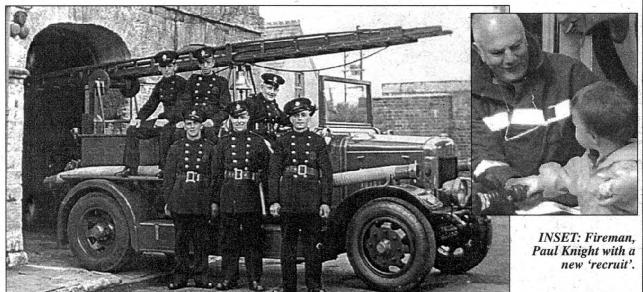
## FIREFIGHTERS WE CAN BE PROUD OF



DURING the last war, there was of the civilian market were engulfed in course a greatly increased need for fire services and Cowbridge Brigade found that the new fire engine was too big for the station under the Town Hall.

They, and a branch of the Auxiliary Fire Service, moved to Billy Jones's West End Garage at 56 High Street - where Chamberlains is today.

The two brigades had to deal with aircraft fires, as well as the devastating fire in the cinema in Eastgate in April 1942. Tommy Carter and Herbert Tucker; stand- Fire Service are a credit to the town - and Rumour has it that a cigarette end was dropped into a box of film - and also that Cardiff cinemas had unfortunately sent spools of film to Cowbridge to be stored, Hall until the new fire station in safe from enemy attack!

Another major fire was at the Bridge Garage in December 1946 when a tanker delivering petrol proved to be too close to a coal-burning stove. This was a spectacular fire which affected more than the owner of the garage, Mr Frank Sanders as some of the new cars just returning to

flames!

the fire brigade returned to an enlarged pages of The GEM as a result. fire station at the town hall. Unfortunately, any reader have one? I would love to see one!), but this photograph shows some of the members of Cowbridge Fire Brigade on the fire engine outside the old headquarters - clearly where the Lesser Hall town twinning. kitchen is today.

ing are Iori Jones, Harold Bevan and Ernie we are fortunate to have so many dedicat-Wheaton.

The brigade continued using the Lesser

Druids Green, on the site of the old railway, was opened in May 1960. Cowbridge now has fully trained professional firefighters available 24 hours a day; in fact, in 1999 they turned out a total of 503 times - to fires and road accidents and other emergencies.

In addition, the men of the fire service are all involved in various aspects of com-After the war, the AFS disbanded and munity work - and frequently figure in the

Among them are Paul Thomas with his I do not have any photos of the AFS (does charity work, such as Operation Christmas Child and missions to Uganda, Paul Sansom with various initiatives in youth work in Cowbridge, Neil Byrne with the Scouts and the Youth Centre, Andy Banks with

Always willing to help, to give advice, Seated are Danny Powell senior, to get involved, the men of the Cowbridge ed, cheerful and pleasant firefighters.

> "For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and He pondereth all his goings. His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins. He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.

PROVERBS 5 Vs 21-23. (Cowbridge Christian Fellowship)

## chs 04670 Fire Service crew ca 1940s – names given by Danny Powell

Left to right (top): Dan Powell (senior), Tom Carter, Herbert Tucker (driver)

lori Jones, Harold Bevan, Ernie Wheaton (standing)