see a sport or social activity that you enjoy, why not get in touch, and start your own section.

Be a part of the Sports and Social Club for just £2 a month. assist with the running of all our sections. For more information on how to join, please email Steven Philpot - s.philpott@mawwfire.gov.uk



SPORTS AND SOCIAL FEATURE

AS PART OF OUR MONTHLY INSIGHT INTO MAWWFRS SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUBS, MAY IS ALL ABOUT BOWLS!



Eddie Williams

The Bowls Section was formed in 1990 under Powys Sports and Athletic Association (SAA), in the mid 90's it became Dyfed/Powys SAA, before finally becoming Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue (MAWWFRS) Sports and Social club in 1998.

The MAWWFRS Bowls Section constitution was agreed on 30th April 1999, Eddie Williams former Sub Officer in charge of retained at Llandrindod Wells Station was appointed as club secretary. Eddie still has a copy of the first Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in Brigade Headquarters on 1st May 1998 and remains the Bowls Section secretary to this

The Bowls members compete against teams from England, Ireland, and Scotland in the Four Nations **competition**, of which Wales have been champions for the last 2 years. Wales have won the overall competition 10 times, in the 35 years since the first competition being held in Great Yarmouth in 1989. The Four Nations competition is held every year in different locations of the UK, this Year the team are competing in Irvine Bowls Club, Scotland on 6th, 7th, and 8th September.

The latest Bowls AGM was held in April, there was no change of officer on this occasion, and it was agreed that the Service Pairs/Triples competition would be held at **Llandrindod Wells Bowls Club** on Monday, 15th July starting at 10.00am.

Joining the Bowls team is an excellent opportunity to engage in a sport that combines strategy, skill, and camaraderie!

Bowls is not just a sport; it's a social activity too! You'll have the chance to meet new people, make friends, and enjoy the supportive community that comes with being part of a team. So, whether you're young or young-atheart, Bowls is a sport that anyone can enjoy. It's low impact, making it suitable for people of all fitness levels and ages.

Join the MAWWFRS Bowls Section TODAY! Open to all employees of the Service including volunteers, wholetime, On-Call, support staff and retired members. Contact the Sports and Social Club secretary, Steven Philpott at s.philpott@ mawwfire.gov.uk to find out more.



WORK WITH US!

When people think of a career in the Fire and Rescue Service, they tend to think of Firefighters responding to emergency incidents, but it's not just Firefighters who make mid and west Wales a safer place.

Behind the operational scene, the Service has a large range of other posts within different departments which are either office based or in our workshops, and we employee people in professional, technical, and administrative roles.

Benefits

- Competitive rates of pay recently reviewed to ensure fairness across all roles; with annual increments to the top of your salary band, as you build knowledge and experience.
- Local Government Pension scheme A generous pension scheme, with the Service making a substantial contribution (currently 15.2%) to funding your retirement, as well as the option to increase your benefits by purchasing additional pension or investing in Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC).
- Generous Annual leave 26 Days plus bank holidays, going up to 33 days after 5 years employment.
- Flexi Scheme Opportunity to flex your working hours to help accommodate life outside of work.
- Access to Blue Light Card discount scheme
- Car Leasing Salary Sacrifice scheme
- Let's Connect IT equipment loan scheme
- Subsidised canteen facilities
- Sports and Social Club
- Firefighters Charity
- Free on-site parking
- Cycle to Work scheme
- Health and Wellbeing
- Treater and Wendering

Staff Discount scheme













ON-CALL FIREFIGHTERS - WE NEED YOU!



Do you live within 5-10 minutes of your local Fire Station?

We currently have on-call firefighter vacancies – head over to our website to find out more!









#MoreThanJustFires **ALT POCKEDS TO SELY AN INCUE NELPOSE PROJECT CHAFTING Charity Donothe to your clothing and shoes; and shoes;

www.mawwfire.gov.uk

CALON TÂN MAGAZINE - MAY 2024