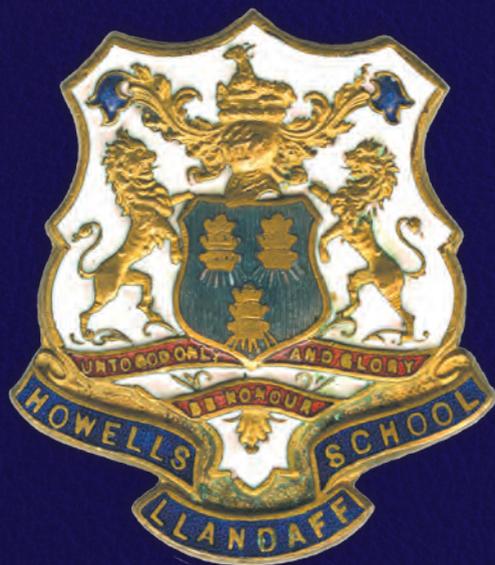


Hywelian Guild Magazine

— 2017 —





Hywelian Guild Magazine 2017

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Back cover: Hannah Mills (left) on the podium before receiving her gold medal at the Rio Olympics (© Western Mail)

Welcome!

November is a month of distractions. When I begin to think about putting together this magazine, my mind is often on other matters, Christmas preparations mainly.

As I embark on putting the magazine together from all the snippets of news, the longer articles and the inevitable obituaries that land in my email box, I become totally absorbed and I realise just how inspiring and interesting other people's lives are, or have been. You are all so generous in telling us your good and not so good news, because you want to share it with those others with whom you have a link that goes back, sometimes, very many years.

In addition to the news, there is, of course, much more in this magazine. There are accounts of personalities and reminders of events (I failed miserably at the 1917 General Knowledge paper!); there are holiday experiences and there are amusing oddments.

All in all, I hope this magazine gives more than just a few moments of pleasure as it stimulates memories and encourages optimism about the future, both of individuals and of Howell's School, Llandaff.

I cannot finish without extending my heartfelt thanks, as always, to Sue Rayner (Guild Secretary) and Joyce Shields (Membership Secretary), for their constant support. Janet Sully has been generous with contributions, too. This year, the design and printing of the magazine has been done with the help of Vanessa Yilmaz, with the agreement of the Principal. Hannah Roberts continues to be a very effective link between School and the Guild. Above all, thank you to all those who have taken the time to send in your contributions, else there would be nothing for you to read!

Lyn Owen, Editor

A date for your diaries...

Rosemary Satchell (London Branch) confirms that the Drapers' Hall Tea Party will be on **Saturday 13th May 2017**. This is a really special occasion, set in the splendid surroundings of Drapers' Hall, and an opportunity to link up with members of the London Branch of the Guild.

A letter from the Guild's President

Sally Davis sums up a very good year indeed for the school.

Hywelians never cease to amaze and delight! We were all thrilled that Hannah Mills won the Olympic gold medal in the women's 470 sailing event at Rio 2016, and she and her sailing partner Saskia Clark have also been named World Sailors Of The Year. With a Principal's foresight, I had a feeling that they would win the gold, and Hannah had long been booked as our Guest Speaker at Prize Giving in September. She gave an inspiring talk to our leavers and their parents, and returned to school bright and early the next day to talk to the rest of the school about her journey from Cardiff to Rio. Everyone was pleased to get the chance to hold her medal – and it was surprisingly heavy!

I am delighted to be able to tell you that we have finally had the green light to develop the sports facilities at Howell's. Next year, we will be building an Astro Turf pitch, new courts and a sports pavilion on the fields behind the Sports Hall. This exciting development will enable us to transform our current sports provision completely.

We opened our newest space, the *hub@Howell's*, earlier this year. The

new building includes a light and airy Archive Room, a versatile space that easily links to the outside classroom in the junior playground and a café – the first in the Trust, I think! In late November, it was wonderful to welcome local Hywelians to our first *Hywelians @ The Hub* coffee morning.

Another area of the school that has seen major change is the Great Hall. Currently encased in scaffolding and undergoing a comprehensive renovation, the Great Hall should emerge, fully refurbished, in time for the Summer Lunch. We are offering naming opportunities for sponsorship of the stunning

Shakespearean paintings. A donation of £5,000 will enable you to sponsor a painting of your choice. Several Hywelians have already made enquiries, and

are considering shared sponsorship with other Hywelians to split the total cost. If you would like further information please contact Vanessa Yilmaz, my Head of Development: vanessa.yilmaz@how.gdst.net.



Restoration work in the Great Hall

This year also saw a first for Howell's and the GDST, as we ran the first ever Telephone Campaign. Rather than focusing on raising funds for Howell's, the emphasis of the campaign was to friend-raise. It was wonderful for the current students who made up our Tele-Campaign team to listen to stories about their school from our

loyal Hywelians. The campaign also raised £25,000, which is testimony to the warmth of the Howell's community. I look forward to seeing you at the Hywelian Summer Lunch, if not before.

Sally Davis
Principal, HSL

Dear Hywelians...

Sue Rayner, Guild Secretary, summarises another very interesting year for both School and Guild.

It has been an exciting year at Howell's as Sally Davis's letter records, especially the highlight in Rio de Janeiro of Hannah Mills winning her very well deserved Gold Medal with her sailing partner Saskia Clarke. I, too, can confirm that Olympic Gold Medals are heavy, having had the opportunity to hold Hannah's medal at Prize Giving!

It is also great news that the refurbishment of the Great Hall is under way. After one hundred and sixteen years of pupils' usage (and it has to be admitted, occasional over-exuberance), it was looking tired and in need of a bit of TLC. For very many of us the Great Hall brings back memories of sore knees as we were expected to kneel down on the less than smooth floor for prayers every morning – indeed I have heard it blamed for several Hywelian knee replacements! We are hoping the refurbishment will be complete in time for this year's Summer Lunch.

Talking of which, the 2016 lunch was

a splendid success. Hywelians really appreciated the opportunity to book a table to sit with friends, and we will be repeating that this year. We always hold the Summer Lunch on the last Saturday in June, so put the date in your diaries now (24th June 2017).

I must record my thanks to Sally Davis, Vanessa Yilmaz and Hannah Roberts for all the help they give the Hywelian Guild, without which we simply would not still be in existence. And I am proud that we are, so many years on from our inception, when so many other similar organisations have folded. Thanks too to my Committee, with a special mention of Joyce Shields who does so much work behind the scenes and also keeps our Facebook page going. Thanks to Lyn Owen for her work in editing the magazine (again, we are still going strong when others have folded). Last, but by no means least, thank you to all those of you who have sent us your news, for without you there would be no magazine. So do keep the news coming!

Best wishes for 2017, and I hope we shall see many of you in school at some point during the year – as Hywelians, we are always so welcome.

Sue Rayner

Who's Who in 2017

Please note that, as the magazine is now also 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 Hannah Roberts at School.

Officers and Committee

Principal and Guild President

Mrs Sally Davis,
Howell's School, Llandaff, Cardiff
Tel: 029 2056 2019

Deputy Principals

Mrs Natalie Chyba
Deputy Principal and Head of College
Mrs Judith Ashill
Deputy Principal and Head of Junior School

Extraordinary Vice-Presidents

Miss J Turner
Mrs J Fitz

Vice-Presidents

Mrs Ena Davies (Evans)
Mrs José Rawlins (Parry Thomas)
Mrs Susan Woodrow (Pearson-Griffiths)
Miss Margaret Evans
Mrs Nicola Davies (Salter)

Secretary

Mrs Sue Rayner (Davies)

Assistant Secretary

Mrs Frances Smallcombe (Gray)

Treasurer

Mrs Saskia Russell (Blair)

Assistant Treasurer

Ms Kerry McFarland

Auditor

Mrs Julia Evans (Martin)

Liaison Officer

Mrs Julia Baker (Rees)

Magazine Editor

Mrs Lyn Owen (Hawkins)

Membership Secretary

Mrs Joyce Shields (Bingham)

Committee Members

Ms Kay Powell

Mrs Helen Graham (Moger)

Mrs Catherine Coulson (Johnson) Mrs

Anne Hayward (Bates)

Mrs Calan McGreevy (Davies)

Mrs Sheila McFarland (Hamley) Mrs

Janet Sully (Webb)

Branch Secretaries

London

We understand that Diana Paul continues as Secretary of the London Branch with Rosemary Satchell as Treasurer.

Bridgend

Dr Pat Parry (Lennox)

Scottish

Mrs Caroline Mclean (Robison)

Thames Valley and Chilterns Dr

Elan Preston-Whyte (Jones)

West Wales

Mrs Catherine Coulson (Johnson)

USA – Northern California Mrs

Debbie Ward (Buss)

Mrs Karen Plambeck (Millar)

Australia

Mrs Christine Atkinson (Treeby)

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.

Branch reports

Bridgend Branch

This year we again held three meetings: lunch in The Grove Golf Club in March; dinner in Cottrell Park Golf Club in June and our usual Advent Service followed by Christmas lunch in The Bear, Cowbridge at the end of November. Since our numbers have reduced to between 11 and 14, we have decided not to hold a spring meeting in 2017. The summer meeting is popular as we have a private room in a conservatory overlooking gardens. In 2016, we welcomed 34 Hywelians to the Advent meeting, including two members from the West Wales branch and ten members of staff from school.

Our condolences go to two members who have lost their husbands this year – Margaret McCormack and Pat Tetstall. Pat has recently moved into sheltered accommodation in Cardiff.

Pat Parry (née Lennox)

London Branch

The London branch of the Guild had a very enjoyable lunch on Saturday, 12 November 2016 at a Baltic Restaurant in Southwark. The Branch is a thriving group holding at least two functions a year. Diana also mentions that any volunteer willing to take on the role of Secretary would be most welcome!

Elaine Blatchford (née Marshall)

Scottish Branch

I'm afraid we didn't manage a Scottish meeting this year, so nothing to report (although I had a second grandson in October, which was exciting for me!). You may have heard that Jean Cox died earlier this year. She was at one time our Branch Secretary, but missed a number of meetings last year due to illness. Caroline has more to say about Jean in the article on p43.

Caroline McLean (née Robison)

Thames Valley and Chiltern Branch

The Annual Lunch for the Thames Valley and Chilterns Hywelian branch (covering Bucks, Berks and Oxfordfordshire) was held in May at the Stag and Huntsman in Hambleden in Jeremy Paxman country – but we were doomed! The original five who were meeting were reduced to three as two were marooned in Reading by a crash on the M4, which shut the motorway, traffic having to find its way eastward mainly in and around Reading instead.

However, the intrepid three, Ann Lawrence (née Pride), Jacqui Holder (née Moore) and myself ventured through the rain and had a very pleasant meal and exchanged our respective news and views. However, we did discuss whether we should continue with the event in view of the poor response and the difficulty in finding a venue which is equidistant for everyone. We decided in the end to plan for another lunch in case this year had been a fallow one just by chance. I wonder if other groups with a large catchment area such as ours have a similar problem?

Elan Preston-Whyte (née Jones)

Please let Elan know if you have any helpful suggestions – Ed.

