

Hywelian Guild 2014



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Cover photos:

Top left: Hywelian Oral History project interviewees

Bottom left: Cocktails at Christmas 2013

Top right: Class of '83 reunion

Bottom right: West Wales Branch 40th birthday celebration

HYWELIAN GUILD 2014

I'D ONLY JUST breathed a sigh of relief that the last bit of last year's Magazine had been dealt with, when the emails started coming through with this year's offerings. News continued to arrive regularly, and here we are again with a brand new Magazine!

It's always good to know what Hywelians all over the globe are up to, and we really do appreciate the few moments you spend updating us. We know, too, that many friendships which lapsed after schooldays have been renewed, and that is something we are very glad to facilitate.

There is inevitably the sad news of Hywelians who are no longer with us, but that is balanced with the news we have of marriages and new arrivals in the Hywelian family.

Perhaps most enjoyable for those of, shall we say, more mature years, are the memories of times gone by, when the School's ethos seemed to be slanted more towards making us refined young ladies. Maybe

these same memories can be instructive to those newer (and younger!) Hywelians, giving them an insight into the history of this wonderful institution, and its development into the kind of place where refinement is lower down the agenda, and pupils are challenged and encouraged to develop all-round skills.

As a way of encouraging this, present pupils are involved in the *Hywelian Oral History* project - and very interesting it is, too!

As always, there are thanks to be recorded and as Editor I can only admire the skill and persistence with which members of the Editorial Committee manage to extract such wonderful nuggets of information from our contributors. Special thanks to Sue Rayner and Joyce Shields for (very necessary!) proofreading. You all deserve, and get, my heartfelt thanks.

Lyn Owen
Editor

THANK YOU to everyone who took the trouble to feed back your thoughts on last year's Magazine - the first to go online. Your compliments were very encouraging! We also welcome any comments and suggestions you may have about future editions.

One of the advantages of having a 'virtual' presence is the fact that we can include lengthier contributions in an appendix, and keep the shorter,

edited versions in the Magazine proper. This helps to keep down the number (and hence weight) of pages in the printed version without depriving you of the detailed information available to you. (As always, we understand that there are those who do not have online facilities; we suggest an offer of a cup of tea and biscuits to someone who does may be helpful!)

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sally Davis summarises another very successful year for the school.

IN THE SUMMER TERM of 2013, our aptly named campaign, *Pitch In*, was launched. Its aim is to raise funds for a much-needed Astroturf and Sports pavilion to enhance our sports offer to students. We have been raising money in a variety of innovative ways; more notable events include: a Champagne Cycle Challenge on a sunny late June Sunday; a Golf Charity Day at The Vale resort; an evening in John Lewis, and a *Bollywood*-themed evening, called Mumbai Magic, planned for February 2014. Parents, students, teachers, Hywelians and other well-wishers are also providing goods and services, the proceeds from which go to the fund.

Over the summer, the Nursery was totally refurbished and the Green Garden project, complete with rotating glass orb, woodland walk, fire pit and a willow *Stig of the Dump*, was finished. The Junior School girls are particularly appreciative of the two 15 foot giraffes that are now in the playground!

Our Science laboratories have had a complete makeover and I am sure you will enjoy seeing this wonderful area where we are now trialling LED lighting for the Trust, so it is particularly bright in this area of the school.

The academic year of 2012/13 once again saw us the top school in Wales, with fantastic GCSE and A level results.

At A level, 23% gained A*; 59.5% gained A*/A, and 85% gained A*-C.

Six students gained all A*, and 26 students gained all A*/A

At GCSE: Two girls achieved all A*s, and 21 girls achieved all A*/As

Of total entries, 36.5% of our results were at A*, 74% of our results were at A* to A, and 93% of our results were at A* to B.

These results are a testament to the hard work of our students and staff. A number of Hywelians kindly wrote to me after seeing our results in the local papers or on our banner. I always pass on these messages to the students and staff, who, I know, appreciate the interest that Hywelians show in them.

In September we held our Annual Prize-giving and I was delighted to welcome back Bethan James, a Hywelian. Bethan's official job title is 'extragalactic astrophysicist'. Her work encompasses galaxy formation and evolution, specifically by star-forming galaxies in the near and distant Universe. After graduating from Howell's in 2002, Bethan gained First Class Honours in Physics with Astrophysics at Bristol University, then completed a PhD in Astrophysics at University College London, under the supervision of Professor Mike Barlow. She was next offered a three-year Postdoctoral research post at NASA's Space Telescope Science Institute, in Baltimore USA, the home of the Hubble Space Telescope (HST). There she worked on chemical analysis of nearby galaxies, using the newly-installed Cosmic Origins Spectrograph on board HST. Bethan was offered her second Postdoctoral-position at the Institute of Astronomy, Cambridge University, where she now continues her research on

the more distant Universe.

An extract (very much edited!) from her speech is below:

'It's difficult for me to pin-down exact memories of Howell's, mainly because my time here was a whirlwind of involvement - drama, choir, Eisteddfod, netball - but my fondest memories are of exploration. We spent an unhealthy amount of time opening doors to unknown places, like the clock tower. Needless to say it all ended in detention and a permanently locked door. I also sincerely apologise to all the staff to whom I denied 'temporarily relocating' the gong in Year 11. In spite of this, I had a strict work ethic, which I still abide by today. I was very conscientious during my time at Howell's: I took assessments seriously and saw examinations as opportunities to prove myself. Perfection was my goal: if I had a spotless academic record, the world could hold no bounds.

'I first started focusing on the Universe when I was about eight or nine years old. Driving back from Scotland one night, my father stopped to show me the Milky Way in all its glory. He said there are more stars in the Universe than grains of sand on earth, and explained that the Universe is infinite. From that moment, I knew that I wanted to know more about space; not just the Solar System, but bigger, better, further - a desire that still holds today. I now specialise in analysing galaxies outside our own: galaxies that are giving birth to hundreds of millions of stars each year.

'My Howell's education - indeed, my entire "Howell's experience" - has helped me throughout my career, by providing me with certain skills, of which one is organisation. Having to pre-plan

each day, knowing which books, which kit, which stick, which coat, to pack - helped me to be organised, and I still pack my bag for work the night before. Homework was done as soon as it was received, even if the deadline was two weeks away. I still do that now; most astronomers tend to see deadlines as distant point-sources in the far realms of the Universe.

'Another skill is confidence. Howell's gave me the confidence to do exactly what I wanted to do and be the person I wanted to be. Until I started university, I was unaware of the gender imbalance within the physical sciences. This school helps its students to believe that anything is possible. At the age of twelve, when I told Mrs Fitz that I was going to be the first woman on Mars, she gave me a huge smile and said, "That's fantastic, Bethan".

'If I were to offer one piece of wisdom, it would be: work for something you feel passionate about. Diligence will become second nature and your studies will be enjoyable. Always follow your dreams, regardless of how hard they are to achieve. You are often told that if you reach for the stars, you might just reach the tree-tops. I say: if you reach for the stars, and you want them enough, you can certainly touch them.'

