

Hywelian Guild

2015



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Cover photos from left, clockwise:

*Ann Cotton, GDST Alumna of the Year; Hywelians' Summer Lunch; Class of '84;
Cocktails at Christmas.*

HYWELIAN GUILD 2015

Well, here we are again at the end of another year, and as I have another new Magazine to make, I am sitting down with a coffee ready to start. This Hywelian Magazine is full of news of your adventures, achievements and families.

We start the process of garnering your offerings as soon as the last Magazine is done and dusted. At first it's a trickle; by the time we get to September and October, we are dealing with a (welcome) flood. Thank you all for taking the trouble to let us know what you have been up to. Without your contributions, the Magazine would be a great deal drier and very much thinner!

Of course with all the cheerful material, there is the inevitable task of reporting the passing of older Hywelians. In general, Hywelians seem to live long, active and rewarding lives, so

perhaps the sadness with which we record their passing should be leavened with gratitude for lives well-lived.

We were particularly thrilled that Ann Cotton (HSL 1960-67) was this year's GDST Alumna of the Year—an award very richly deserved. You can read Ann's story on page 18.

As in previous years, I have to thank profusely all those who make the task of putting this Magazine together possible by their encouragement, support and powers of persuasion. My thanks go to the Hywelian Guild Committee, particularly the Editorial Sub Committee, and to the Secretary and Membership Secretary for keeping me going when it all threatens to fall apart!

*Lyn Owen
Editor.*

AS WE NOTE ABOVE, Hywelians do seem to have found the secret to long and active lives. We are therefore delighted to tell the more senior members of the Guild among our readers that you will in future be sent your Magazine with

no postage cost to yourselves.

Those under 85 will have to wait a little longer for *that* privilege...

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Principal Sally Davis summarises another very successful year for the school.

THE 2013/14 ACADEMIC YEAR was another successful one for Howell's - fantastic results and many events and activities held in all sections of the school, from our three year olds in the Nursery to our 18 year olds in the co-educational College.

We continue to maintain and improve our facilities. In the summer, the swimming pool was partially refurbished, and the Art Department had a complete make-over. The Stone Hall has been transformed with new lighting, and redecorated using heritage colours. School photographs are now displayed chronologically in the Dining Room and we hope to refurbish the Great Hall next summer.

We are also planning a *Wall of Fame* for the Principal's corridor. The criteria for this are:

- *The award of an OBE or higher;*
- *A pioneer or record-breaker in a particular field;*

• *An Olympic medallist.*

If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Photographs of prominent former staff and people who have donated prizes are to be displayed in the corridor beyond the former Housemistress's sitting room.

I have listed our academic results below; I am delighted that we were 5th in the Trust for value-added at A level, and top, for the eighth year in a row, at GCSE. I am sure you will agree that the results are very Impressive.

At A level, the percentage of examinations achieved at A* was 23.2%, with 55% being at A* or A. 42 students achieved all A* or A, which is 36% of the cohort. Nine students achieved all A*, and the percentage of examinations achieved at A*-C was 96% and at A*-E was 99.7%.

At GCSE, 41% of all results were achieved at the highest A* grade, with 72% receiving A*-A grades.

In total 91% of all results were A*-B grades. 24 students received all A*-A grades in either 10 or 11 GCSE subjects.

In September, we held our Annual Prizegiving and I was delighted to welcome back Hywelian Michela Chiappa. Michela is currently Head of PR and Sponsorship for the Professional Sports Group, London, working closely with Tom Daley. She spent three years working as a Marketing Manager in Dubai, and a year working as Assistant to a Professional Support Lawyer in Milan. Michela has also published a cookery book, *Simply Italian*, which accompanied her

television series on Channel 4 and has a partnership with Jamie Oliver on Food Tube.

Michela gave a very interesting and entertaining speech and encouraged those leaving us from Year 13 to aim high, but also stay in touch with Howell's, as she has done.

As ever, I love meeting Hywelians; you are a fascinating and varied group of people and I always come away from a meeting with at least one story to share with the current students. I hope to see you at Howell's soon!

Sally

Bronwen Jacques Trust

Mrs Bronwen Jacques was a Hywelian and one of the earliest Secretaries of the Hywelian Guild. When she died in 1975, Mrs Jacques 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 create a Trust fund with the proceeds, which they asked the Hywelian Guild Committee to administer.