West Wales Branch

West Wales Branch held just one meeting this year, at the Loughor home of Marianne Rees (née Phillips) in May 2016. We were delighted to welcome several first time attendees, including Judith McCloy (née Llewellyn), Carole Brooks (née Mort), Julia Thomas (née Jones) and Patsy Clark (née Al Salihi). Mererid Hunt (née John) also travelled down from Yorkshire especially to be with us. Our gatherings are always very informal; once again we enjoyed catching up with one another's news over a delicious buffet lunch!

At the time of writing no decision has been reached regarding the date or venue for our Spring 2017 meeting. However, if you are interested in attending, please send me your email address or phone number so you can be added to my list of contacts.

Catherine Coulson

California 'Twig'

Debbie Ward (née Buss, left HSL 1980) reports from California that not much has been happening on that side of the world this year (apart, she says, from a certain election!) for the 'Twig', but is pleased to say that recent eye surgery went well:

"I have had two cataract surgeries this year – and I would like to encourage anyone facing this; it is the most wonderful thing. My eyesight has not only been restored, it is better than before and I don't need glasses at all, not even for reading. I do occasionally feel panicked when driving and I think, "Oh no, I'm not wearing my glasses!" Recovery was very swift: the surgery itself took less than an hour.

I had a quick visit back to Cardiff in June; I was able to participate in the quiz night as part of the Hywelian team and meet up with many friends at the Summer Lunch."

The Hywelian Guild is lucky (and unusual) in having so many branches around, not just the UK, but the world. We are always pleased to hear of branch activities, and would urge all who have a branch near them to join in the fun and reminiscences that make them such an important part of the Guild – Ed.

Onwards and upwards

Vanessa Yilmaz, Howell's Director of Development & Communications, describes the scenes on the morning of GCSE results day at school:

"There were screams of delight at Howell's this morning, where the GCSE results achieved were even higher than last year's.

"I am delighted for our girls, who have all done so well in their GCSEs this year. They are looking forward to starting their A-level programmes at Howell's College, and we will enjoy watching them flourish and grow into mature, dedicated students in the next stage of their education."

Vanessa goes on to record the successes at A-Level:

"Howell's College student Will Buckingham, has turned down a place to read Law at Oriel College, Oxford and will be heading to Stanford University, California, after gaining a stunning four A*s in French, History, Mathematics and Further Mathematics and an A in English.

"Two of this year's leavers will be taking up places at Cambridge, where Laura Bleehen will read Medicine and Kirsten O'Brien is set to read Chemical Engineering. Headed to Oxford are Hannah Williams who will read Law, Julia Manstead who has a place to read German, and Reem Ahmed who will be studying Classics.

"Howell's Principal, Sally Davis, said: 'I am absolutely delighted for all our students that their dedication and hard work have paid off, yielding such a strong set of results. Everyone at Howell's feels very proud of them for their achievements and we look forward to seeing what they all do next.'

Who, Where and What

A round up of Hywelian doings the world over

Alice Poole (Howell's 1987-1994) is engaged to be married to Julian Taylor. Alice works as Technical Director responsible for Governance and Public Sector Reform work in International Development for consulting company ICF, and is based in London. They met in London.

Charlotte Leeke (HSL 1988-1995) writes to tell us that she is now leading the Music Department at Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School in Bridgend.

Calan McGreevy reports that daughter Delyth (at HSL 1994-2000) owns a delicatessen called *Blasus* in Carmarthen, which was runner-up in the Observer Food Monthly awards in the Independent Retailer category for Wales.

Joan Taggart (née Harcombe, HSL 1939-45) now lives in Toronto, and recently reached a significant milestone: "My news is that on September 13th, 2016, I reached my 90th birthday, and had a lovely party, hosted by my daughters, and attended by many dear friends. Also, in April 2015, I became a great

grandmother to a beautiful little girl who is now 18 months old."

(Joan's message was sent to us from her iPhone, demonstrating that Hywelians are ever resourceful, whatever their age! – Ed.)

Sarah Stevens (HSL 1991-1998) tells us that she was shortlisted for 'One To Watch' in the Northern Powerwomen awards 2016, and winner of the WeAreTheCity Rising Star in Defence award 2016. Details of the Award can be found on both the School and GDST websites.



Annette Dall'Oglio (née Platts, left HSL 1972) sends a comprehensive update on her life over the last few years:

"I remain very much in touch with Evanna Morris and the two of us enjoyed a fabulous but hectic long weekend together in New York last year to help a friend celebrate her 60th birthday. I took voluntary redundancy as retirement five years

ago in the wake of my husband's death from lung cancer, and subsequently fill a large part of my time painting and marketing myself as an artist. I seem to remember that art was my best A-Level grade and in my final year I was awarded the art prize (does that still exist? I was given a cup I had to return after a year!) so I would imagine Miss Eyre, who kept telling me to stop talking in art classes because I had a gift for art, would be suitably pleased with her assessment all those years ago. Last year one of my paintings was selected in a national competition to show in the Mall Gallery in central London (and sold!), while this year I have had a painting selected as part of a group display on hoardings surrounding a tunnel project near Wandsworth Bridge.

"In addition to painting I fit in plenty of travel, either to watch Formula 1 races or just for holidays. This year I made it to Shanghai and Silverstone to see the F1, and am about to return to Abu Dhabi for the last race of the season, while I am planning a trip to the Italian Riviera for Christmas and a short stay in Udine next April to see the town where my husband spent much of his childhood. Other Hywelians I am in touch with are Ingrid Newton (née Gale), now an MA in photography, and Vivien Ruth Geuter (née Whitehead) who retired this summer and is now embarked

on a Foundation Course in Art at Aberystwyth University. Both Vivien and Annie Jones proved to be very supportive over the last two years while I have been dealing with an elderly father, who was still living in Cardiff when he had a stroke. In addition to visiting him regularly in Llandough, where he was in the stroke unit for six months, I then had to sell his house and move him to a nursing care home near my own home in Hampshire.

"Other Hywelians I last saw when Suzi Garcia (née Fletcher) passed away are still in touch via social media: Sue Greening (née Childs), Eryl Hicks (née Howe), Jane Foreman, Jane Crowley (née Rosser), Helen Lewis (née Burke) and Eluned Smith (née Williams)."

Carol Tarr (née Harvey) sends 'just a snippet of news': "I met up recently with Judith Fisher (née Lee), who has returned to UK after 50 years living in Zambia. We went right through HSL in the same form, but lost touch after leaving school, so it was great to catch up and reminisce."

Meryl Bird left HSL in 2015, and since then has been remarkably busy.

She writes: After completing my A-levels, I flew to the south of Turkey, where, over four months, I helped to deliver the Mark Petchey Tennis



Larger-than-life Meryl on the London Tube

Programme in association with Neilson Active Holidays. I found it so enjoyable that I decided to do it all over again, this time based in Greece, from April to September. As well as attending training days (including with Mark Petchey himself), I featured in Neilson's advertising campaign, and saw myself in huge bill boards in tube stations across London (see photo).

Between periods abroad, I live in London and have worked at The Queen's Club. As a hitting partner, I've played Elaine Page and Hugh Grant, and have been able to watch Andy Murray in training.

I will be working at Queen's until the summer of 2017. I love working there and am in no rush to leave, although

I still hope to complete a university degree in the future.

Rachel Williams (née Cornelius), left HSL in around 2003, but she says she still misses the School, which she attended along with her two sisters, Jayne and Victoria. She now works as Guest Relations Manager at Cardiff's Hilton Hotel; she also married this year. (See the online Appendix for the full article).



Rachel and husband on their special day

Mererid Hunt (née John) has had a busy time following a double hip replacement in the summer of 2016. Her recovery was swift and determined, as one would expect from a former round-the-world sailor!

Rachel Hargest (left HSL 1982) took over as President of the Section of Surgery of the Royal Society of Medicine late in 2016. She contacted school to ask whether the archives could provide photos of Miss Lewis, Miss Turner and her science teachers, in order that she could pay tribute to them in her inaugural speech. She wrote that "These teachers were very important figures in my early years, and I am most grateful to them and to

HSL for my education there. It enabled me to get into medical school and pursue a career as a surgeon".

Maria McCarthy (HSL 1974-81) is now a freelance journalist working from a local studio in Devon. In 2016, she was asked to interview Chris Evans (late of Top Gear). She was also interviewed herself on Eleri Siôn's Radio Wales show. She responded to a question about wearing matching underwear by saying, "As 95% of my underwear is black, I suppose it is matching, even if it's come from different shops". Maria muses on what Miss Lewis would have made of her public discussion of knicker colour!

A Golden Achievement...

What an exciting and successful summer it has been for Hywelian **Hannah Mills**. Hannah, who left Howell's in 2006, along with her sailing partner Saskia Clark, won the gold medal in the women's 470 sailing event at the 2016 Rio Olympics. They held a 20-point lead going into the medal race after winning three times and never finished below eighth in the 10 races in the first series. Only a disqualification or technical problem could have denied them the gold medal and they did not disappoint. Hannah's mother, Fiona, who is a PE teacher at Howell's, was in Rio to celebrate with her daughter,

a moment captured during the live broadcast of the race, and seen by millions of people around the world as the Team GB duo sailed right up to the beach to greet their loved ones.

Hannah said of her amazing achievement:

"I can't believe it. It has actually been the best feeling ever, we have forgotten all about London. We are so proud to come back after it and we've worked so hard to get the upgrade to gold. Thank you to everyone back home for the support. It is all we have ever dreamed of and we are so happy."



Hannah and pupils – and that medal!

Howell's students and staff were thrilled to welcome Hannah back to Howell's in September. She kept an audience of 400 students, parents, staff and school governors rapt at the Prize Giving ceremony on Thursday 8th September, as she told them about her journey from Cardiff to Rio. Bright and early on Friday she was back at school again in time for assembly, fielding questions and answers from Junior and Senior School students about her time

at Howell's, her sailing career, and her plans for the future.

In recognition of their success Hannah and Saskia were announced as the 2016 Rolex World Sailors of the Year. They received their award at a glittering ceremony which took place in Casa Llotja De Mar, Barcelona on Tuesday 8th November. Many congratulations, Hannah and Saskia – an exceptional achievement.

...and a New Challenge

Meg Anthony writes: "In July 2016 I took up my new post as Manager of Insole Court. Described as a 'hidden gem', it's a place of which many people – myself included before this year – have never heard. My job is to reveal and share Insole Court with the people of Cardiff, and to celebrate its history and uniqueness with a wide and welcome audience.

"Insole Court is a 19th century Gothic Revival mansion, sited in beautiful public grounds in Fairwater Road, Llandaff (just a little way up Cardiff Road from HSL). It was built by the Insole family on profits made from their mining interests in the

South Wales valleys. It is Grade 2 listed, and was under threat of re-development until funding was secured for a phased programme of renovation. This phasing means that the outbuildings are now completely restored: the Stable Yard, which opened in September, is a lovely example of a utilitarian ensemble of buildings that have been saved, and which are now a range of simple, smart rooms and spaces, and a Community Hall, plus the lovely Potting Shed Café, open every day (10am-5pm) and frequented by locals. In addition, a programme of contemporary exhibitions will feature in the Potting Shed Gallery.

“The second phase is the conservation of the main house – the interior of which has revealed further ‘hidden gems’ in the form of original wall papers, stencilling, marouflage ceilings and fragments of late nineteenth century design detail. The house remains under wraps (or polythene sheeting) until conservators complete their painstaking work, and it is due to open to the public in Spring/Summer 2017.