It was an inspiring speech and I know you would all have been proud of Bethan, as a fellow Hywelian, for what she has achieved, and the message she has given to Hywelians of the future.

*Sally Davis
Principal*

A fuller version of Bethan's address may be found in the online Appendix.

WHO'S WHO IN 2014

Please note that, as the magazine is also being produced in an online version accessible to all, for security reasons we have not printed private addresses and telephone numbers. For those Hywelians wishing to make contact who do not have email access, please contact the Committee via School

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Officers and Branch Secretaries serve in a voluntary capacity, with appointment approved at the AGM. There is always a welcome to anyone wishing to serve on the Committee: please contact the Secretary for further details.

FOR THE DIARY

There is a huge amount of activity going on in School next year - below is a very brief summary of what is happening.

BRIDGEND BRANCH will celebrate their 60th Anniversary with a lunch in School on Tuesday 6 May 2014 from 12.30pm onwards.

The **SUMMER LUNCH AND AGM** will be held in School on Saturday 28 June 2014 at 12.00pm

Other events in School include open afternoons; and Spring and Summer concerts and shows. There are two Charity events: a Golf Day and Dinner in May, and a Champagne Cycle Challenge and Barbecue in June. The Founders' Friday Assembly will be on 27 June, the time to be confirmed.

For more information about these events, please contact Hannah Roberts on 029 2026 1825 or email hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net. You can also find details on the School website.

DEAR HYWELIANS,

It hardly seems any time since I sat down to write my piece for the Magazine last year, and here we are again.

It has been a busy year for events in School, with Hywelians attending many of them. Amongst the treats was a splendid performance of Romeo and Juliet in the Autumn Term, and an evening in the beauty department of John Lewis with wine and canapés, with most of the cost of the ticket refunded in the shape of a voucher to spend.

Our main event is our Summer Lunch, and I am pleased to record that over 80 people came in June 2013, which was good to see. I know that it has subsequently led to a group – the Class of '83 – organising a get together at School, as you can read later in the magazine. I am very grateful to Mrs. Davis, Mrs Yilmaz and Hannah Roberts for the help which they give us to enable us to continue to meet at School and to maintain contact with you all. I am aware of two other former pupils' associations which have folded this year, and that could well be your Guild without the support which we receive. We shall be holding our Summer Lunch on 28th June in 2014, and I do hope that as many of you as possible will come.

We hold our AGM as an adjunct to this occasion which I know isn't popular, but we are part of a Registered Charity and must adhere to the requirements which this places upon us. We would welcome any Hywelian who wants to come for-

ward for election to any of the Officer or Committee posts – this is the only opportunity to officially do so!

On a more cheerful note, we have two Branches which have celebrated major anniversaries this year. The West Wales Branch is 40 years old, the Bridgend

“Two Branches celebrated major anniversaries this year.”

Branch 60 years old. Keeping the branches going is the result of hard work by a few people who deserve as much support as we

can give them. Congratulations to both Branches. And congratulations to Kay Powell, who will take over as Chairman of the Governors in August 2014 – the first Hywelian to hold this office. I suspect it would have been unthinkable to the worthy gentlemen who comprised the first Board of Governors!

My thanks to my Committee, especially Joyce Shields, without whom I would not be able to function as Secretary, to our Editor Lyn Owen, and to Hywelians who have sent us their news thus enabling us to produce the Magazine which has now been produced nearly every year for over a century (the war years were difficult!). It was Miss Kendall who encouraged the formation of the Guild in 1906, and I'm sure she would be astonished to see the way that School, the Guild and the Magazine have developed over this time. It is thanks to Mrs Janet Sully and the support which Mrs Davis gives to the archives and the history of the school, that we have such a rich heritage to maintain and pass on to the future.

Sue Rayner
Secretary

BRANCH REPORTS

If you are an Hywelian now living away from Cardiff, joining a branch is a way of keeping in touch with fellow Hywelians. Contact details of Branch Secretaries may be found on page 7

SCOTTISH BRANCH

We enjoyed another happy meeting at the Parklands Hotel in Perth this summer. We were able to sit outside and enjoy a pre-lunch glass of wine, and I suspect our fellow guests wished we had stayed outside for lunch as well, as the noise from our chatter was deafening!

We were five in all, Mary Craig, Maeve Ersu, Jean Mcgregor, Barbara Trengove and Jean Cox. Unfortunately, Carolyn, Jill, Caroline and Alicia were unable to be with us.

I am retiring as secretary this year and Caroline Mclean has kindly agreed to take over from me. Her e-mail address is:

croft.mclean@btinternet.com

If anyone has recently moved to Scotland and would like to join us, please get in touch: you will be given a very warm welcome. We send our best wishes to all Hywelians from our small group north of the border.

Jean Cox

SOUTHERN BRANCH

2013 has been variable. The meeting held in May was disappointing, as our usual venue was not up to standard and only five of our members were present. However, our September meeting was a considerable improvement. The Lyndhurst Park Hotel provided us with its usual high standard of food and the staff were exceptionally friendly and accommodating. Two of our members are chauffeured to the meeting by their daughters and our membership increased to eight!

For 2014, our meetings have been arranged at the Lyndhurst Park Hotel on 8th May and 25th September. We would wel-

come any new members to our meetings; do let us have details of any former pupils of the school who have recently become resident in our area!

Carol Evans

WEST WALES BRANCH

This has been a most special year for the Branch, as we celebrated our 40th anniversary in style! Our Spring Reunion was held at HSL, (full report & photo can be found on the Hywelians' page of School website.)

Our Autumn Reunion was hosted by our President, Mrs Ena Davies, at her Burry Port home. Instead of the customary buffet lunch, Ena provided a delicious meal for all 14 attendees, in return for a small donation. We decided that the £45 raised should be sent to HSL; £25 for School's upcoming performance of 'Romeo & Juliet', and £20 for the Hywelian Magazine Fund.

Unfortunately, our most senior member Eunice Davies (who had recently celebrated her 90th birthday) was unable to join us, so we sang 'Happy Birthday' to her over the phone! Eunice says, *'Thanks for your brilliant rendering of 'Happy Birthday': I was sorry to miss the meeting but heartened that you thought of me in such a musical fashion. Good wishes to everybody. Eunice'*

We would like to welcome more 'new faces' at our Spring 2014 meeting, which will be held at Marianne Rees's home in Loughor on Saturday May 17 2014. Any Hywelians interested in joining us for a most enjoyable afternoon of laughter and reminiscence should contact me, and I'll ensure you're invited!

Catherine Coulson

BRIDGEND BRANCH

2013 is our 60th Anniversary, and we plan to celebrate with a cake at our Advent meeting in the Bear Hotel Cowbridge on November 27th. 24 Hywelians attended our inaugural meeting in September 1953 at a Bridgend Hotel. Beryl Christopher was elected Chairman, Bess Morgan, Secretary and Doreen Annear (King) Treasurer. Subscription was 1/-, increasing to 2/- in 1964!

