



## **CELEBRATING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY**

### **HEDDLU DYFED POWYS POLICE-FRIDAY, 27 APRIL 2018**

This afternoon we held our first event to celebrate our 50th anniversary as a police service. Here's the order of service for the afternoon. We were taken through 'A Journey in Time'.

Representatives from current and retired police officers and staff and guests are being taken through 'A Journey in Time' of events from 1968 to 2018 in celebration of 50 years as a police force.

We are delighted that renowned Welsh journalist, presenter and newsreader Huw Edwards is with us today leading the 'A Journey in Time' presentation.

1968: Dyfed Powys Constabulary was established on the 1st April when Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire Constabulary, the Mid Wales Constabulary and the Pembrokeshire Police came together making it the largest police force geographically in England and Wales.

1968: The newly formed Constabulary had an establishment of 820 staff, 35 officers were women. Pictured is 1 of the 5 female officers, Police Sergeant (known as Woman Police Sergeant) Jean Evans, the first female Sergeant in the Carmarthenshire & Cardiganshire force

1969: We saw a significant policing operation when the future Prince of Wales, ahead of his investiture, spent a term at Aberystwyth University studying Welsh history and the Welsh Language.

1974: In this year the name of the force changed from Dyfed Powys Constabulary to Dyfed-Powys Police. A special crest is being used to celebrate the 50th anniversary year.

1977: Retired officers Terry Stokes & Dai Rees are speaking about their experiences on Operation Julie, an investigation into the production and distribution of LSD, which saw the seizures of enough LSD to make 6.5 million tabs with a street value of £100 million.

1980's: The history of Operations Seal Bay 1983 and Operations Bach 1986 is next. Two West Wales operations which disrupted the sale of drugs, totalling approx. £11million, and resulted in successful convictions.

1983: Retired officer Ron Davies is talking about a new member of the force; a 2-year-old Labrador by the name of 'Roman Road Bowie', known as 'Bowie', the force's first drugs dog. Bowie was bilingual, having been trained by Ron to respond to commands in both English & Welsh.

1985: On the 22nd December the Scoveston Murders became the first of two horrific murders that shook the county of Pembrokeshire during the 1980s. Recovery and storage of significant evidence from the scene came into its own years later with technological developments.

1987: On the 18th and 19th October Carmarthen experienced the worst flooding for more than some 100 years. Tragically, 4 people were killed when Glanrhyd Bridge in Llandeilo collapsed & the train plunged into the water.

1987: was the mark of a new era for Dyfed-Powys with the relocation of its Headquarters from Friars Park, Carmarthen to a modern purpose-built facility in Llangunnor Road; where the force is Headquarters remains today.

1987/8: In June SPC Mark Collins began his policing career in Carmarthen, returning almost 30 years later as Chief Constable, accompanied at the helm by another recruit from this decade. PC Darren Davies joining in July 1988 at Llanelli, now Deputy Chief Constable.

1989/90/91: The force's rugby team experienced success by becoming the National Police Athletic Association cup winners for 3 years. Not only did the squad include a certain Deputy Chief Constable Darren Davies, but also Wales international Emyr Lewis.

1989: On the 5th July the Dixons murder became the second of two horrific murders that shook the county of Pembrokeshire during the 1980s. Recovery and storage of significant evidence from the scene came into its own years later with technological developments.

1989: In December a cache of IRA weapons and explosives were discovered at Newgale, Pembrokeshire, leading to the arrest of 2 suspected IRA members under Operation Pebble. Both received sentences of 30 years but later released under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement.

1989: In October the Police Authority approved the purchase of a helicopter. During its 1st year it did 94 searches for MISPERs, 91 photographic tasks & helped with the arrest of 79 persons. After 25 years' service it was handed over to the National Police Air Service.

1996: In June Mr Raymond White was appointed Chief Constable of DPP, Mr White was awarded the QPM in 1991 and a CBE in 1996. In 1996, Mr White became the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers, the highest National Office for a Chief Constable.

2003: Our first 5 PCSOs were appointed in 2003 and stationed in Llanelli. The role of the PCSO has today become embedded in the fabric of modern day policing and has proven to be an invaluable link with communities. Currently Dyfed-Powys has 139 PCSOs.

2006: In October Dyfed-Powys hosted Exercise Oystercatcher, involving emergency services, armed services and government agencies to test the response to a major terrorist incident in Wales. The exercise was co-ordinated by none other than Chief Constable Mark Collins.

2005-2016: Emulating and some would say surpassing, the successes of the Force's Rugby team in the previous decade Dyfed-Powys cricket team became a force to be reckoned with as during a period of eleven years, the cricket squad became PAA National Winners 8 times.

2006: The Force Communication Centre opened at Police HQ in June, providing a centralised call taking function for police, ambulance & fire service. In March this year the FCC received 26,290 calls.

2007: The tragic murder of Kelly Hyde took place in September. The resultant investigation led to the arrest and conviction of a 17yr old man. For the first time, forensic specialists were brought in to assist the jury in their understanding of the case.

2011: John Cooper was sentenced to life after being found guilty of two double murders in Pembrokeshire, in the 80s, following an investigation under Operation Ottawa. This came thanks to forethought of officers in years prior and advances in forensic science.

2011: September saw the official opening of the Welsh Government funded Strategic Co-Ordination Centre at Dyfed-Powys HQ. The centre provides a range of facilities to ensure that Dyfed-Powys Police & partners are capable of an appropriate response to any civil emergency.

2012: On the 1st May the Southern Wales collaboration project went live with the Joint Firearms Unit. Officers from Dyfed-Powys, Gwent and South Wales now routinely trained and patrolled together, pooling resources to provide increased capability.

2012 - Retired Detective Chief Superintendent Andy John and Superintendent Ian John, are speaking about the investigation into the murder of 5-year-old April Jones

in Machynlleth. Tragically April was not found. Mark Bridger was later sentenced to life in prison.

2012: On the 22nd of November 2012 Police Authorities across England and Wales were disbanded with the creation of the new Police and Crime Commissioners. Commissioners are elected every 4 years and can be affiliated with political parties.

2015-2018: The successes of Dyfed-Powys Serious and Organised Crime Team have commanded national headlines with Operation Phobos and Operation Ulysses which targeted the supply & sale of drugs. In total 38 defendants were sentenced to more than 262 years in prison.

We are very fortunate that the famous Welsh poet, Eurig Salisbury, has agreed to become the force poet to help us celebrate our work. He is now chatting to Huw Edwards.

We now move on to a service led by Force Chaplain Tom Evans.

Sara Edwards, HM Lord lieutenant of Dyfed and Dame Shan Legge-Bourke, HM Lord Lieutenant of Powys are speaking of their professional relationship with the force.

Retired Chief Constable Ray White refers to the Book of Remembrance which commemorates those who have died whilst serving with Dyfed-Powys Police. On this day of celebration, we remember those who are no longer with us and their loved ones who still mourn their loss.

Retired police officer Dylan Thomas is giving a reading on the introduction and history of police officers beginning from when they were known as "Peelers and not "Bobbies."

Retired Chief Constable Jackie Roberts reflects on her time in Dyfed-Powys and the introduction of the force Chaplaincy Service.

The Welsh national anthem is being sung to conclude the service.

Police and Crime Commissioner Dafydd Llywelyn is closing the 'Journey in time' presentation