“While we’re busy establishing a viable business, we’re recruiting key staff and volunteers to form a team responsible for transitioning Insole Court from restoration project to a venue that welcomes and engages the public. The challenges are immense: the budget is tight and the workload onerous. The

privilege of leading the management and volunteer team during this opening period is both exciting and daunting!

“I left Howell’s in 1988, then studied Fine Art & History of Art in London, followed by an MA in Conservation. Having worked in the museum conservation sector for a number of years, I switched to the management and curation of Oriel Myrddin Gallery, before taking my job at Insole Court. I’m delighted to be working in the heritage sector again, and I hope that I can bring the cultural and conservation threads of my career to date together at Insole Court in exciting and engaging ways. The potential of the place is huge – I hope, when you visit, you will agree.”

“The house remains under wraps (or polythene sheeting) until conservators complete their painstaking work, and it is due to open to the public in Spring/Summer 2017.”

Flower Valley Conservation Trust

In September 2016, Editor Lyn Owen and I went on a Garden and Wildflower trip to the Western Cape of South Africa, which has the largest number and most diverse range of flower species in the world. Many of these flowers grow wild on the African veldt (*fynbos*), and species of *Protea*, *Berzelia* and *Erica* will be known to us (by appearance if not by name) in the



Leucospermum cuneiforme (pincushion flower) (© Sue Rayner)



Protea cynaroides (© Sue Rayner)

'exotic' bouquets of flowers which we can now buy in major supermarkets and retail florists.

This habitat, like many, has for some time been under great threat for several reasons: landowners grub it up to plant vines for South Africa's growing wine trade; flowers are picked indiscriminately, sometimes destroying whole plants in the process, and the land is also threatened by invasions of 'alien' species: plants brought from other countries and which have become established and spread rapidly. Examples of this are *Eucalyptus* (gum) trees and wattle (*Acacia*), both of which are native to Australia.

In 1999, a 540-hectare farm in the Agulhas area of the Cape was bought by Fauna and Flora International. It has since been in the care of the Flower Valley Conservation Trust, and as part of our holiday itinerary, we went to Flower Valley to see the Trust in action for ourselves.

The Trust's aims are to secure healthy *fynbos* landscapes and protect jobs dependent on them into the future by giving support to the custodians of the *fynbos* heritage: partnerships have always been key, and with its partners, the Trust has set up a Sustainable Harvesting Programme which teaches

flower pickers to pick sustainably. A Code of Best Practice and a Vulnerability Index guides species selection, and once trained, the pickers become self-employed, picking flowers all around the region.

At the other end of the chain, the Trust is working with retailers explaining how important it is to purchase sustainably-picked flowers. Landowners are persuaded that they can make money out of *fynbos* without grubbing it up and planting vines.

The Trust also realised that there was little or no access to early childhood development for many of the children in the Overstrand region. The Flower Valley Early Childhood Development Programme provides for children from two years of age until they go to school at seven. Five centres, with a total of 200 children under the age of five attending, now run a special Learning Programme providing a holistic education with environmental education integration to children under the age of five. Programmes are now being developed to extend this approach into home-based care where there are no centres.

The Programme Centre at Flower Valley farm is a learning hub for both teachers and children. The Centre was originally to support the children of *fynbos* harvesters while their parents were at work, and it places



Berzelia lanuginosa (Buttonbush) (© Sue Rayner)



Strelitzia reginae (Crane or Bird of Paradise flower) (© Sue Rayner)

a major focus on environmental education, teaching children to live sustainably and close to nature. In turn, the children help their parents to understand the importance of the environment and the need to care for it.

More recently, in collaboration with a number of public and private partners, the Trust has set up the Agulhas Biodiversity Initiative (ABI). ABI plans projects and enables organisations to



The *fynbos* industry employs pickers from local communities (www.fauna-flora.org)

help one another in achieving their aims, and is best illustrated by the Alien Clearing Project, co-ordinated by the Flower Valley Conservation Trust. The project covers an area of approximately 110,000 hectares, and is currently clearing around 30,000 hectares of invasive aliens per year. Around 200 participants are involved in invasive alien clearing activities, building capacity through Induction training, and First Aid and Fire Management training.

Fire is an essential part of *fynbos* management. *Fynbos* soil is poor, and easily exhausted, and some *fynbos* plants only release their seeds after fire. Burning revitalises the soil by adding potash, which provides the right environment for newly-released seeds to grow and encourages the re-emergence of dormant plants.

We found the Flower Valley Conservation Trust and its staff inspirational. Both Marks and Spencer and Waitrose are already purchasing sustainably grown flowers, and Tesco is in discussion about joining. For our part, we can ensure that we buy from a retailer whom we know is selling sustainably-picked flowers and can ask florists if the flowers they sell are sustainably harvested. The appetite for these exotic bouquets is growing – and we can do our bit to help South Africa's environment and its people survive into the future.

Sue Rayner

News from the Archives

Mrs Janet Sully, School Archivist, records a nomadic year for the Archives.

This has been the Year of the Move! For some time we had been hoping that our archives would be re-housed to more suitable accommodation, as the two rooms at the top of Bryntaf were far from ideal. In winter we froze and in summer we scorched; plaster periodically flaked off the ceilings; and the rooms were not secure. Obviously these were far from ideal conditions for the archives, but space is always at a premium in school and at least we could house some of the items in



The old storage space in Bryntaf



Piles of boxes etc. when we first moved to the Hub

Hazelwood and at the bottom of the lane leading to Howell's Crescent. The whole building, now known as "The Hub", has been completely refurbished

the Board Room, on display in the Hywelian Museum.

We were delighted when we heard that we would be moving to the former workshop, latterly the school uniform shop and storage building, situated in the grounds of

and the archives are stored on the first floor. The process of moving was a long-drawn-out one, but it was wonderful when we finally moved in towards the end of May. We were also given a couple of small storage rooms at the top of Cumberland Lodge.

Now we are revelling in a much lighter and spacious area, which has far more table space and so provides room for undertaking research and all our archives tasks in a degree

of comfort. There is still plenty of sorting out and cataloguing to be done but we are making progress. We hope eventually to have a few small display cases there and to be able to welcome individuals and small groups to undertake research.

As always, we have been pleased to accept donations of memorabilia from Hywelians. One of the most exciting items we acquired was an old wooden single desk, with the chair



Our new space



The donated desk



The archives team: *(Left to right)* Julia Farnham, Michelle Ingram, Sue Rayner, Janet Sully

attached, and this is now on view in the museum. We are still hoping that someone will come up with one of the boarders' brown Sunday suits, worn in the 1960s and 1970s!

Most weeks, anyone who looks at the school's Twitter page will see a photo from the archives which relates to a current news item. We know that some Hywelians have enjoyed seeing

these historical photos and have even recognised themselves in them!

Once again, I would like to thank Hywelians Sue Rayner, Julia Farnham and Michelle Ingram for their great help throughout the year. We all appreciate the wholehearted support given by Sally Davis, without whom we would not be able to achieve what we do.

Janet Sully

An Extraordinary Childhood

Those who attended HSL during and immediately after the war years often have remarkable (and sometimes harrowing) stories to tell. Here, Janet Sully records one such wartime childhood.

Irka Reichmann, née Strubel, died in the spring of 2016. Her daughter, Judy Black, contacted me with the news and I subsequently learnt more about Irka's remarkable early life.

Born into a Jewish family in Warsaw, Irka at first enjoyed a happy family life with her parents, sister and grandparents. When she was eight years old, in 1941, she and her family were rounded up and herded into the Warsaw Ghetto. From her hiding place at the top of a cupboard, Irka watched her neighbours being gunned down in the street. She saw their beards being cut off and babies being thrown to the ground. The Nazis took away her mother, father and sister. Irka remained hidden in the cupboard but could see the Nazis' boots through the keyhole. She became known as the "rat child", surviving the sewers and scavenging for food, with no-one to look after her. Eventually she found safety in a convent. Irka never saw her parents again but later found that an uncle had survived and, some years later, that her sister had also survived and was living in Israel.

Irka was placed in a Jewish orphanage in a place called Zabrze after the war. In March 1946 she was taken to England as an orphan



Irka (*right*) with a friend, holding their school reports

by Rabbi Solomon Schonfeld, who rescued about 3,000 children from Europe, and she spent six months or so in a Jewish hostel in London. She was then brought to Wales and fostered by a family, the Sterns, who sent her to Howell's. Irka arrived in Wales unable to speak any English and probably initially conversed with the Sterns in Yiddish. The Sterns were very good, kind people, but Irka told her daughter that she always felt like an outsider.

Fairly soon after Irka arrived in Wales, she had contact with her uncle. Her daughter found over sixty letters that she wrote to him in Polish between

1946 and 1956. The following extract is from one written in January 1948. "You know, here in England [*sic*] in every school the children wear the same clothes but in each school it's different. In our school we wear white blouses, navy skirts with red stripes, white socks; you cannot imagine how beautiful it looks. I must write you a few words about my teachers, although they are like other teachers, only a little worse. The worst one is the gym teacher. For example, at the beginning of the class we must all stand at attention. If somebody turns right or left, she gives entire sermons." In June 1948 she wrote that Cookery was one of her favourite classes, but she could not taste what she cooked at school because it was not kosher.

In the early 1950s Irka went to Israel as a volunteer and met up with her sister. She became a nursery school teacher and her daughter says that she was much loved where she worked, and that she always had a great affinity with children. She married and lived in London. She had two children, and became a grandmother and great-grandmother but she longed for just one photograph of the woman she last glimpsed through the keyhole. Towards the end of the life, she thought of her parents more than when she was younger. She said, "I would like to know what my mother looked like." Irka spent time at the Holocaust Survivors' Centre, which was very important to her after her career was over and her children had left home.

Janet Sully

Miss Margaret Llewellyn Lewis

Barbara Forte contributes a fulsome appreciation of the school life of a former Headmistress.

I have been reading many comments about our old Headmistress on Facebook and felt I should like to add my own, particularly of the early years, because "I was there!"

The war and I started together (coincidentally) in Howell's in September 1939 under the fading headship of Miss Knight and her subsequent retirement.

The arrival of Miss Margaret Llewellyn Lewis, after the *interregnum* of Miss Hilda Taylor, came as a complete shock to the system – a tall woman, in her very early 30s, who smoked(!), and swept through School with her black gown flowing behind her. We gazed in awe as at one early Hockey Final in the School Field, she brought on an ARMY OFFICER to greet the opposing sides! Who was he? Questions were rife: was he brother? Boy-friend? No answer came – and neither did he again!

I was not clever, brainy, or sporty, just a very ordinary pupil, who didn't really try hard, 'didn't do her best', but was never in bad scrapes. I liked Miss Lewis; I believed in her and her guidance – though many younger Facebook

correspondents seem not to agree! Remember I speak as a much older Hywelian of 88½! (Please don't forget the half!)

One of the occasions I had to go to her Study was when I was made to carry my plate of uneaten lunch through the kitchen past all the kitchen Staff as an example of an "ungrateful girl who wouldn't eat the meal they had prepared" by Miss Taylor (aka Slug). This was greeted with a rather tight-lipped response by Miss Lewis, "Barbara, leave us and go to the Board Room and I will have some jam sponge sent in!" So that was what "Railway" (pudding) was really called!