Our Advent service and lunch in Cowbridge in November remains a popular and central event for our members. Our Spring Lunch and AGM was in The Grove Golf Club in South Cornelly. 19 attended, including Mrs Sully from school.

Margaret Evans stood down as Chairman. We thank her for her many years in this post and congratulate her on being made a Vice-President of the Guild. Elizabeth Fryer (née Richards) has volunteered to take over. Liz started in Howell's in 1957 as a day girl. She now lives in St. Athan with husband Ray. She is retired but assists with Guides and is a volunteer story teller in local schools and library.

The summer supper was in Fairways Hotel Porthcawl; unfortunately amid unfinished improvements.

Two of our members moved away during the year. Joyce Care (née Cridland), a stalwart member of the branch, has moved to Weymouth to be near her sons and their families. Joyce has cared for husband Richard for several years; sadly, he is now in a nursing home. Joan Loudon (née Ede) from Cowbridge, also a regular member, has been in poor health and is in a home in Oxford near her family. We wish them both well.

We are to hold a celebratory lunch in school on Tuesday 6 May 2014; our summer meeting will be in July. Please contact me nearer the time for further details.

Pat Parry

LONDON BRANCH

On 18th May 22 members and Mrs Michelle Gosney, Deputy Principal, attended the Annual Tea at Drapers' Hall. This grandiose building provides a great atmosphere for our Tea; this year we were very lucky in being able to visit the silver treasury and view the superb collection, including items presented by schools associated with the Drapers' Company. We enjoyed a talk by Mrs Gosney, describing the exciting events that had recently taken place or were about to. The CD of Beauty and the Beast handed out was greatly appreciated.

On Saturday 12th October, 16 members met for lunch at the Brasserie Blanc, Southbank, where we had a very pleasant meal in a private room. Next year, we aim to meet on a Saturday, possibly in November; we hope that a weekend date will be attractive to more Hywelians. We would love to welcome new members particularly from younger generations.

Diana (our retiring Secretary) now spends much of her time away from the London area, so we need a new Secretary. The London Branch members are very appreciative of Diana's excellent efforts on their behalf. It's not an onerous job: any takers?

The tea and lunch in 2014 will be held on Saturday 17 May.

Rosemary Satchell (Treasurer, London Branch)

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO NOW?

Some Hywelians seem to get to the most unlikely places and do the most unlikely things. We're always delighted to hear of your exploits, here, there - or anywhere!

CHRISTINE ATKINSON writes from Australia to say that Sue Johnson (née Lisle) and her partner Geoff visited Australia earlier this year and we had lunch together at Bondi Beach. We had a wonderful time, but sadly I misplaced the photos we took! (*Sue - if you're reading this and you have photos - please get in touch! - Ed*)

JANET WILLIAMS (née Hustwick, 1958-65) says, "I retired from teaching in 2012 but am still continuing with examining and still live in London. My son is now Senior Lecturer in Modern European History at Aberystwyth. He and his family are living in north Pembrokeshire and my daughter-in-law, an American, has learned Welsh very quickly! We have bought the house which is attached to theirs, about nine miles from the coastal path and in a good area for walkers, cyclists and bikers. It will be a holiday let but needs a bit of work before it can be used. My maternal grandfather's family came from Pembrokeshire, so it is a bit like coming home. My son also brews beer, has won several prizes and has set up a microbrewery in his house. He has called it the Seren Brewing Company."

MARIA MCCARTHY is working as a freelance journalist and has recently had features in Good Housekeeping, The Guardian and The Sunday Express. She has interviewed Aled

Jones, ('really good fun') and Martin Kemp from Spandau Ballet ('still swoonily handsome!'), and met Angela Rippon, Jayne Torvill, Christopher Dean and Jennifer Lawrence. Maria has appeared on radio and TV (including Daybreak, Sky news, and Radio 4's You and Yours), talking about motoring matters.

She attended the 2013 reunion and had a fantastic time catching up with old friends, "discovering the new, rather plush staff room and hanging out drinking wine there."

ADRIENNE CROCKETT tells us: "I'm a Consultant Psychiatrist and 'Clinical Lead of the Acute Pathway for Mental Health' in South West Yorkshire Mental Health Trust.

"My daughters both came back to Wales to University – Nicole to Cardiff from which she graduated with an MA in English Literature this summer (she's now hoping to go on to a PhD) and Simone who is now in her second Year at Swansea University.

"Dad died very suddenly last year but Mum is still living in Lisvane, so I'm in Cardiff quite frequently these days."

DOROTHY WEBB DAVIES says "I am soon to publish my first book, called *"Breaking Rules"*, on Kindle. It's a novel portraying a slice of life from the fifties - the genuine thing! Although I published five children's books in the 70s (now out of print),

and have also published short stories, a play and even a few poems, I al-



Dorothy and daughter Jema

ways meant to be a novelist - and now there isn't much time left! I tend to get deflected onto other things. My daughter, Jema Hewitt, herself a published writer, has designed the cover for me, so watch this space.

JULIA HALLINAN left HSL in 1972, has now retired from being a head teacher and gone full circle to opening another Cookshop in King's Road, Pontcanna (Cardiff). Julia says it's "The Best Food You Never Cooked", and Joyce Shields (Membership Secretary) can vouch that it really is delicious!

CLAIRE MURPHY reports that in March 2013, "I was appointed Assistant Professor at the Warwick Manufacturing Group, University of Warwick. I'm currently building up my research group which will work on various aspects of Nanocomposite Materials."

SYLVIA HORNER (née Maskew) writes: "I took my courage in both hands and went on a Great Rail Trip for Singles in September to Switzerland. "It was exhausting but a great experience. Michael Portillo described most of our expeditions in his wanderings round Europe with Bradshaw, but when we reached the top of the Jungfrauoch we had a white out. The Bernese Oberland was as gorgeous as when I was last there in the

1960's.

"In the bank at home the financial adviser asked me where I had been. When I answered 'Interlaken' She said 'Where's that?'

"At 84 I can claim to still be vertical - but increasingly slow!"

ANN COTTON set up Camfed, which is a marvellous organisation. Not many of us can claim to have such an effect on so many millions of young girls around the world, in particular educating girls, rather than have them marry young and produce babies when their bodies are too immature. You can see videos of the work they do by going to the link below:

www.youtube.com/user/camfedinternational

Ann is to be nominated for the GDST 'Alumna of the Year 2014' award.

DELYTH MCGREEVY (HSL 1994-2000) and her partner Paul Robles own a delicatessen – BLASUS in King Street, Carmarthen – which was runner up in the Observer Food Monthly Readers' Award. Quite an achievement as they've only been going for four years.

SARAH MATTHEWS (née Watson James, HSL 1971-8), runs a business in Chichester advising and helping SMEs grow. When she's not working Sarah is either swimming, cycling, running or coaching fellow triathletes at Petersfield Triathlon Club.

