



### Annual Welsh Conference 16th June Llandrindod Wells

This years Welsh Conference was again held at the Metropole Hotel in Llandrindod Wells with a number of high-profile speakers attending the event to give an update on all things Revenues, Benefits and Valuation in Wales.

The Conference also included a very interesting session from The Behavioural Insights Team who shared their experiences of using nudge techniques and social norms theory to assist in day to day challenges we all face in the workplace.



All presentation slides from the Conference can be found on the Associations website by clicking on the following link: <http://irrvassociations.org.uk/page.php?Aid=5&Waid=28&lid=1501>

### North & Mid Wales IRRV Association Annual General Meeting—27th April 2017

This years AGM was held at Bod Erw Hotel in St Asaph and saw a number of changes to members of the Executive. Firstly, our outgoing Treasurer and Secretary Matthew Evans who has decided to step down from the Executive after many years service. The Association would like to thank Matthew for all his hard work and effort over this time.

Secondly, Islwyn Lewis-Jones former Secretary and Executive Member for over 20 years. Again the Association would like to thank Islwyn for all his hard work and effort throughout this period and especially for the role he has taken in organising the Annual Welsh Conference to make the event a great success.

Moving forward the Executive would like to offer a warm welcome to Andrew Lewis from Gwynedd Council who now joins the Executive and offer our congratulations to Bleddyn Jones, also from Gwynedd who was appointed Secretary and Treasurer for the North & Mid Wales Association.

The AGM minutes/accounts can be found at: <http://irrvassociations.org.uk/page.php?Aid=5&Waid=29>

### DWP Update—Anne Marie Read

At this years AGM the Association welcomed Anne Marie Read, Senior Management Consultant from the DWP who provided an update on topical items that included Fraud and Error Scheme, Right Benefit, Wurti, PDP along with further updates on the Fraud process.

The meeting was very thought provoking and provided a fantastic insight into the challenges the DWP have faced over the last 2-3 years and of what lies ahead over the next couple of years.

A copy of Anne Marie's Presentation can be found at: <http://irrvassociations.org.uk/page.php?Aid=5&Waid=29&lid=1618>



### Dates for the diary



IRRV North & Mid Wales Exec Meeting, Bod Erw, St Asaph

28/07/2017

Taking Control of Goods Training, Bod Erw, St Asaph

26/09/2017

Annual IRRV Conference, Telford

03-05/10/2017

If you have any suggestions for future meetings; have an event/best practice you want to share or would like to contribute to future editions please contact:

Richard Mallon, Education Officer email: [rm@jacobsenforcement.com](mailto:rm@jacobsenforcement.com)

Busnes@LlandrilloMenai is the name for the employer engagement service of Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, the parent organisation of Coleg Llandrillo, Coleg Menai and Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor.

We are a one-stop-shop for the training needs of both employees and employers across North Wales.

Training can include short courses, professional qualifications, apprenticeships and degrees - in areas from accounting to construction, and from beauty to care. No matter what your role or organisation, there's something for everyone.

We also have a number of ESF-funded projects to support the cost of training. These include:

The Skills for Employers & Employees (SEE) project - which provides training programmes targeted at businesses in key sectors across North Wales – [gllm.ac.uk/see](http://gllm.ac.uk/see)

The North Wales Business Academy - an innovative project that partners businesses throughout North Wales with the collective talents, skills and expertise of a range colleges and universities - [gllm.ac.uk/nwba](http://gllm.ac.uk/nwba)

For more information, or to arrange a visit from one of our Advisors, email [busnes@gllm.ac.uk](mailto:busnes@gllm.ac.uk), call 08445 460 460 or visit [gllm.ac.uk/busnes](http://gllm.ac.uk/busnes)



### **IRRV Golf - Celebrating 20 Years**

This years event was held at Abergele Golf Club with over 30 current and former members of the Association in attendance.

This years event was won by Luned Fon Jones of Gwynedd with a fabulous 41 points, 6 clear points ahead of 2nd place.



The Association would like to thank Excel for their continued support of this annual event which is still going strong after 20 years.

### **Increasing Attendance at IRRV Meetings**

We are looking for suggestions from colleagues across the region on how we can increase attendance at future Association Meetings?

- Would rotating meetings at Council HQ's or across various regions help increase attendance?
- What topical sessions or training events would you like to see held by the Association over the next 12 months?
- Would offering free places for the attendance at the sessions/ events encourage you to come along to the meetings?

If you have any suggestions then please let me know (Email [rm@jacobsenforcement.com](mailto:rm@jacobsenforcement.com)). The future of our Association depends on everyone's contribution whether you are part of the Executive or work for a local authority across North & Mid Wales.

**Meet the North & Mid IRRV Wales Executive:** In this edition of our newsletter two more serving members of the Executive, Andrew Lewis and David Subacchi, will share with you a little bit about themselves and how being a member has helped shape David's career and from Andrew's point of view what drove him to becoming a IRRV member.



Andrew Lewis  
Executive Member

Graduating from the University of Manchester in 2012, I travelled home to Pwllheli with the principal ambition of joining the public sector. After initially working in social housing in 2013, I joined Gwynedd County Council in 2014. From January 2015, I have been working specifically in the Taxation Department – originally as Council Tax Revenues Assistant and more recently as Non -Domestic Rates Assistant. On the 1/5/17, I was promoted to the role of Court Officer within the department.

With the aim of developing and succeeding in my new role, I intend to begin and complete the IRRV Diploma in the next two years. I also hope to play an active role in the North and Mid Wales Executive; I look forward to getting to know fellow executive members and sharing knowledge and good practice within our field of Revenues and gaining an insight into other relevant spheres.

I studied Law at Liverpool University qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor with the Valuation Office in Wales and joining the IRRV in 1984. I am a past President of North Wales IRRV and past Chairman of the North Wales Branch of the RICS.

After retirement from the VO two years ago I re-joined the executive of the North Wales IRRV and I also sit as a Chairman for the Valuation Tribunal for Wales and the Magistracy. I am a member of various Boards including Glyndwr University and RICS Cymru.

With some 40 years of experience in professional property matters, law and education I am delighted to give back whatever I can to the IRRV and its members who have been such a great support to me throughout my career.



David Subacchi  
Executive Member