Another visit involved Mam'selle who suddenly decided the she 'did not like my face', and I had to sit with my back to her in class, and if sitting on the French table for lunch would be told, "Barbara Mealing, go to the end; I do not like your face!" I pressed the bell outside the door of the Head's study and was told, "Come". Miss Lewis was, I think, very understanding and I hope did not agree with Mam'selle's opinion of my face, but ended the conversation with, "But we must remember,

Mam'selle is foreign!"

I served on the committee of the Hywelian Guild for many years, first as an ordinary member and then as Entertainment Officer and as such had many meetings with Miss Lewis, most of them "à deux" (memories of Mam'selle?) Miss Lewis was always interesting and interested in all that was going on, full of good ideas, making many suggestions. Our November/December Suppers were booked up 12 months in advance, and she looked on with pleasure and delight, even pride, at her girls in their gowns and with their suave escorts!

The years went by and, although having three small sons, I felt that I could (should?) do something more, and after a meeting with Miss Lewis decided that I would become one of the first 'Mature Students' and become a teacher. The education, the discipline

(yes, some of it did sink in!) and work ethic of HSL paid off and I taught until I was 75.

Now, at 88½ (don't forget the half!), I hope she would say, 'You did your best'.

Thank you, Miss Lewis.

A Postscript:

At her funeral service in St German's, Roath, the church was full of Hywelians all standing straight, with ample bosoms (the result of all those swimming lessons), singing lustily "La, lah, lah". There were not enough hymn books to go around, but that was no excuse for not singing! Old habits die hard!

*Barbara Forte (née Mealing,
later Lloyd Hughes)*

"Miss Lewis was always interesting and interested in all that was going on, full of good ideas, making many suggestions."

Miss Lewis's sister, Winifred (Win) Llewellyn Lewis, died on 9th October 2016. She was a good friend of the school and attended a number of functions. In particular, she was present at the opening of the Margaret Lewis Memorial Library in 1982 and she formally opened the Junior School in Hazelwood in 1986. A former Anglican Sister, she later became a Secular Carmelite, and she worked as a publisher and intelligence analyst.

Blast From The Past – General Knowledge Paper 1917

For those of us who remember it, the annual General Knowledge Paper was a source of both trepidation and anticipation. How many of us can answer the following questions from July 1917?

1. Write a short essay on one of the following:
 - The life of a Water Baby
 - The bravest deed you have heard of during the war
 - Travel by air in the future
 - How girls can help in time of war
2. Name ten pictures (Juniors *five* only) to be found in the school (not in the room in which you are sitting), say by whom they were painted and briefly describe one of them.
3. What Biblical incidents are represented on the reredos of Llandaff Cathedral? Who painted them? What story is carved on the font? Name an interesting feature on the outside of the Cathedral.
4. What happened on five of the following dates: July 4th 1776; Sept.3rd 1651; August 24th 1572; June 18th 1815; October 21st 1805; January 30th 1649; August 4th 1914?
5. What and where are the following (Juniors do *five* only): Louvre, Kremlin, Vatican, White House, Stonehenge, Leaning Tower, Santa Sophia, Acropolis, Big Ben, Whitehall?
6. *Seniors only.* What is meant when a person is called a Jonah, a Croesus, a Jeremiah, a Maecenas, a Cassandra, a Judas?
7. *Juniors only.* What qualities are typified by the following animals: dog, fox, lion, donkey, pig, parrot, magpie?
8. Give a list of the nations fighting in the present war, say on which side each is fighting and name the ruler of each.
9. Why are the following people famous: (Juniors *five* only) Florence Nightingale, Jack Cornwall, Marconi, Capt. Scott, Charlotte Corday, General Baden Powell, Mme. Curie, Nurse Cavell, Helen Keller, George Stephenson.
10. What is the meaning of the following letters put after a name (Juniors do *five* only) V.C., P.C., R.A., D.S.O., A.D.C., O.M., M.M., R.F.A., J.P., D.B.E.?

11. *Seniors only*. What would you do in the case of the following: a sprained ankle, a faint, a child on fire, nose bleeding, a deep cut?

12. *Juniors only*. What plants are the emblems of England, Canada, Scotland, Ireland and Wales?

13. Give the names applied to a number of each of the following: (Juniors choose *five* only) swallows, chickens, partridges, ants, whales, swine, sheep, wolves, monkeys, fish.

14. What do you understand by (Juniors do *five* only) *Belles lettres, carte blanche, chaperon, chef d'oeuvre, chic, comme il faut, cul de sac, entente cordiale, garage, hors de combat*?

15. In what books do the following appear: (Juniors do *five* only) The White Rabbit, Captain Hook, Madam-do-as-you-would-be-done-by, The Land of Memory, Mrs Malaprop, Una, John Ridd, Launcelot Gobbo, Dotheboys Hall, Amy Robsart? Describe one of them briefly.

16. By what weight or measure do you buy, and give the cost of each of the following: (Juniors choose *five* only) calico, wool, tape, apples, cocoa, stockings, milk, notepaper, cotton, rhubarb?

17. How can you tell when a cake is sufficiently cooked, when the kettle is boiling, when a potato is done? How long does it take to boil an egg? How

much tea would you put in the tea pot for 8 people?

18. *Seniors only*. Explain by diagram and state when you use the following stitches: run and fell, herring-bone, over-sew, button-hole, feather-stitch.

19. *Juniors only*. Describe how you would make a doll's frock, giving kind of material, colour, trimmings.

20. Draw the face of a clock putting the hands at 6.45.

And if it all was too much for you, the following may be of help or interest. It was an article written for the Hywelian Magazine about the results of the General Knowledge paper. Those who sat the paper in their time at school will remember that the magazine always published something about the paper – usually the howlers which girls made!

"Dear Mrs Richard*

I am sending you the marks of the Junior and the Senior General Knowledge papers. The top paper in the Senior Group, written by Gwen Frewer, who obtained 85 marks, is very good indeed. The Junior top girl, Mary Jones, obtained 77 marks. Taking them on the whole and allowing for different standards of marking, I think that the Juniors are better than the Seniors,

both so far as matter and neatness and arrangement are concerned.

There have not been many amusing mistakes, but several people located The White House in Llandaff, and one child answered that 'The White House is on the Green, Llandaff, and is the home of Mr. Waldron**' hence its fame! The leaning tower, too, was taken to mean the tower at Caerphilly Castle.

Practically everyone took the letters P.C. placed after a name to mean Police Constable, while O.M. meant On Munitions, Medical Officer, Officers' Mess, the first meaning being most common. One girl gave Director of the Board of Education for D.B.E., while several took M.M. to mean Minister of Munitions or some Medical Degree.

An amusing mistake in Question 14, was the result of careless reading, several girls taking *carte blanche* and *chaperon* as one expression, and translated it as 'white faced chaperon' and 'white paper introducer', while *carte blanche* was taken to mean 'to begin again with past sins done away with (a clean card)'. *Belles lettres* in many cases meant 'love letters', while another said they were 'five letters after your name', several gave 'good

testimonials'. *Cul de sac* and *chef d'oeuvre* were of course connected with wine and a cook.

The majority of the candidates would follow the rule one spoonful for each person and one for the pot when making tea for eight persons, one answering that 'formerly to make a cup of tea for eight persons nine teaspoonfuls (*sic*) of tea should be used, but in war time half a teaspoonful for each person and none for the pot, therefore four teaspoonfuls should be used'. Others say more war time tea is required.

General Baden Powell is looked upon by one girl, who, evidently, has suffered much from her brothers, as a great benefactor not only to the Boy Scouts themselves but to their friends and relations as well; she adds 'I know this from experience'.

Yours sincerely

A Ethel Philpott***"

* Mrs Richards was Secretary of the Guild

** Mr Waldron was Clerk to the Board of Governors

*** Ethel Philpott obviously set and marked the paper

Lifelong friends

We all know how valuable friendships can be, particularly as we get older, and the following letter sums up the importance of long-standing friendships made in early life.

"Dear Hywelians,

I just want to say how important friendships made in school are all our life. We date from the late 1950s and are now in our 70s but our year at school included a group of six or seven of us, all very different in background and experience, in ability and interests and we called ourselves 'the gang'! It is still great to meet up once or twice a year and exchange memories and experiences, to discuss present questions and concerns. It is a wonderfully diverse group and we can laugh a lot together. Of course there are husbands, children and grandchildren to learn about and those of us with none of these can still enjoy the fun; there are achievements and bereavements that we share, and the sense of friendship has matured down the years. I can only thank the group for their kindness. Apparently Henry James, the well-known writer, wrote to his nephew that there are three things that are vital in life: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind, and the third is, yes to be kind! In our group there is great kindness, but also a discreet and faithful loyalty and for all this I can only say a big thank you.

I am probably not the only one to feel very grateful for the excellent education we had in Howell's and it has served us well down the years, in work, and in family life and in all relationships. Personally, as a teacher and then a missionary still in education and then as a minister in the Church, I still feel my confidence and my ability to express myself have much to thank Howell's for! I was such a forlorn and depressed little soul when I joined UIVA.

So to all those long-gone teachers and to the old School – none of them perfect of course – a big thank you and may the good work continue, and inspire ever more young people for years to come."

Eleri Edwards (1956-1961)

And Janey Bevan recounts an experience many of us have had as we meet up with former classmates:

“Sixty is the new 15! Or so it felt on a chilly but beautiful spring day last April, at the New House Hotel in Thornhill, at the 1967-74 cohort’s reunion to celebrate (cope with?) such a big birthday year for us all. Around 50 of us managed to attend from far and wide, and however daunting the idea of having others see our older, wiser, greyer selves might have been beforehand, it was only a matter of minutes before it seemed quite impossible that so many years had passed, and we were all a bunch of very jolly girls again (to the extent there was actually a bit of tutting and complaining from a couple of elderly guests in the lounge, which we took as a badge of honour, really. We weren’t THAT loud!). It was heart-warming to realise that the people who made you fall about laughing all those years ago still have the same effect. A background soundtrack of hits from our era set the scene... Does anyone actually ever hear ‘Albatross’ or ‘I Heard it Through the Grapevine’ without being transported back to Country Dancing in the Hall when it was Wet Games?”

60 Year Reunion

“On Monday 12th September 2016, nineteen Hywelians from all over England and Wales, gathered in the upstairs room of “Porro”, a restaurant in Llandaff, for lunch to celebrate starting in the upper thirds sixty



The group at Porro

years ago. What a wonderful catch-up we had. It had been quite a number of years since we last had a big reunion and there was much laughter as we studied old photographs of teachers, school teams etc. trying to remember the names, recalling incidents and trying to see if we could recognise each other! We have to thank Sian Steele (née Pierce) and Ginny Egerton (née Carter) for suggesting the celebration and organising it. Everyone agreed we must get together again in the not too distant future. After all, we can't wait another sixty years!"

Diana Langmaid



Facebook update

Joyce Shields, the Guild's very able Membership Secretary, tells us:

"We now have 500 members of the Hywelian Guild page on Facebook.

"Many contribute to it regularly by putting their photos and comments there, which usually stimulates conversation. Many others have found their former class mates and caught up with the details of their lives. A great number just read the page now and again. However, I think it has been a great success and we have Hywelians of all ages from their early twenties to the late eighties as members.