Recently Sarah met up with Dr Anne Griffiths, Sue Whiting (nee Baker), Jayne Barr (nee Loxley-Hughes) and Jacqueline Norman and she's off to Italy to spend New Year with Juliet Comana (Halewood). Sarah still has family in Cardiff so she's a regular

AS IT WAS THEN...

Maud Patterson attended Howell's School from 1875-82, and was asked to write some reminiscences for the magazine which was published in 1914. It is written in a somewhat quaint style, which has been edited as little as possible.

THE GREAT FEATURE of the teaching of those days was learning by heart, and woe betide the unfortunate girl who had to be corrected twice in one lesson! Not only did she lose her place in class every time she missed (her place taken by the one who *did* know the answer), but she also had to endure a far greater punishment – the side table. It meant that as the girls filed into the dining room to breakfast or tea - as the case may be – the unfortunate one slipped out of rank and took her seat at the side table, i.e. the middle table of the three lower ones in the dining room. In due course a plate of dry bread was put in front of her! Had she a fellow delinquent, it was endurable, but if she sat there in solitary state, she was convinced in her miserable self-consciousness that every soul in that room possessed six pairs of eyes, every one of which was fixed on her unhappy self! Could the Inquisition with its tortures have been much worse?

Mrs. Riches came from Cardiff twice a week to drill us and teach the older girls how to dance the Minuet. The latter had their lessons on one day and the younger girls with some of the day scholars on the second. I can see the little lady now, standing on a form and shouting at the top of her voice: making scathing remarks, and calling out to some inattentive girl that she was only fit for the “awkward squad”! In summer we drilled in the playground, in winter in what was the Upper Day Room, which even in my time, was turned into classrooms. If we wanted gymnastics of another sort we invented our own. I well remember a girl trying to see how far she could get through the bars of the Sixth Form windows, and getting so tightly wedged she could neither move backwards or forwards. Amid screams and shouts of laughter from the others, two girls each seized a leg to help her out of her difficulty; as ill-luck would have it, when the uproar was at its height, the door opened and the Head Mistress appeared. Instantly, there was dead silence. “Come down from there at once!” she ordered, but the girl's almost hysterical, “I can't Miss, I can't” was mercifully too much for her: with a set face she turned and left the girl to herself - and us.

Our games were limited to Prisoner's Base, Flag, and such like. Very occasionally, the older girls were allowed a game of Early Victorian Croquet on the Head Mistress's lawn. Neither tennis nor hockey was the fashion in those early days. We had to find

“... they danced the maddest quadrilles one ever saw!”

some outlet for our exuberant spirits and seized the opportunity of the temporary absence of our Head Mistress and the Second Mistress at some local dinner party, to have a 'high old time', as we expressed it. When all lights were out, certain girls in the West Dormitory dressed up in each others' dressing gowns, borrowing *willy nilly* those of the good ones or "saints" as they were called, got on top of the lockers and – to the execrable sound of music produced by the beating of tins and mouthing of tissue paper covered combs, they danced the maddest quadrilles one ever saw! Don't imagine we were never caught

– we were – and innocent and guilty alike brought before Miss Ewing, who insisted on "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth." She got it - and so did we!!

After 1880, everything was gradually changed. The last two years were my happiest, but upon all I look back with greatest pleasure, and only wish I could once more revisit those dear old haunts, however different I might find them.

(1880 was the year that Miss Kendall arrived at HSL, to find many things which she thought required change, and about which she wrote to the Board of Governors at length)

GETTING TOGETHER AGAIN

Meg Milsom (née Burnell) has issued the following call to all those who left HSL in 1965 (whisper it quietly—that's nearly 50 years ago!)

THIS IS an early announcement about a possible 50th reunion to be held in 2015. No details are to hand yet, but if you haven't been contacted already, please email Meg Milsom

(margaretmilsom@gmail.com)

so that you can be included in future mailings and be have an opportunity to add your voice to our early planning. If you have sisters/friends in this group, please alert them, as there are still some in our year whom we have not been able to locate.

It is intended to set a date soon so that anyone wanting to travel from overseas can make their arrangements in plenty of time. Even if you don't intend to come - please let us know your whereabouts, so that we won't spend needless time in tracking you down!

If you missed our 40th - and maybe re-

gretted it—don't make the same mistake this time! It would be really good to link up while we're still able to manage it!

Meg goes on to say, "On a sadder note, as I've spoken to people about the re-

union, I've learned of five more of our year who are no longer with us; along with four from 2005 and three others since, that makes 12 in total. Rather a sobering list.



An image from the video taken at the fortieth reunion

HONOURS ...

THERE WAS ONLY ONE dental professional in this year's Birthday Honours list. An MBE was awarded to Sue Greening, Clinical Director, Gwent Community Dental Service, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, for services to dentistry in the UK. Sue is a past president of the BDA and chaired its Community Dental Services committee.

Our congratulations to Sue (née Childs), who left HSL in 1970.

WE ALSO CONGRATULATE HSL's Director of Music Liz Phillips' husband Eric, who was awarded the MBE for services to Education and Music.

... AND ACHIEVEMENTS

IT IS WITH IMMENSE pleasure that we congratulate Kay Powell on her appointment as the new Chair of Governors. It is a great honour that Hywelians are represented, not just on the Board, but as Chair. It underlines the contribution made to and links maintained with today's School.

Kay says about her appointment:

"I was educated at Howell's and have maintained my links with School through the Hywelian Guild, chairing its Centenary Sub-Committee in 2006. Later that year I was honoured to be invited to become a Governor. Career highlights include being Head of Planning for the Welsh Assembly Government and Secretary of the National Planning Forum for England. I take a special interest in the Eco-Schools initiative and am Governor Representative on the Careers Sub-Committee."

TRAFFIC-STOPPING CONTORTIONS

DEBBIE WARD sends a photo of the Hywelian 'Twig' in California (not a full branch, as there's only two of them!). She says Karen Millar and she were doing yoga in the street to raise money to help provide yoga classes for delinquent girls to give them a better sense of self worth. About 500 people took part: traffic was obviously

stopped and diverted.

Karen and Debbie take a yoga class together every week -

but Debbie says Karen is much more flexible!



THOUGHTS FROM ABROAD

Elizabeth Christianson has been living in Norway for many years, She describes her idyllic life on the coast.

HERE IN OSLO, we have been having incredible weather: each day has been trying to outdo the previous one, and we have had a glorious summer and a truly beautiful autumn. I do, though, notice that morning temperatures are creeping down to a level that makes our garden blooms start to look anxious.

The view from the sea terrace of our new apartment at Rolfsbukta (Rolfs Bay) is so fascinating that it's difficult to get anything done at all: constantly watching to see if the hydrofoil ferry is on time as it rushes past every other hour. Two sea-planes are tied up on the other side of the water, and they seem to take off and land quite often. They have now disappeared completely - probably to be tucked up in mothballs until next Spring, because of the ice and snow that will soon appear. How fascinating to see how they churn up so much spray and water when landing and taking off. They are often chartered by people flying up to cabins in the mountains, where there is usually a small lake to land on. The terrace at the front of the flat boasts some lovely flowers and I was especially delighted when the tulips bloomed in the early spring. Delight turned to despair when I discovered that one night local wild deer had eaten all the

tulip heads and left me with plain green stalks! I plan to plant daffodil bulbs next time as deer don't like their taste!

