Double targets for arsonists

Coupie sleep in stables after fire

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last edition only made a £1
profit", added Mr. Parsons.

Since moving to Llangattock he
had carried out some spe-
culative house-building at Tre-
garon, but they were homes for
retired local people, he
pointed out.

"They were not intended to be
holiday homes. They are not
suitable for that as they are in the
middle of a private estate. No-one
has a holiday home on an estate," he
said.

Mr. Parsons was assayed at
specialization in a daily news-
paper that he and his wife
were planning to move away
from their home even though
this was the second attack
aimed against them.

Three months ago, just after
he had had a news interview for
the BBC programme, they re-
ceived a death-threat package
containing embalming fluid.

However, they decided to carry
on living in Llangattock.

"But my wife was inter-
viewed during the weekend
for a daily newspaper and she
was reported to have said she
was frightened for her life and
she would leave Llangattock right
away.

"They spoke to her while she
was still in shock and I don't feel so
strongly as her. I am sure you would get a
different story from her now.

Being private people we were a
bit upset by this sensational-
ism in the national press," said
Mr. Parsons.

He and his wife were forced
to sleep on mattresses in their
stables after the fire even
though all the friends they
know in the area called to offer sympathy and many
tools of help.

Fire appliances from Treg-
garon and Lampeter attended
the scene with 13 firemen.

Four sets of breathing appar-
atus and two water jets were
used to extinguish the fire.

The first-floor was severely
damaged and frames were
used to ventilate the house and
help with salvage operations.

On Monday afternoon Supt.
Dwight Evans, commander of
 Dyfed-Powys Police Abere-
swyth sub-division, said foren-
sic scientists had examined
the scene of the blaze and
samples had been removed for
laboratory examination.

As horse-to-house en-
quiries were continuing in the
Llangattock area, he added.

"We are treating the inci-
dent as arson and to date no
organisation has claimed respon-
sibility. We are appealing for
people to be 100% behind us in
giving us all the information to
arrest the person or persons
responsible.

"Aberration police are anxious to trace the driver of a
D-registered red Vauxhall
Astra seen in the Bayaran,
Llanddew area between 50
p.m. and 11 p.m. on Wednes-
day, 17 January, when black
paint was used to spray an
"English Out" message on
stables at Porthyrady run by
Mrs. Jane Gacesm.

Search for blue pick-up

Police appealed on Tuesday
for help from the public to
trace a blue pick-up truck
spotted leaving the scene of an
arson attack at a hotel near
Newcastle Emlyn last week.

Chief Inspector Idris Rees,
who is heading the inquiry into
the fire which destroyed the
Lamb Hotel, Rhondda Cynon,
and injured the manager, said
the truck had a white, slip-on
back covering the rear of the
vehicle.

"At the material time -
about 1.45 on Sunday morning,
this vehicle was seen being
driven away from the scene
and heading in the general
direction of Carmarthen along
the A40 road.

"Any persons with informa-
tion regarding this vehicle is
asked to contact the incident
room at Newcastle Emlyn
police station on Newcastle
Emlyn (0239) 710323 or any
other police station," urged
Chief Inspector Rees.

He has discounted the theory
that the fire was started by
Melthom Clywedog campa-
igners. "Our inquiries tend to
to show there is no connection
and no one has claimed re-
ponsibility.

"Neither have we found
anything to link this incident
with an arson attack on a
house at Llangattock on Friday
afternoon," he said.

Hotel manager 41-year-old
Mr. Thomas Desmoni Morley,
who moved to the area with his
wife and four-month-old twins
last July, received extensive
burns and lacerations in the
fire and was taken to St. Law-
rence Hospital, Chepstow, for
specialist treatment where on
Monday he was said to be
improving.

His wife and both twins were
taken to the West Wales
General Hospital, Glangewi,
Carmarthen, suffering from
the effects of inhaling smoke
and after being detained over-
night they were released on
Monday.

A special incident room was
set up at Newcastle Emlyn
police station to co-ordinate
the investigation. Police have
contacted the hotels owner.

Mr. Desmoni James, who also
lives on the premises.

"He was notified of the inci-
dent while on holiday in
Lanzarote and is expected to
return as soon as possible," said
Chief Inspector Rees.

The police are appealing to
anyone who stopped to help
the fire in the early hours of
Sunday morning or from anyone
with information about the blaze.

"We are looking into state-
ments that something was
thrown into the hotel seconds
before the fire began. There
was no explosion, so, so far,
but there are indications that the
fire may have been due to the
presence of accelerants," the Chief
Inspector added.

Fire tenders from Lampeter,
Llanddew, Newcastle Emlyn
and Carmarthen attended the
scene and a fire service inves-
tigation team was also called in.