"If you would like to join just make a request! You will be very welcome."

Please be assured that this is a private Facebook group, and what we post can be read by other Hywelians only, and not by anyone else using Facebook.

Reunions planned

Karen Thomas (née Ware) writes:

"The class of 1968-1975 will be celebrating their 60th Birthdays in 2017, and on March 4th 2017 we are holding a joint birthday party for all the 1968 -1975 group. We are already in touch with about 25 of our year group and would like to find more..."

"If you would like to join us in Cardiff for part or all of lunch, dinner and other activities please contact Karen Thomas (née Ware) on karenthomas007@btinternet.com or via Hywelians@how.gdst.net. Any ideas for the day gratefully received and we very much hope you will be able to join us."

"Calling all Hywelians who were the '79-'86 cohort. We are holding a reunion at HSL on Saturday July 15th 2017. For further details please contact **Rhiannon Allen** (Williams) on rhiannon.allen@sky.com or Howell's Development Office (via Hannah Roberts)."

My name is **Heather Jaques** (née Wilbush) from the class of 1967. As a young girl I emigrated to Canada, later marrying a Canadian farmer. Together with our son and family we operate Jaques Farms Ltd., an irrigation farm in SE Alberta close to the hamlet of Buffalo, raising speciality crops. Any

Hywelians passing through the area are encouraged to stop by!

Recently fellow classmate **Lisa Guinness** (née Parry) visited and we decided to plan a reunion for 2018. So...

Attention all 1967 leavers!

"We'd like to plan a party to celebrate our 70th birthdays. It will also be fifty years since we all left Howell's. We're thinking of a day together in June 2018, in the Oxford area as it's central. The plan so far is to start with coffee and have a 'Bring and Share' lunch. We thought it would be nice to have an interesting activity such as attending the On Form Garden and Sculpture Exhibition at Asthall Manor. We would end the day with a dinner for those who can stay. Please do give us your ideas, and spread the word."

Lisa and Heather

lisaguinness@hotmail.com or jaques@netago.ca

See also on Facebook – Heather Jaques, Buffalo, Alberta, Canada.

(Other year groups planning a similar reunion might like to consider making it a joint event with the Hywelian Summer Lunch – Ed.)

In print

Two established authors, who also happen to be Hywelians, tell us about their latest ventures.

Jane Cable (née Simpson) describes her third novel *Another You*:

"When the present is unbearable, can you be saved by the past?"

"Marie Johnson is trapped by her job as a chef in a Dorset pub and by her increasingly poisonous marriage to its landlord. Worn down by his string of affairs she has no self-confidence, no self-respect and the only thing that keeps her going is watching her son turn into a talented artist.

"But the sixtieth anniversary of a D-Day exercise which ended in disaster triggers chance meetings which prove

unlikely catalysts for change as Marie discovers that sometimes the hardest person to save is yourself."

Another You will be published by Endeavour Press in early 2017.

Visit www.janecable.com or [@romanticsuspensenovels](https://www.facebook.com/romanticsuspensenovels) on Facebook for more information.



The memorial which inspired Jane's latest novel

Angela Fish (née Kear) writes: "I have had another exciting and very busy year, working with schools across the UK and attending Book Fairs and school fetes. My second book for children, *Ben and the Spider Prince*, came out in the spring and book three, *Ben and the Spider Lake*, was released at the end of September. It was lovely to see that *Ben and the Spider Prince* was recommended in the Western Mail



Angela Fish, author, with winner Weekend supplement (6 August 2016) as one of the ten books by Welsh, or



The colourful covers of Angela's books

Wales-based authors, to keep children entertained this summer. I hope it did!

"Many thanks again to the young ladies of Year 3, Howell's Juniors, for pre-reading all three books. I've continued to visit the girls and have enjoyed the time spent with them. I asked the girls and asked them to write me an anonymous letter telling me their thoughts about the book. I was delighted at their comments

and at the maturity of some of the responses. The writer of the winning letter received a copy of *Spider Prince*. Extracts from other letters were published at the front of book three, which is also dedicated to the girls. Thanks again to the staff at Howell's for facilitating the event and for their ongoing support."

(The winning letter is reproduced in the online Appendix – Ed.)

Plus ça change...

The following letter was written by Head mistress Margaret Lewis to her pupils at a time of national importance. Its relevance to the present day is uncanny!

“My dear School,

Well, here we are all set for joining the Common Market - unless something very unexpected happens. You may approve or you may disapprove, but I hope your views are based on careful consideration of the facts available, not on prejudice or whim. There is, of course, the possibility that your head is so full of thoughts about your next examination or your next hair-style that you haven't considered the matter at all: in which case you had better snap out of it and begin thinking now!

But whether you have done your thinking or not, you should be taking action. You need to face the fact that a scrape through at O-Level combined with a determination never to speak a foreign language unless you can speak it perfectly, just won't do for a citizen of the Common Market. You are extremely well taught in languages and you ought to be aiming at a really good pass. Furthermore, whether you think you speak ill, speak you must - first of all in lessons and then when you go abroad. Diffidence is out - and over-modest violets really are a bit of a bore in any language.

You should be acquiring as much knowledge as you can about the other countries in the Common Market. Your Geography lessons will give you a good outline and you should read the newspapers to fill in the picture. To know something about other people is a kind of courtesy.

And bear it in mind that nowadays jobs don't grow on trees.

Yours very sincerely,

M. LI. Lewis.”

In Memoriam

It is always sad to hear of the passing of Hywelians, but, at the same time, their lives are an inspiring example to all. Our condolences go to the families of those who are no longer with us.

Mrs T M "Teddy" Evans (1921-2016)

Mrs Evans (née Edwards) went to university in Cardiff. She had a place at Cambridge but, with World War II impending, her mother decided that Cambridge was too close to Germany! Leaving university in 1942, she was recommended to the Ministry of Defence. She went first to Tilbury and then to Plymouth, where she was the only female in a team "degaussing" naval ships. This involved passing currents through arrangements of coils to neutralise the ships' natural magnetic field. Previously, when Allied ships came near German mines and torpedoes, this field activated their firing mechanisms. Miss Edwards had to observe the testing before ships could sail. A captain, on hearing that his ship had failed the degaussing test, was heard to say, "Are you telling me that young Miss Edwards is telling ME that I can't sail?" He ordered a radio link to a base at Helensburgh and was told, "If Miss Edwards has told you not



to sail, you cannot sail!"

After the war, Miss Edwards taught at Canton High School. In 1949 Miss Lewis invited her to tea and offered her a post at Howell's. She introduced Physics as an A Level subject and oversaw the development of a Physics Laboratory in the room known as the "Ship", before a purpose-built laboratory was constructed in 1958 and, finally, two new ones in 1974. She also introduced the Nuffield Physics course. Mrs Evans headed the Science teaching staff for many years until her retirement in 1984. She also managed the School Fund with meticulous care and ran the school shop. Mrs Evans met her husband Eirwyn at the Welsh Independent Chapel. The school today benefits from two prizes endowed in their names: the Eirwyn Evans prize for Welsh and the T M Evans prize for Physics.

Mrs Evans continued to be very active into her 90s and gave up driving at 92! She travelled a great deal and became instrumental in two charities. She was on the board of the Young Women's Housing Association, when it provided shelter for abused women in South

Wales. She also joined the committee of Cartref Care Homes. She served as Chairman from 1994, finishing at the age of 90 in 2011. She spent the last three years of her life in their care.

*Janet Sully
(with thanks for contributions
from Margaret Jones,
David and Mark Hemmings)
(A fuller version is in the online
Appendix – Ed.)*

Mrs Nia Anthony

Mrs Nia Anthony, former Head of Classics, died in Tenby on 7th July 2016, aged 83. Educated at Howell's School, Denbigh, and University College, Aberystwyth, where she studied Classics, she went on to teach Latin in Howell's School, Llandaff, for many years, and also taught at University College, Cardiff. Mrs Anthony joined the Howell's staff in 1969 and worked part-time until she became Head of Classics in 1980, a post she held until her retirement in 1993. She lived in Palace Road and she set up a ladder at the end of her garden to enable her to climb over the wall between school and her garden, so that she didn't have to walk around the roads! She was a keen linguist and traveller, loved Radio 4 and the world of books. Her two daughters, Catrin and Meg, are both ex-pupils, and her son Daniel worked briefly at HSL as

the audio-visual technician. Catrin teaches at Atlantic College and Meg has recently taken over as Manager at Insole Court in Llandaff.

(See Meg's article on page 18 – Ed.)

Elizabeth Caney (née Davies, HSL 1950-1957)

Elizabeth was the daughter of Mrs. Madeline Davies (HSL Geography, 1954-68) and the greatly loved sister of Sue Rayner (Secretary of the Hywelian Guild), and Katherine Long. Elizabeth died very suddenly and unexpectedly on 3rd September 2016. She leaves her husband Stephen, son Simon, daughter Sarah and six grandchildren.



An edited version of the address given by Stephen at Elizabeth's funeral can be found in the online appendix.

Janet Webster (née Morgan, left HSL 1956)

Mavis Ersu (née Jackson) writes: "Janet died peacefully on 30th September 2016 – her 79th birthday – at the home of her daughter Sian, after a long and brave fight against cancer. I knew Janet from a very early age, as we both spent our childhood in Wenallt Road, Rhiwbina. She came to

Howell's in 1948 and left in 1955 to read Latin and French at University College, Cardiff, where she met her future husband Norman Webster. Janet gained a degree in Classics and a further one in Education. Some years later they emigrated to Canada to join her parents and two brothers, who had already settled there. Janet took up a teaching post at St George's School in Vancouver, where she eventually became the School Librarian. She also set up a very successful debating society for the students there, and travelled with them to many countries, where they distinguished themselves with the skills she had nurtured in them. Janet leaves a son, Christopher, two daughters, Sarah and Sian, and four grandchildren.

Janet's son Christopher noted that Janet was "very proud to be a Hywelian and attended her 50th anniversary reunion (in 2005, I believe)."

An edited obituary of Janet as it appeared in the Vancouver Sun can be found in the online Appendix – Ed

Margaret Sheila Lewis (née Evans, left HSL 1941)

Kay Powell writes: "Margaret Lewis passed away at the age of 93. Born 1924 in Llandaff, Margaret met her husband Roy while he was studying

at St Michael's College. Immediately after their marriage, they travelled to British Guyana, and then to Jamaica and Spain. They finally settled in Colwinston, where Margaret continued to support him in his Ministry. She was a Magistrate in Cowbridge and Barry, and was a lively and much loved member of the community wherever she lived.

A fluent Spanish speaker and member of the Hywelian Travel Club, she travelled with us to Seville in 2006, and Avila and Toledo in 2010. Well into her 80s even then, perching on a bar stool with wine glass in hand, she would declare, "When in Spain, do as the Spanish do" with an inimitable twinkle in her eye. She was a truly unforgettable character.

Hywelians Margaret Evans (former Bridgend Branch Chair), Pamela Haines (née Bush, Churchwarden) and Kay Powell – with many other friends and neighbours – attended Margaret's funeral in Colwinston Church in early December 2016.