A number of Norwegians have bought and read *A Handful of Sand* after my husband and I translated the story, added photographs and published the book here. Perhaps they will be encouraged to visit Llandaff Cathedral one day.

I have now lived in Norway for a little over 50 years and seen many changes. When I first arrived I worked at NATO HQ just outside Oslo. I married and I devoted the next fifteen years to our two sons. Returning to work, I spent several years in the offshore sector. It was a very interesting job, from which I retired twelve years ago, giving me time to enjoy home and family. Our first grandchild is due in January or early February next year and we are very excited about that. My stock of gifts for the baby grows with each day; I imagine I shall become a typical Grandma - and love every minute of it!

(A fuller version of Elizabeth's account may be found in the online Appendix)



FILLING THE GAP

The gap year between leaving school and starting higher education is now a well-established period in the lives of many of our young people.

Caroline Lakin's experiences of her year appear in a more detailed form in the online Appendix - what appears below is very much a 'taster'.

DURING MY GAP YEAR I undertook an internship with HSBC, working in their offices in Canary Wharf, London, and Queen Street, Cardiff. In London, I worked in the Network Department, whose role was to ensure that all branches throughout the UK were operating effectively and efficiently. However, my main project was comparing HSBC's student account with those of its fellow competitors within the 'Big 5' of the financial industry: Barclays, Lloyds, RBS and Santander.

In Cardiff, I was based on the shop floor as a member of the 'meet and greet' staff aiding customers with their queries. I was also able to shadow members of the team from sales service assistant, dealing with opening of general accounts, through to Mortgage Managers and Premier Managers who deal with customers with a salary in excess of £100,000 and savings of £50,000 or more.

The money earned from my time with HSBC paid for my travels to Kenya and Tanzania with the organisation 'Camps International' from February to April 2013. I also decided to raise money for the Stroke Association by climbing Mt Kilimanjaro in memory of my 'Grandpa Farm', organised through 'Camps'. For most of February we were based in 'Camp Muhaka'

in Kenya where I worked in a group building a tailoring room for the village women - constructed from bottles! During these two weeks I also completed my PADI Open Water diving course.

During the Kenyan elections in February and March 2013, 'Camp Kenya' joined 'Camp Tanzania'. The work was varied: my favourite projects were de-worming the village animals, and building a fence around the primary school. From Tanzania we headed back to Muhaka until the end of March. The highlight of this week was spending the morning in the nursery school of Muhaka with a friend, observing lessons and play-time. The great social scene in Muhaka came in useful when we wanted to watch the deciding match of the six nations, Wales vs. England. As the only Welsh member within the group I was greatly outnumbered, which made victory all the more sweet!

The last camp we went to was 'Camp Tsavo' from late March until early April and it was by far the most enjoyable. Not only was the project work varied (for example, working on the local primary school called Sasenyi, and carrying out sanctuary maintenance of the ranch we were in), but we got the chance to do a one day safari. I particularly treasure the

memories from my last two weeks in Kenya: the night guard waking us up in our banda (sleeping accommodation) in the middle of the night to alert us of a lion outside the camp's perimeters; taking part in the practice relays for Sasenyi's annual sports day, and a wheel separating itself from our safari bus in the middle of Tsavo East National Park. My time with 'Camps International' was hugely enjoyable and I have memories which will be remembered for a long time, and friendships which have been made for life.



Prior to leaving the UK, I signed up to climb Kilimanjaro as an added adven-

ture. A group of seven of us from 'Camps International' had become friends, and on 4th April we began a seven day trek on the Machame route. Throughout the climb we experienced varying climates: humidity, mist, rain and even sub-zero temperatures on summit night.

Summit night itself was sensational. We left base camp at 4,200m at 12.30am equipped with head torches and walked for six hours up to Uhuru Peak, arriving at the sign at approximately 6.25am. The

whole climb was absolutely incredible and a highlight of my entire trip - and my life so far.

Francesca's experience wasn't strictly a gap year, but was nevertheless a worthwhile exercise!

Francesca Hogg left Howell's in 2007 and gained a place at Bart's. She has now passed her finals to become a doctor and began her first Junior Doctor post at King's College Hospital London in late July, after spending eight weeks on an elective period in St Kitts and Nevis. During the degree course she took an intercalated degree and gained a BSc degree in Medical Education. She sat the new national test for all trainee doctors in UK and finished in the top 7%. Well done!

Francesca's sister, **Elena**, who left in 2010, is in her final year at Bristol University studying Law. Both girls still talk very fondly of their happy schooldays at Howell's.

Their parents wrote to the Principal in glowing terms about Howell's and what it had done for the girls. They said that without that support, the girls would not have got as far as they have.

LESSONS LEARNED: SUCCESS EARNED

*Jane Cable (nee Simpson) was a sixth-form pupil at HSL from 1979-1981. Her debut novel, *The Cheesemaker's House*, won the suspense and crime category of the Alan Titchmarsh Show's People's Novelist competition. Here, Jane shares some of her experiences as a first-time novelist.*

I KNOW I'M NOT THE FIRST Hywelian to find my way into print and I'm sure I won't be the last. In fact I reckon it's a pretty fair bet that there are other old girls trying to get a novel published right now. So, when I was asked to put together a few words for the magazine I thought I would share some of the most important lessons I have learnt along the way.

WRITE THE VERY BEST NOVEL YOU CAN

This sounds blindingly obvious, but it is so tough for new writers to get published that your work needs to stand head and shoulders above the rest. Your opening pages just have to make the reader want to read on. Remember that you won't achieve this with a first draft. Or even a second one. Write your novel the first time through as inspiration drives you. Then re-write it again and again to make it as good as you can.

NETWORK WITH OTHER WRITERS

Writing is a solitary occupation and it's very easy to become isolated and unaware of what is happening in the publishing world. I made my writing contacts in two ways; by being shortlisted for the Alan Titchmarsh Show's People's Novelist competition (bit of a one-off I know) and by attending Winchester Writers' Conference. I have been amazed how helpful most writers are, willing to share their own networks and expertise. If it's hard to get out and about you can make contacts online too. Your virtual presence

is just as important.

YOU CAN'T DO IT ALONE

Any novel will benefit from someone other than the writer looking at it. It's your baby – you will be much too close to see its most glaring faults. And if you're a real untutored novice (as I was) you won't even know how to present a manuscript properly. You can pay professional editors to advise you (check out their credentials or seek recommendations first), join a good quality writing group or if you have contacts inside the profession (see above) then use their expertise. Listen, and learn.

USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SELL YOUR BOOK

The phrase 'elevator pitch' might curl your toes, but it's important to have a sentence which gives the flavour of your novel. For *The Cheesemaker's House* it's 'a romance-suspense about what happens when a divorcee moves to Yorkshire and meets her neighbours from the present and the past'. Of course there will be so much more you want to say but if you can't set out your stall in just one sentence then you may not get the chance.

The Cheesemaker's House is published by Matador in paperback and ebook.

Jane can be contacted on Twitter or through her website,

www.janecable.com.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE 30 YEARS MAKES!

Derrian Markham remembers last year's Summer lunch with affection



Left to right: Siân; Derrian; Caroline

LITTLE DID WE KNOW when we posed for photographs outside our classroom (UVH 1981) after 'O' levels that we would be taking pictures on the same steps over 30 years later. Some of us from

U11 X started school in that classroom way back in 1977 (the year that Virginia Wade won Wimbledon!). I remember practising my lacrosse skills on 'The Asphalt' outside those French windows! Our classroom is now a dining room; whatever happened to the conker tree? A group of us from UVH drifted back together thanks to the much-maligned Facebook. It's been an incredible experience renewing the friendships that seemed to go 'on hold' for so long after we left school. We decided to attend the Hywelian lunch this year - some of us had never been back to HSL, the place instrumental in launching us as successful women into the world. How much would School have changed? Would we recognise anyone? What sort of memories would it stir up?

After a lovely buffet lunch in the Great Hall, we had a guided tour by two sixth formers. (One was a boy: some things have definitely improved!) They were amused by our tales of detention for talking while lining up for

lunch around the Stone Hall stairs. They tolerated our shrieks of delight as we recognised classrooms and recalled staff and events from 30 years ago. "Where have the black and white flagstones of the Stone Hall gone?" we cried! "We'll start a campaign to restore them! We'll have a sale of cakes to



Left to right: Siân Griffiths; Jo Cummings (née Williamson); Caroline O'Connor (née Drew); Derrian Markham

raise money, just as we did in the past!"

It was such a wonderful day that we are inspired to track down as many girls from our year as possible. A Class of '83 Reunion is planned for 23 November 2014 at School. Lunch will be followed by a guided tour by Mrs Janet Sully (Miss Webb), who has helped us track down several teachers from our era, who have also been invited.

It promises to be another memorable occasion with plenty more photo opportunities on 'those steps'!

PS: the event turned out to be very successful indeed, enjoyed immensely by all!

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Janet Sully updates us on recent additions to the School's archives.

IF YOU HAVE access to a computer and fancy browsing through old school magazines, it's now possible! School magazines from 1924 to 2002 have now been digitised and are available online by going to the HSL website and following the links from the Hywelians' (Archives) section. You will need to request a password; this is so that we can monitor usage of the facility.

HSL has had links with the Cardiff Story museum in the centre of Cardiff since it was set up in 2011. From September to November 2013, we staged a small exhibition there, demonstrating the connections between HSL and the city over the years. Our biggest challenge was condensing over 150 years of history into about six hundred words! The exhibition comprised: six bilingual illustrated information panels; various documents and objects from the archives in display cases; a *Then and Now* slide show illustrating how the school buildings have evolved, and a large file of photocopied documents and photographs for visitors to peruse.

This year, we were delighted to receive more donations for the archives, some of which are now displayed in the school museum. Among notable acquisitions are: the wartime identity bracelet of Ena Evans (Mrs Davies); a large set of leather-bound prizes won by the three Tolfree sisters who were at school in the early 20th century; a three-volume Bible and bookmarks belonging to Miss Baldwin, the first Headmistress, which she used for her Scripture and Ancient History lessons; and a letter written in 1957 by the

then Head Girl, Judith Beynon, to Jennifer Kirkup, describing in detail the ceremony for the hallowing of the nave of Llandaff Cathedral after its restoration following war damage. This latter was one of a number of items generously donated by Mrs. Jennifer Ayre, (née Kirkup), who became the school's first Games Prefect, a residential one-year post for a school leaver, after leaving UVI in 1958. This summer, she visited Howell's with husband John for the first time since she left in 1959. Jenny was one of a number of Hywelian visitors who have enjoyed a tour of the school and museum during the course of the year. As usual, the museum was on display as part of the Open Doors week in Llandaff, when 24 visitors also had a historical tour of the school. The youngest members of the Senior School are also given a conducted historical tour and spend a session in the museum, as a result of which I hope they gain an appreciation of the school's rich heritage.

We are always pleased to receive donations for the archives and museum, and in particular are still hoping to obtain a sample of the boarders' brown Sunday suit, worn from 1960 to about 1980! I am very grateful to Hywelians Sue Rayner and Julia Farnham and to Miss Jean Ballinger for their constant help, support and good humour in managing the archives. Our current major project is classifying the entire collection and there are more plans in the pipeline!

Janet Sully.

THE ARCHIVES - RECORDING HISTORY



The Cardiff Story exhibition set up ready for visitors



The Exhibition launch, 2 September 2013



Miss Baldwin's 3-volume Bible and bookmarks, with the label in her own handwriting



Jennifer Ayre (née Kirkup) on her visit to school

IN MEMORIAM

It is always sad to report the passing of Hywelian Guild members. We send our condolences to their families and friends.

Elizabeth Cory (née Williams)

Liz was born in Cardiff and attended Rhydypenau Junior School before obtaining a scholarship to HSL. After school, Liz became articled to accountants in Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff, where she met her husband John. They married in 1968. When their two sons were born, Liz dedicated herself to bringing them up, only returning to work in 1980, when both boys were in the Cathedral School. Liz worked at first for Price Waterhouse Cooper, then became self-employed, with clients including the Cardiff Opera House Trust and Fforwm, an organisation concerned with further education funding. For a number of years, Liz suffered from *Bronchiolitis obliterans*, a rare and irreversible lung disease, but continued to live as normal a life as possible, enjoying the arts and travelling. Decline was inevitable, and she became very ill at the end of October. She died with family members at her bedside on 3 November 2013. *(The above is extracted from an edited version of the eulogy read at Liz's funeral, which may be found in the online appendix.)*

Eileen Barker (née Clark)

Eileen's brother *David* informs us that Eileen died on Sunday, 15th September 2013, aged 95, at Blackheath, London. Eileen studied classics at London University, and during the war served with the R.A.F. at Bletchley Park, Milton Keynes. She will be sadly missed by her sister and brothers as well as her children, grandchildren and great grand child.

Clare Eryl Thomas

Clare died in April 2013 in Nevill Hall Hospital Abergavenny. She had been ill for some time.

Janet Tennyson (née Jones)

Rosie Grimshaw (née Dunn) became friends with Janet (Jan) in the 70s, when they were both boarders in Bryntaff. The friendship lasted 40 years. Rosie writes: 'Janet and I, in the early days after leaving Howell's would muse on the kind of things that we felt would warrant sharing with our Hywelian comrades in the Magazine. It would have to be very newsworthy; in any event, Janet had given me strict instructions that I should wait until she had become rich and famous or married to a billionaire before up-dating Hywelians.