Hilary H. Richardson (1930-2015)

Rosy Collis writes: "Hilary Richardson passed away on 7th November 2015 aged 85, after a brief illness. She had fond memories of her time at HSL, and in an article she wrote for the 1994 Hywelian Magazine *Changes in Europe – a Viewpoint*, she praised her

geography teacher, Miss E. Fowler, for imparting her own enthusiasm for travel and exploring foreign landscapes to Hilary. With Miss Fowler's help, Hilary passed the entrance exam for Girton College, Cambridge; this was the first time that women graduates were able to have 'University of Cambridge' on their certificates.

"Hilary studied archaeology and anthropology at Cambridge, and history of art at University College Dublin (UCD). She became a lecturer in Archaeology at UCD, where she worked for over 30 years. Her special interest was early Christian art, and as well as travelling extensively in Europe to further her studies, she travelled to Ethiopia, Georgia, Armenia and Turkey. Even in her 83rd year she travelled to the Northern Caucasus to look at 10th century churches.

"Hilary was a keen swimmer and often talked about Miss Disney, her PE teacher, who taught her to swim at HSL.

"She may also be remembered as the sister of the late Mrs Helen Simpkins, another Hywelian, who taught Scripture at HSL until 1984."

Louise (Lulu) Stone (née Goldstein/ Gould)

The following is an edited version of Lulu's funeral eulogy composed by her son Brian. He describes her as "a remarkable woman".

Lulu Stone was born in 1913. She won a scholarship to HSL, and matriculated at the early age of 16. Although she was offered place at both London and Cardiff universities, she went instead to work in her father's textile business. She met Sydney, her husband in London and they were married in December 1938.

Their first son, Brian, was born in 1940, then Andrew (now Lord Stone of Blackheath) in 1942, while the family was living in Porthcawl. Robert was born in 1947 in Cardiff, followed by daughter Beverley in 1949. All have distinguished themselves in their chosen careers.

In 1995, Sydney died and Lulu became involved in a number of charities, as well as acquiring computing skills, and she published her own memoirs in 2009. Latterly, Lulu lived in Walton-on-Thames. She leaves her four children, ten grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Her son Brian noted that she made a genuine contribution to the world and that although her passing is naturally regretted, she leaves many happy memories.

(A full version of the Eulogy appears in the online Appendix – Ed.)

Elizabeth Bligh (née Howe) writes that **Kate Buss** (née Lloyd) passed away peacefully early in the morning on 1st October 2016, aged 60 years. She had been ill for some while but was able to enjoy a happy reunion with many of her former Hywelian friends in April. She attended Howell's from 1968-1974 where she excelled academically and progressed to Oxford University. Many will remember her mother Dr Joyce Lloyd who taught Biology at Howell's. Kate married Chris Buss in 1986 and later moved to Leigh Woods in Clifton, Bristol where she was clearly very happy and was a well-regarded and loved member of the community. Chris and Kate had three children, Will, Imogen and Fran. Kate will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Mave Ersu from the Scottish Branch records that **Jean Cox** (née Nelson) passed away on 8 January 2016. Jean left school in 1948 and her family used to have a business connected with the tourist trade in Fife. Jean was the wife of late Sheriff Principal G. L. Cox, mother, mother-in-law and grandmother to Douglas and Ailsa and their families. Jean left School in 1948.

Caroline Mclean adds: "Mary Craig (née Rayer) was a year above Jean at Howell's; she says that she and Jean were the founding members of the Hywelian Guild's Scottish Branch, started in 1966 when they

were both living in Edinburgh. Mary thinks that Jean would have started at Howell's in about 1943. She was in Oaklands and was very sporty, becoming a keen golfer in her adult life. Her great friend in school was Anne Havard and apparently they were quite a mischievous pair (in a nice way, Mary said). Jean went to Domestic Science college when she first left Howell's, but she later became a radiographer and may have worked with Jill Docherty (née Puddicombe) at some time. An only child herself, Jean had two children, Douglas and Ailsa. Ailsa has lived in Australia for several years and Jean used to visit her and her family there quite regularly. Although the Scottish Branch started with a membership of two, they were soon joined by Hywelians living in Ayr, Troon and Inverness. We used to meet at members' homes for lunch but, as we are scattered geographically, we now meet at a restaurant in Perth. We shall miss Jean, who was a very regular attender at our lunches."

Ginny Shaw informs us her mother, **Margaret Olwen Adams** (née Gething), died on 22 March 2016, leaving her husband of 57 years, Peter Adams, and three daughters Christine, Katharine (HSL 1971-1977) and Virginia (HSL 1976-1983). Margaret was at school during WW II and was a boarder at Hazelwood House. She

always talked about the beautiful magnolia tree there and subsequently always loved magnolias. She kept in touch with very many school friends throughout her life, some of whom attended her funeral.

Jan Whitehead (née Walters) died very tragically with her partner, Charlie Harris, in a road accident in North Wales on 1 April 2016. She was the daughter of the late Rev and Mrs Walters and left HSL in 1969. Her sister, Emily Crowson, was also at Howell's; she left in 1972.

Kay Powell gives us the sad news of the death of **Isabel Evans** (née Sherwood, HSL 1959-1966) from an infection following otherwise successful chemotherapy for Hodgkin's lymphoma. She leaves husband Geoff and a daughter, Hannah. Kay says that several members of her year attended the funeral in St Martin's Church, Caerphilly. Izzie was a superb bridge player and in her retirement won many bridge competitions; she also travelled widely.

A Facebook posting (via Joyce Shields) tells us: "**Caroline Ann Freeman** (HSL 1976-82), passed away on the evening of 31 May 2016, after collapsing at her home. She had been poorly for many years following a head injury, as a result of her road traffic accident

in Cardiff in 1987. Her mother Susan (née Kraus) is also a Hywelian."

Another Facebook entry this time from Charlie Brown (Hywelian) says: "**Hollie Rawlins** (2005 leavers) lost her battle with severe anorexia in March 2016. She would have been around 29 years of age."

A nephew of Hywelian **Margaret Jones**, (née Lougher), notified us of her death at the age of 95. She was a boarder in the 1930s. Margaret's husband Desmond was at one time Deputy Head in Adamsdown Junior School in Cardiff.

The daughter of **Dorothy Vivien Lees** (née Gooch) tells us that her mother has died at the age of 90. She was a Hywelian and had fond memories of her time at Howell's. She was the first female superintendent of St David's Hospital, Cardiff.

Diana Langmaid writes that **Meryl Powell** (née Davies) from Penarth, died on 5th October 2016 aged 72. Meryl was at school from 1956 until 1963 and after she left, before doing a teaching qualification, was a care worker at Erw Delyn Special Needs School in Cardiff. She taught there for two years at primary level before having a break to bring up her children and do a degree with the Open University. She ended her career in

Community Education as Basic Skills Manager in the Friary, also in Cardiff. Meryl is survived by her husband, Rudi, her two sons and their wives and her seven grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by them and by her many friends.

Heather Warman (née Rees) was also known as Terry. She came to HSL in 1947, and left in 1952 after taking O-Levels.

Joyce Shields notes that a few years ago Heather contacted the school and Janet Sully put her in touch with Joyce. This is what Heather wrote about herself:

"[This is] just a brief account of my life since we met last. I had a "gap year" earning some money to get to teachers' training college. My year was spent at Cardiff City Hall registering births and deaths! I did my (two) years' training at St Katharine's, Liverpool; I could not wait to get to London from there! And then I found

myself with a class of forty-seven eight year-old boys in Brixton. Forget the training – that is when I learnt to teach!

"I had a year's exchange teaching in Canada, then returned to teach for a further year in Paddington. At this time, teaching methods began to change: changes I did not agree with, so I left and have no regrets. I enjoyed a few odd jobs before joining British Airways, working for them for eighteen years. Sadly, I wasn't pretty enough to reach the high standards they demanded back then to fly, but enjoyed several positions there, mainly on passenger Check-In and Baggage Facilities.

"These were great years with many friends – and eventually a husband! By this time I was forty-five but he was worth waiting for! We have now had twenty-eight good years. We both love travelling, though sadly we have had to give-up on the backpacks!

"Well that's me, and long may I continue!"

Life begins...

Sarah Matthews, née Watson James (HSL 1971-1978) writes:

“When I turned 50, I adopted the motto “old enough to know better but still young enough to do it.” Lunchtime sport every day clearly had an impact and I’ve always been active and enjoyed sport, but wasn’t competitive until the big five-0. I marked my birthday year running the Cardiff Half Marathon with my niece. The last half I’d run was with my Dad in 1984, the year he was 50. I’ve had some sporting highs and lows over the last few years but my experience of overcoming obstacles in business has enabled me to find ways around the lows – as well as plan my training to fit in with work and home life. The highs have been competing as a GB age-grouper in the World Duathlon Championships in Spain in 2014, then qualifying for the European Duathlon Championships in April last year. What could have been a big low – a persistent running injury – forced me to withdraw six weeks before the Europeans. I quashed my disappointment by diverting my energies to time trialling as fortunately the injury didn’t stop me cycling.

It turned out to be a good decision as I’m a far better cyclist than I am a runner and as well as winning a number of local races and awards I won two National Age Group medals last year and three this year. I’ve more challenges next year but don’t want to tempt fate by sharing them.”



Sarah in action

Keira Homes (Class of 2001)

I decided in 2015 after a 10 year international career in finance that although I very much cared about my work and always gave my best, I wanted to do something every day that I felt passionate about. I had always wanted to start my own business and realised that my love of fashion and in particular bridalwear could be my answer! Following nine months of research, seeking out labels to stock, choosing the gowns, designing our store and managing builders to create our vision (all while still working full time in my previous job) we opened our store on January 16th 2016.

I went into business with a very good friend of mine, Helen, who shared my passion and with whom I knew I could get along with despite spending most of our time together!

The past ten months have of course been filled with much learning and some mistakes. Most importantly, the passion that I wanted to feel each day has become a reality. I absolutely love what we do, particularly when a bride has the wonderful experience of finding her dream gown with us. We have focussed on creating not just a shopping trip but a dream experience where every bride feels beautiful,

confident, cared for and, most of all, excited! There have been many times when I have been in tears along with the bride or her mother: we are so involved with every bride we see! By the time the bride collects her very own gown she genuinely feels like a friend of ours – and it's far more fun than spreadsheets (I never thought I would hear myself say that!).

Since I moved back to Cardiff to open the store I have reconnected with Howell's; we even displayed a wedding dress made from newspaper by the Year eight pupils in the window of our store. I was an Assisted Places

ONE¹
BRIDAL



One of Keira's dream bridal gowns
(© Sarah Hopkins)



The calm and friendly interior of Keira's shop

student at Howell's and feel a huge amount of gratitude to the teachers and the school for the opportunity I was given and the care that I received. It feels wonderful to be able to give something back in any way that I can.

For further details of Keira's business, please see the online Appendix.

You can visit ONE1 Bridal at 16 Minster Street, Cathays, Cardiff, CF24 4HR.

Jayne Barr (née Loxley-Hughes)

Jayne has been running her marketing troubleshooter business, Creative Consulting for 12 years. Working across all sectors



and with organisations ranging from small creative companies to large multinationals, she specialises in bringing creative solutions to marketing problems. Any Hywelians in need of marketing, advertising or communications advice are welcome to contact her on jayne@creative-consulting.co.uk; See also her website:

www.creative-consulting.co.uk

Jayne left school in 1978.

Ecclesiastical Errata

Sometimes things we write don't turn out quite the way we intended, as these extracts from church bulletins show!

- The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off – let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.
- Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.
- The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.
- Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM – prayer and medication to follow.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- This evening at 7 pm there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please use back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement on Friday at 7 pm. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double door at the side entrance

And this one confirms that even the clergy are not immune from unwitting gaffes:

- "The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge – Up Yours.'"

With thanks to Joyce Shields

Reminders

If you would like a printed copy of next year's magazine to be posted to you, please let Joyce Shields have an A5-sized envelope (C5), bearing a LARGE stamp of the correct postage before September 2017. Joyce's address can be obtained from Hannah Roberts at school (hannah.roberts@how.gdst.net).

The Bronwen Jacques Trust

Mrs Bronwen Jacques was a Hywelian and one of the earliest Secretaries of the Hywelian Guild. When she died in 1975, she bequeathed her house near Gloucester to the Governors for the benefit of former pupils and ex-members of staff. The Governors decided to sell the house and, with the proceeds, they created a Trust fund, administered by the Hywelian Guild Committee.

Half the money was given to the Cartref Homes in Cardiff with the proviso that two former pupils or ex-members of staff would have priority entry to one of the homes each year. The remaining money was invested and the resulting income is administered by a sub-group of the Hywelian Guild Committee, chaired by Mrs Davis.

The income is available to help any former pupil or ex-member of staff who may be in financial difficulty, whether or not a member of the Guild. The names of those assisted remain confidential within the sub-Committee.

Hywelians wishing to apply should address their letter to Mrs Sally Davis.

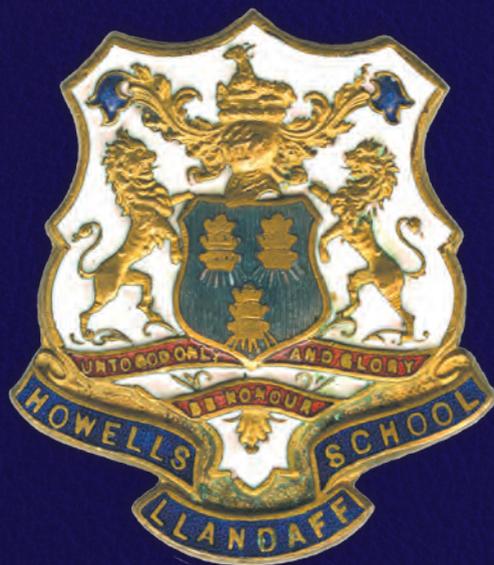


Hywelian Guild 2017



Hywelian Guild Magazine

— 2017 —



Appendix

In Memoriam

This Appendix contains fuller versions of some of the news and obituaries which appear in the main Magazine in abridged form. We have included them here for those who wish to read the full versions.

Lyn Owen, Editor

Elizabeth Caney (née Davies, HSL 1950-57)

The following tribute is an edited version of the eulogy read at Elizabeth's funeral service by her husband, Stephen.

Elizabeth, for so she always was known to her sisters, Sue and Kath, and to me, had a very happy family life mainly in Llandaff but also on the family farm in Carmarthenshire. She was very proud to be Welsh and always wore her daffodil every St David's Day. She was educated at Howell's School, Llandaff and then at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth where she read Pure and Applied Mathematics. She was awarded the Sir Garrod Thomas Scholarship to proceed to post graduate study in Statistics. At University and thereafter she was Liz to all her many friends. We met at University in October 1958: my first term but Elizabeth's second year, and we have been together ever since.

In 1961, after University, Elizabeth moved to London and worked for

British Insulated Callender's Cables, now called Balfour Beatty, in their Research department. By chance, I was posted to Chelsea Barracks in London so we both lived in London for two years. We were married in April 1963 at Llandaff Cathedral, the ceremony being conducted by Robert, my brother, assisted by the Bishop of Llandaff, a family friend. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in 2013, in the gardens of Magdalen College, Oxford.

After our two years in London I was posted to Malaya for four years, first with the Gurkhas and then the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. Simon was



born in 1966 in the British Military Hospital in Penang, now Penang University. It was from this posting until the day I left the Army that Elizabeth sacrificed her more promising career to follow me round the world.

After Malaya we moved to Shorncliffe, near Folkestone where Sarah was born in 1970. Thereafter our life together took us to Plymouth, Germany, and then back to the Army Staff College, Camberley.

There followed a difficult two years for Elizabeth when, at the end of the Staff College course, I was posted unaccompanied to Northern Ireland. During this time she saw Simon into boarding school for the first time but, luckily, had Sarah at home and Elizabeth's sisters and my parents not too far away. It was for both of us a lonely time, made up with my infrequent trips home, daily phone calls and so many letters, which I discovered the other day that she had kept.

Then, thankfully, in 1976 we were back on the roller coaster of moves together. We had short stays in Germany and Catterick before going out to Hong Kong. How Elizabeth loved Hong Kong! The shops, the clothes, the shoes, the jewellery, and the bright lights: city girl that she was, she revelled in her time there and Simon and Sarah's holidays were something special.

We returned to Tidworth in Hampshire in 1978 and there followed the inevitable four month tour in Belfast. We then moved to Catterick, thankfully for a short stay, where I took command of the 3rd Battalion the Light Infantry and moved with them to Cyprus for just under two years.

The role and importance of Officers' wives in the Army were always underrated and need to be appreciated more. When the soldiers went away, be it three weeks' training in the jungle or to Australia or to Mauritius, as happened while we were in Malaya, or the frequent tours of duty in Northern Ireland, it was the responsibility of the Officers' wives to look after all the wives and families left behind. Not an easy task but often surprisingly rewarding and amusing. When Elizabeth was the Commanding Officer's wife she was badgered to arrange a night's entertainment with the famous male strippers called the Chippendales. Elizabeth very quietly agreed that it was certainly worth considering, but perhaps at a later date. It never happened.

After leaving the Army, and out of the blue, I received an invitation from Simon Langdale, the Headmaster, to fill a post at Shrewsbury School. This was in June 1983. The rest is, perhaps, the most wonderful period up to the

present time. Elizabeth, after spells teaching part-time at Shrewsbury Girls' High School, the Sixth Form College and the College of Art and Technology, was offered a post in the Mathematics Department at Shrewsbury School. We had moved in 1983 to Atcham and the quality of life was something we had not experienced before. A settled home and Elizabeth fully back in to a career which she loved. Not only that but a routine started for Elizabeth; first, it was swimming at 6.30 in the morning with three colleagues at the school which, on retirement, continued with gym, swimming, Pilates, spinning every morning at Bannatynes and gaining another group of very close friends.

Elizabeth, now in full-time teaching at Shrewsbury, became a House Tutor and had a number of boys to whom she was a personal Tutor. They all loved her and, more importantly, she loved them and was interested in them, their interests, and their families: everything about them. Later I became Second Master. This meant that in term time we moved into the Second Master's house in Kennedy Road, Kingsland. Elizabeth had always been a wonderful home entertainer throughout our time in the Army and at Shrewsbury School. It was a tacit arrangement that the Headmaster would entertain the great and the good outside the School and that we would entertain the Staff and

the School Prefects. She also loved entertaining our tutees. Elizabeth loved all this and so did all who came to our houses as is evident in over 250 letters received after her passing. It was a most wonderful period in our lives and we always hugely acknowledged our good fortune.

But the greatest loves of her life were her children, Simon and Sarah. She nurtured them from babyhood, through school to University. She was, in her distinctive quiet way, so proud of their achievements; proud that both achieved good degrees, and Doctorates. She was quietly proud, too, when Simon became a Fellow and Tutor at Magdalen College, Oxford and Sarah a Lecturer at Bristol University Veterinary School, with her subsequent career in the same field in Edinburgh. Elizabeth and I were both thrilled when Simon was married (by my brother, Robert) to his College friend, Joanna, in their College, Merton. We were equally thrilled when Sarah married Brendan here in Elizabeth's favourite church in Atcham. Her children, her wider family and her grandchildren were all at the centre of her love.

And Granny! What a wonderful Granny to Eleanor, Isabel, Isaac, Sophie, Lucy and Catherine. Her love shone through as she took part in their interests, in attending their musical performances in the Symphony Hall, Birmingham, in

taking the girls to school each morning in Edinburgh, then picking them up after school to have forbidden hot chocolate and cakes in the lovely French café opposite the school. Thank heaven for modern photography that we can relive these moments time and again.

She had other interests: singing in a Shrewsbury choir; appointed by the Lord-Lieutenant to be on the Magistrates Selection Panel (which she did for nine years); Chair of the Mytton Oak Surgery Good Neighbours, which arranged transport for those in need to and from the surgery; Treasurer of the Forum on Homelessness under Bishop Ronnie Bowlby and, of course, most of all, continuing to teach at home in the kitchen and in the School Houses. She taught, individually, both girls and boys from Shrewsbury, Rugby, Harrow, Stowe, Repton, Moreton Hall,

Uppingham and many other schools, and her excitement when results came out was excitement for those boys and girls, not for herself.

Elizabeth was intelligent, interesting, interested, caring, elegant (the shoes, the handbags, the sunglasses on her head as a hairband whether daytime or midnight!), and never said anything unkind about anyone.

She loved life. She particularly loved Fridays as the routine was always the same. There would be a bottle of champagne in the fridge and at half past six in the evening, we would open it and drink a couple of glasses to remember the good life that we had been so lucky to enjoy together. *Every* Friday! What a wonderful life she had. And what a wonderful life she gave us. All of us.

Janet Webster (née Morgan)

The following edited version of Janet's obituary was published in the Vancouver Sun and The Province around Oct. 9, 2016.



Janet died peacefully in Gibsons, BC, on September 30, 2016, just as dawn was breaking on her 79th birthday. She had been ill with cancer for many

years, but, true to her nature, she died as she lived: on her terms. She was at home among her beloved family, and waited until she'd had a last sip of birthday champagne.

Born in Cardiff, Wales on September 30, 1937, Janet graduated from the University of Wales in 1958 with a degree in Classics; she would later return to her *alma mater* to complete a second degree in Education. She married her first husband, Norman

Webster, in 1959, and in 1962 the two of them migrated to Canada. Janet taught in a variety of schools throughout Ontario then took time to devote herself to the upbringing of her three children.

When her first marriage ended, Janet returned to the classroom, and in 1983, she was eventually hired as a librarian and Latin teacher at St. George's School, Vancouver. It was there she would meet her second husband, Robert Bacon, the love of her life, and together they entered what was a period of mutual renaissance.

Janet was a passionate educator, an inquisitive scholar, a bibliophile, and a lover of music, politics and travel. But, above all else, it was her love of people that most distinguished her. This was

expressed through her genuine interest in her students, the loyalty of her friendship, and the magnanimity and love which she showered on her family. Through it all, she bore a remarkable grace and selflessness, and she was an irreplaceable gift in the many lives she touched.

Janet was predeceased by her mother and father, Ann and Islwyn Morgan; brother, Richard; and husband, Robert Bacon. She is survived by her children, Siân (Buz), Sarah, and Chris (Stella) and grandchildren, by her stepdaughters and their spouses and children, and other members of her family.

A memorial fund will be established in Janet's name at St George's School.