Janet didn't become rich or famous, nor did she marry a billionaire. She married Peter Tennyson, had two beautiful daughters, Eleanor and Isabel, and led a happy life living in London, Madrid and more recently, Kent.

Janet was sporty, smart, witty and great fun to be around. She was entertaining and good at making people laugh. Jan had a keen sense of the ridiculous and we laughed about some of the more absurd aspects of school life, like marching into meals to music. We never did make much sense of it all but it was fun to remember.

It was with great concern that I heard of Janet's devastating illness in September and tremendous sadness at her passing. She was a wonderful person, full of life and was taken from us far too soon.

Cheryl Benjamin (née Daniels)

Christine Burden (nee Forbes, 1966-1972) was a friend of Cheryl's and writes: Cheryl (HSL 1969-1974) passed away in March this year after a short illness. I saw her December 2012, at a happy birthday lunch for her elder sister Lynne

(aka Bini, who attended Howells 1965-1971). Another sister, Gail, lives in The Netherlands was also present. No-one suspected that Cheryl's life was soon to end so prematurely. She fell ill after Christmas and died just a few months later. It was a great shock to her family, friends and colleagues.

Cheryl was a border in Oaklands, then left HSL to attend school near her home in Neath. She studied Sociology at Warwick University, obtaining her degree in 1976. Her first job was with Swansea Council, specialising in housing - an area in which she was particularly interested. Later, Cheryl was transferred into Neath Port Talbot Homes as head of Specialist Services.



Cheryl was a positive person and an excellent role model for younger colleagues, particularly with her organisational skills. Her success at work, her popularity, and her professionalism was

borne out by the number of people who attended her funeral. Her employers have inaugurated an award for innovation—The Cheryl Benjamin Memorial. Cheryl found happiness and fulfilment in family life. In 1978 she married Stephen Benjamin and was a devoted mother to Daniel, Alex and Laura. Daniel has a career in IT, and the girls are studying at universities and have other individual interests which Cheryl enthusiastically supported.

Cheryl's life was her family, her work and her colleagues; she is surely remembered by all with great affection.

Further to the two notices above, *Judith Davies* (nee Rees) says, "there were six of us in Oaklands that year: Cheryl, Janet,

Jennifer Cairnsterry (Truman), Dorothy Evans, Sarah Jones and myself. It is hard to believe that two of our group have been taken from us in the same year with the same illness.”

(Fuller versions of the last two obituaries appear in the online Appendix)

Marjorie Pantero (née Bowen)

Marjorie was born in 1922 and died at Eglisau, Switzerland on 1st August 2013.

Marjorie was a Hywelian who enjoyed reading the HG Magazine.

Elisabeth Ann Meyer

Ann passed away suddenly on August 27th 2013. While not a Hywelian herself, she was the mother of Penelope Polins (née Meyer), 1975-82 and is sadly missed by her family and friends.

WARTIME RECOLLECTIONS

A REQUEST from one of the Junior School staff for memories of School during the war, especially those of evacuees, stimulated Barbara Forte to recall some of the pupils she knew about.

Helenka Toffler was believed to be from Czechoslovakia. She lived in Rhiwbina and attended a fairly recent HSL Summer lunch. Helen died in 2012.

Barbara contacted Helenka, who said she had been more a refugee than evacuee and left school in 1947. No doubt she had a much better life in this country than she would have had as a Jewish person in Czechoslovakia.

She certainly had a good sense of humour because her e-mail address reflected where she lived:

womble@heleneastgate.plus.com

Other names Barbara mentioned were:

Ingeborg Furst was from Berlin. She lived on Thornhill Road, but Barbara hadn't heard of her for many years.

Lislott Mendle unfortunately died in rather sad circumstances.

Dorothy Oppenheimer would remember about the foreign evacuees, many of who were Jewish (although Helenka converted to the Roman Catholic church). Perhaps some of HSL Jewish girls of that time might recall.

Does anyone else have information on these or any others? Please get in touch and let us know.

HOW LONG IS LONG ENOUGH?

Kerry-Jane Elsdon, like many others before, found that a return to School isn't the ordeal one expects it to be!

HAVING STEERED clear of Howell's since July 1979 (except for one brief visit in 1989) I felt that maybe it was time to return and beard the ghosts in their lair. After 30 years spent in South Africa and Europe, I had moved back to Wales and was living in the Rhondda, so not too far away from Llandaff. Not far enough to put up any serious resistance to attending the Hywelian summer lunch anyway. Joyce Shields had been vary supportive *via* Facebook, so now all I had to do was to man up (woman up?) and buy my ticket.

Further encouragement came in the form of two Hywelian friends with whom I had been able to catch up *via* Facebook, namely Penelope Polins (née Meyer) and Carolyn Huxtable (née Jones) who said that they would also be there. Penny would travel down to Cardiff from Hertfordshire with her husband, Martin, and Carolyn was making the journey from Barnstaple, so for once I felt like a local!

KEEPING IN TOUCH

FOR THOSE on Facebook, the Hywelian page is a great way for you to keep in touch with your former classmates; share memories and photos; and find out about everything that is going on at Howell's. We now have approaching 400 members on the Hywelian Guild page with more joining all the time. Old photos of the staff from the 1950s sparked off a huge number of comments, and the old uniform proved strange to a lot of younger users! Photos of Dorothy Bowen elicited

It was wonderful to meet Joyce for the first time and have a chat with Sally [Davis, HSL Principal], who was the most user-friendly headmistress that I have encountered and looked very colourful in her Hogwarts outfit.

The school has undergone so many changes for the better since 1979 that it was difficult sometimes to remember what was what. Highlights included a visit to the places formerly known as Hazelwood and Bryntaff, where I once slept, and a quick look at the new music studios which were fantastic – so different from the freezing cold music cells that used to be beneath the hall.

Seeing old friends, speaking to some Hywelians that I had only previously encountered *via* Facebook and meeting some new friends was wonderful.

Now that I am based in Tonypandy, maybe it's time to visit more frequently.

(For more information about Facebook and Hywelians, see below)

the information that some users still use her exam techniques. Remember, you don't have to contribute to Facebook - you can just read the content!

And if you would like to be informed about everything that's happening at Howell's, you can follow us on Twitter. Help us achieve our target of 2014 followers by 1st January 2014 and be the first to find out about the latest Howell's news by following us [@HowellsSchool](https://twitter.com/HowellsSchool).

BOARDER MEMORIES

Donia Stick was a pupil at Howells from January 1961 - July 1967, a boarder at first in Kendall and then Bryntaff. Below, she shares some of her memories of those days.

ONLY WHEN we were in the Sixth Form and living in Bryntaff, were we allowed out in a group on Sunday afternoons, unaccompanied by a member of staff. We could walk only in the direction of Llandaff Cathedral, not towards Cardiff! Other outings were the twice-termly Leave Days on Saturdays or Sundays, when you could go out with a relative for the afternoon. On Saturdays, we wore weekday 'grey' uniform; on Sundays, it was the brown suit. Woe betide you if you removed your hat (even in the cinema!) and were seen by a member of staff – that cost you a Leave Day. Most of us went out on a Saturday unless we lived near enough to go home: there wasn't a lot to do otherwise.