*Omnia vincit amor,
et nos cedamus amori.*

Louise (Lulu) Stone (née Goldstein/ Gould)

The following edited text comes from the eulogy read at Lulu's funeral, prepared by her son, Brian.

Lulu was born in 1913, the second child of Benjamin and Zelda Goldstein (later Gould). At an early age her formidable intellectual strength showed itself as she won a scholarship to the distinguished Howell's School in Cardiff, from which she matriculated

at the early age of 16 with entry qualification to London and Cardiff Universities.

Under the circumstances of the time, however, she did not take her education further, and went to work for her father in the textile trade. She met her future husband Sydney, a Manchester man, in London: on that day he announced to her that one day he would marry her! This was the start of a lifelong devoted relationship, and they married in December 1938.

Their first son, Brian, was born in June 1940, and Sydney turned up in the maternity home with strawberries, starting a tradition in which there were strawberries every year on Brian's birthday. Sydney volunteered for the RAF in 1941, and Lulu and Brian moved to Porthcawl where she lived with an aunt, partly because Sydney was posted to a base in South Wales. Second son Andrew was born there in 1942, and Lulu coped with both sons throughout the war, towards the end of which Sydney served in Burma. She also trained and served as an ambulance driver.

After the war Lulu and Sydney settled in Cardiff, where Robert was born in 1947, and at last a daughter, Beverley, in 1949. Lulu's mind was always sharp, analytical and active; and she compensated for her curtailed education by taking a great interest in that of her children, for example becoming a familiar figure at Cardiff High School, marching towards the Headmaster's study to check on the progress of her offspring!

All of her children succeeded in their education, and pursued a variety of careers with considerable achievement. Lulu and Sydney produced sons who became a Senior Fellow at Manchester Metropolitan University, a Managing Director of Marks & Spencer who became a Peer of the

Realm (Lord Stone of Blackheath) and a distinguished expert in international development; and, though Mum was denied her own education as a woman, she was proud that her daughter became a highly qualified international business psychologist and author. Their children have also enjoyed senior and professional careers, carrying on the tradition.

Lulu devoted much of her time to charitable activities. In 1995, her beloved husband Sydney passed away: and thus, later life, Lulu became active in, and secretary of, the Alzheimer's Society in Lewisham. It was during this time, in her 80s, that Lulu took an interest in her computer, to the extent that she took and passed a course in computing, learned how to use Microsoft Word and spreadsheets and databases, and used this knowledge to revolutionise the IT of her Alzheimer's Society! She also wrote her memoirs on her word processing package, and they were published to everyone's delight in 2009.

Lulu moved to Walton-on-Thames, near to her beloved daughter Beverley, who combined her career as a management consultant with being Lulu's companion in her old age. She had a happy time in her lovely flat there, and enjoyed attending the Weybridge synagogue and the activities of JACS (Jewish Arts and

Culture Society). Towards her 100th birthday she was no longer able to cope independently: her flat was sold, and she moved to Nightingale House where the staff looked after her very well indeed.

Lulu leaves four children, ten grandchildren, and ten great-

grandchildren. Her lively intelligence and sharp analytical mind, as well as her cheerful and positive disposition, will be deeply missed. She made a genuine contribution to the world and to the lives of all connected with her, and we regret her passing, but with very many lively and happy memories.

Mrs T M Evans (née Edwards)

The following is the full text of an obituary written by Janet Sully, School Archivist.

Mrs Mefus Evans, known affectionately to many of her pupils as “Teddy”, died on 15th September 2016, aged 95.



She was brought up in Cardiff and lived there for almost her whole life. Mrs Evans, or Miss Edwards as she was before marriage, went to university in Cardiff to read Chemistry with Mathematics and Physics. She had won a place at Cambridge, but with the impending Second World War, her mother decided that as Cambridge was closer than Cardiff to Germany and so likely to suffer more from bombing, she should not go – and in those days, mothers had their way!

Leaving university in 1942, the young

Miss Edwards and a fellow student were recommended by their professor to the Ministry of Defence. She went first to Tilbury and then to Plymouth, living at nearby Cawsand. She was the only female in a team “degaussing” naval ships in the harbour, and had fond memories of climbing rope ladders to the decks. Degaussing protected allied ships from magnetic mines and torpedoes; previously, when the ships used to come near a magnetic mine or torpedo, the magnetic field of the ship activated the firing mechanism and caused the mine or torpedo to explode. Degaussing meant ensuring that ships sailed with a zero magnetic field. To achieve this, currents were passed through arrangements of coils in the ship to create a magnetic field equal but opposite to its natural magnetic field. The young Miss Edwards had to observe the testing of the final resultant field and tell the first mate whether the ship could sail or not.



One day an important ship failed the degaussing process. On hearing this news from the first mate, the captain was heard to say, "Are you telling me that that young Miss Edwards is telling ME that I can't sail?" He ordered a radio link to be made to an MOD base at Helensburgh in Scotland and was told, "If Miss Edwards has told you not to sail, you cannot sail!" Some of the MOD staff working with the two Cardiff graduates resented the fact that they were exempt from the regular testing. On hearing this, Mrs Evans offered to sit the next test with them and her very high score ensured that the subject was never raised again! On reflection, it is remarkable that a young graduate, and

a diminutive female in a man's world at that, held such an important post at that time.

Mrs Evans left the MOD at the end of the war, returned to Cardiff and was offered a post teaching at Canton High School, which she filled for three years. In 1949 she was invited to tea by Miss Lewis and was subsequently offered a full-time post teaching Physics at Howell's. Under her guidance, Physics was introduced as an A Level subject and came to have equal status to Chemistry and Biology. Mrs Evans oversaw the development of a laboratory for Physics in the room known to many as the "Ship" before the building of a purpose-built laboratory for O Level in 1958 and, finally, two new laboratories in 1974. She also introduced the Nuffield Physics course. Mrs Evans headed the Science teaching staff for many years until her retirement in 1984. Amongst other school activities, she managed the School Fund, keeping the accounts meticulously, and she was in charge of the school shop, paying frequent visits to the "Cash and Carry" store to make purchases.

The warmth of the community of the Welsh Independent Chapel was always very important to Mrs Evans, and it was there that she met her husband Eirwyn. The school today benefits from two prizes endowed in their names:

the Eirwyn Evans prize for Welsh and the T M Evans prize for Physics.

In her retirement, Mrs Evans travelled a great deal and became instrumental in two charities. She was on the board of the Young Women's Housing Association for six years, when the charity was providing shelter for abused women in South Wales. She also joined the committee of Cartref Care Homes as Treasurer in 1984, this being a charity for the elderly at Lake Road East and, later, at Station Road. She served as Chairman from 1994, only finishing at the age of 90 in 2011.

She spent the last three years of her life in Cartref's care.

Mrs Evans continued to be very active into her 90s and it was only at 92 that she gave up driving, to the relief of other road users! Her friends rallied around in an extraordinary way, and her great joy was to continue to go out to lunch several times a week. A tremendous character, she will be missed by many.

*Janet Sully
(with thanks for contributions
from Margaret Jones, and
David and Mark Hemmings)*

News

Angela Fish (née Kear)

Angela outlines another successful year as a children's author.

[I've had] another exciting and very busy year, working with schools across the UK and attending Book Fairs and school fetes. My second book for children, *Ben and the Spider Prince*, came out in the Spring and book three, *Ben and the Spider Lake*, was released at the end of September. It was lovely to see that *Ben and the Spider Prince* was recommended in the Western Mail Weekend supplement (6 August 2016) as one of the ten books by Welsh, or Wales-based authors to keep children entertained this summer. I hope it did!

Many thanks again to the young ladies of Year 3, Howell's Juniors, for pre-reading all three books. I've continued to visit with the girls and have enjoyed the time spent with them. I organised a competition for the girls to win a copy of Spider Prince and asked them to write me an anonymous letter telling me their thoughts about the book. I was delighted at their comments and at the maturity of some of the responses. The winning letter and extracts from the others were published at the front of book three, which is also dedicated to the girls. Thanks again to the staff at

Howell's for facilitating the event and for their ongoing support.

Below is the winning letter in Angela's 'Anonymous Letters' competition at HSL, for Year 3 (pre-readers)

Dear Mrs Fish,

I really enjoyed your mysterious book Ben and the Spider Prince. It was imaginative and interesting. One of my favourite characters was Spindra and it's because she was vicious and ugly on the inside. Your books are always exciting with lots of information about your characters. Ben and the Spider Prince has amazingly creative twists and turns with lots of astonishing scenes and pages.

Sometimes Ben and the Spider Prince really inspires me to create new characters in my own stories. I love how Gran has lots of secrets. I also understand how Ben feels when Jess plays with the new girl in school – it's very rare though. Some of your creatures are mythical but I don't care if they aren't real because they seem real to me.

Nobody in the book likes Spindra but I think deep down she's not a bad spider and that some spiders don't treat her right and that they think she's a bad spider. Thank you for visiting us a lot

and I can't wait to read your new book.

And these are extracts from the other letters received:

- I really enjoyed your thoughtful, imaginative story. I am really inspired by your stories.
- I think it is an inspirational book and could change our little minds for the better.
- I thought it was very adventurous, creative, imaginative, magical and exciting. When you write something magical I think I'm in the story.
- The story *Ben and the Spider Prince* was so extraordinary and amazing it made me want to be involved in the exciting tale. In my opinion you are the most fascinating author in the world! Your tale is so unique!
- It is my absolute favourite story

ever. It inspired me to write my own story... and hopefully I have learned a lot because I want to make mine as exciting as yours.

- I like books but not all books. *Ben and the Spider Prince* is one of the ones I like.
- Your next book will obviously be great like all of your other books.
- It really made me jump with excitement.
- *Ben and the Spider Prince* is one of the best books I have ever read. It made my heart smile because your books make me full of joy.
- I would love you to write even more and more fascinating imaginative stories.

For further information, see Angela's website: www.angela-fish.com

Keira Homes welcomes brides

ONE1 Bridal's vision is to ensure that every bride feels like the most amazing version of herself, not only on her wedding day but whilst choosing the most important gown she will ever own.

All appointments are exclusive so you enjoy the whole store to yourself, glass

of bubbles in hand whilst being cared for by their expert consultants.

ONE1 Bridal celebrates individuality with collections from Rosa Clara, Charlotte Balbier, and are the only stockists in Wales of the American glamour house Badgley Mischka and renowned British designer Caroline Castiglano.



Rachel Williams's special day

Rachel Williams (née Cornelius) writes, "It has been several years since I was an Hywelian. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there along with my two sisters, Jayne and Victoria Cornelius, and I do miss it. I find myself driving past the school on some occasions and I would love to pop in and have a look around. I bet it has changed loads. It has been around 13 years since my time in Howell's ended and I went off to University to complete a BA Hons in Hospitality Management.

After receiving a 1st Class honours degree, I landed an amazing job as Guest Relations Manager at the Hilton Cardiff and have been here ever since!

"In June this year I got married; it was a perfect day as I said goodbye to the beloved family name Cornelius (which has been amazing for the past 31 years) and hello to Mrs Williams – which I am still getting used to! We were lucky to honeymoon in the Maldives, which was a trip of a lifetime – pure paradise – and we look forward to long happy lives together."



Hywelian Guild 2017



Hannah Mills (left) on the podium before receiving her gold medal at the Rio Olympics (© Western Mail)