The Harris Tweed brown suits and yellow blouses replaced blue Sunday dresses: dark blue for Upper IIIs to Upper IVs and light blue for Lower and Upper V. I believe the change must have been in about 1963 or '64 as I didn't ever get to wear a light blue dress. The Sixth Form wore a beige dress which looked like a 1940s two-piece suit. Miss Lewis apparently chose the suits (in the style she wore herself!) as they went better with the oatmeal Harris Tweed Sunday coats we were already wearing.

None of this did a thing for our self esteem when we had to walk in a crocodile past the Llandaff Rugby Club bar on the way to the Cathedral every Sunday!

Then there was the bath rota. We could have three baths a week, either

_____ in the morning or the evening. We washed our hair once a fortnight" _____ night (not weekly!) two

houses at a time: Kendall and Oaklands, Hazelwood and Taylor. This took place in the upstairs cloakroom in the main school building and house mistresses (Mrs Stevens in my case) and Matron would dry it with a hair-dryer. While waiting our turn, we hung over the fireguard in front of the electric fire.

Laundry was also done fortnightly. We wore navy outer knickers over white "linings", of which we were allowed three pairs a week. Sunday knickers were white knee-length bloomers. Navy knickers had to last a fortnight and I believe we could send PE shirts in the alternating weeks. Obviously, three pairs of linings a week were insufficient, so we had secret supplies of nylon knickers which we washed out and dried between our bedclothes overnight. If you were caught doing this you lost a Leave Day...

HOWLERS—IGNORANCE OR INVENTION?

As always, these Howlers from the General Knowledge Papers 1913, recorded in the Hywelian Guild Report for the year 1913-14, make one wonder just how anybody passed any exam!

<i>Halley's Comet</i>	- a brilliant metaphor
<i>Gargoyle</i>	- confused with the verb 'to gargle'
<i>Diagnose</i>	- a wicked Emperor
<i>Peccadillo</i>	- an animal found in Australia
<i>Haversack</i>	- muddle, confusion, noise or fuss
<i>Mendelssohn</i>	- a German painter
<i>Pirate ship</i>	- one of the types of ship found in the British Navy

THE HYWELIAN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

ON THURSDAY 25th May 2013, three of our most senior Hywelians: Mrs Enfys Brown (née Jones), Mrs Barbara Forte (née Mealing) and Mrs Josephine Rawlins (née Thomas) arrived at School to be interviewed by four girls in Year 8 (formerly Lower IV) about their schooldays, for the first year of our Oral History project. Interviews were filmed and edited by an external company, ready to be shown to the whole school.

Mrs Brown came to Howell's in 1936 under Miss Trotter, while Mrs Forte and Mrs Rawlins started in September 1939 when Miss Knight was Headmistress; the beginning of term had been delayed slightly by the outbreak of war. We listened enthralled as these three lively ladies with extraordinary memories regaled us with tales of life at school in the 1930s and 1940s. Katie Jenkins, Riya Khot, Sasha Noah and Isobel Owens asked questions on topics ranging from the curriculum and boarding (Mrs Brown and Mrs Rawlins had been boarders), to extra-curricular activities and school life during the war. We looked at documents and photos from their time; Mrs Rawlins brought with her

a book containing the lunchtime Latin grace. We could have gone on longer, but were called to lunch in Mrs Davis's room, where our reminiscing continued. We are very grateful to these three Hywelians for generously sharing their memories with us.

The edited film was shown first to Hywelians who attended the Summer Lunch and then to the whole school on Founders' Friday: this latter event is a new initiative, with an assembly to heighten awareness of our heritage and a revival of the extended Thomas Howell breaktime. We were delighted that Mrs Forte and some other Hywelians were able to join us then.

We hope next to interview three or four Old Girls who were at school in the post-war period (late 1940s/early 1950s). Anyone who is interested in taking part should contact me either by phoning school (029 2056 2019) or by emailing

j.sully@how.gdst.net.

Janet Sully.

*(Member of staff in charge
of the school archives)*

RECENT MARRIAGES AND NEW ARRIVALS

It's a real pleasure to announce some cheerful news!

MARRIAGES...

Alexandra Mathias (HSL 1991-2003)

Alexandra says:



I am currently working as the Head of Company Law Policy at Companies' House in Cardiff. This year I married Dale (with two Hywelians - Dalia Elhami-Evans and Michelle Grey - as bridesmaids!). Debbie Djiallis (née Stephenson) did a reading for us, so there were Howell's girls everywhere! We also welcomed our daughter, Elodie Margaret, into the world in April!

Heather Sims

Heather is the daughter of Jennifer Sims (née Warwick), and Neville, who was Chair of Governors for a number of

years.. Heather's news didn't make it into last year's magazine, so here it is now!

Heather married Roger Gledhill on 27th August 2011. She is now step-mother to four beautiful grown up girls, and has four step-grandchildren!

Sarah Finlay

On 18th May 2013, Sarah married Adam Charles (Charlie) at Llandaff Cathedral, followed by afternoon tea and an evening reception at Howell's School. Sarah was Head Girl in her last year.



A happy family group at Heather's wedding.

... AND BIRTHS

Anna Humphreys (née Broughton)

Anna gave birth to a fourth son, Daniel, on 28 December 2012. Daniel has brothers Ben (12), Sam(8) and Thomas(4). Anna also tells us (in case she forgets!) that her niece **Rebecca Denley** (née Broughton) had her first child Toby on 17 March 2013.

Linda Turner

Linda writes to say that both daughters have produced offspring this year. Lucy Butler (née Turner) and Stephen now have a baby boy, Harry James, born 7th May 2013, Daughter Isabelle Alice was born to Laura Cronin (née Turner) and Jonathan on 5th March 2013.

Online Services

We are always happy to feature website addresses of Hywelians who wish to advertise business/career/service. We charge a fee of £20, which goes towards the cost of printing the magazine. Please contact Joyce Shields for details:

joyce@joyshields.demon.co.uk

Jayne Barr (née Loxley-Hughes)

Jayne applies a wide variety of marketing and communications tools to improve her clients' businesses.

Visit her web site on:

www.creative-consulting.co.uk

Elinor's love of all things Greek grew from a visit to Greece made at the age of 12 with her parents, Dilys and Wynne Lloyd. Her shop is very near to the British Museum, and is called (what else?) It's All Greek To Me.

www.itsallgreek.co.uk

Saskia Russell (née Blair)

Saskia has a physiotherapy practice in Cardiff. For more information, please visit her website at:

www.saskiablair.co.uk

Elinor Wynne Lloyd

REMINDER!

If you would like a hard copy of next year's Magazine, please remember to send a stamped addressed C5-sized envelope to Joyce Shields, the Guild's Membership Secretary, by the end of September 2014.

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