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 they are a member of the Guild, and the names of those assisted remain confidential within the sub-group. Hywelians wishing to apply should address their letter to Mrs Davis.

WHO'S WHO

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

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

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Since the Magazine went to print, we have learned of the death of Carol Evans (née Diamond), Secretary of the Southern Branch.

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.

DEAR HYWELIANS,

Once again the year has run away from me and it's magazine time again.

It has been a full year, not least because we are always so welcome at school, and there's always a lot going on there. One of the more exotic events was an evening of Mumbai Magic which we were expected to attend in suitable attire. This led to an interesting shopping experience and one of the most comfortable outfits I have ever worn!

The Bridgend Branch held its delayed 60th birthday lunch at school complete with a beautifully decorated cake courtesy of one of the catering staff who also did us proud – as ever – at our Summer Lunch, attended by more than 70 Hywelians.

We are so fortunate that Mrs Davis is keen that present-day pupils are aware of the school's history, and this has culminated in an annual event in July known as Founders' Friday Assembly, which the whole school, from the tiny tots to the sixth form college, attends. Hywelians are particularly welcomed and celebrated on this occasion.

We have achieved three 'firsts' this year. We reported last year that Kay Powell was the first Hywelian to be appointed as Chairman of the Governors, and this year she took

up her post. We wish her every success. We have our first Hywelian-related Head Boy: Josh Frost is the grandson of Hywelian Maureen Frost (Gane) of the Bridgend Branch. In addition to his

“...we are always so welcome at School.”

formal duties as Head Boy, Josh recently showed his prowess at acting and singing, making a great

Lysander and doing a good take on Michael Buble in the splendid twenties version of A Midsummer Night's Dream!

The other first, and the highlight of the year, about which you can read more elsewhere in the magazine, was Ann Cotton's success in the GDST Alumna of the Year competition, from a strong field of short-listed entrants. Ann's achievements in the field of education for African girls are remarkable and we should be very proud that she is a Hywelian.

My grateful thanks to Sally Davis for all her support, to Vanessa Yilmaz and Hannah Roberts for all their help, to my Committee, without whom I couldn't function, to Lyn Owen for editing the magazine, and to all the Hywelians who have sent us contributions. Please keep them coming!

Sue Rayner
Secretary

BRANCH REPORTS

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

SCOTTISH BRANCH

The Scottish Branch held its annual lunch on 18th July 2014 at the usual venue, the Parklands Hotel in Perth. It was a glorious sunny day so we met for drinks in the garden, before heading indoors for lunch. Six members were present: Barbara Trengrove (née Harvey); Jean Cox (née Nelson); Mave Ersu (née Jackson); Caroline McLean; Alicia Gregg-Phillips (née Gregg), and Jean Coleman (née McGregor). We were also delighted to welcome two Hywelians from south of the border, Elan Preston-Whyte (née Jones) and Jacqui Holder (née Moore), who had travelled up from Oxford and London just to join us. Elan and Jacqui were at Howell's with Mave, Barbara and Jean Coleman, so they all had a great time catching up with one another's news and of course the rest of us enjoyed meeting them too.



Scottish Branch Lunch

L-R: Barbara; Jacqui; Jean Cox; Mave, Caroline, Alicia, Elan, Jean Coleman

WEST WALES BRANCH

It's always good to report when 'new' faces attend our reunions, so we were delighted to welcome Patsy Clark to our Spring meeting, hosted by Marianne Rees (née Phillips) in Loughor, then Dorothy Webb joined us at our Autumn meeting, hosted by Ena Davies (née Evans) at her Burry Port home. Both gatherings followed the usual agenda - good company, good food, much laughter and



West Wales Branch members

reminiscing!

If you'd like to come along to sample our next get-together, please note May 16 2015 in your diary. We've agreed to meet in Swansea at Hazel James' (nee Jones) home.

Catherine Coulson

LONDON BRANCH

We have had two meetings of the London Branch of the Hywelian Guild. Firstly a tea at Drapers' Hall on 1st

May and then a lunch in London on 8th November. Sally Davis and Vanessa Yilmaz attended both and gave us lively updates on the excellent state in which the school is these days. Our next meeting will be on 25th April 2015 at the Drapers' Hall when all are welcome to join us for tea.

Diana Paul

SOUTHERN BRANCH

We only managed one meeting this year and this was arranged for May. We had to cancel our September meeting as, due to illness, I was not able to arrange and attend the meeting.

Next year we have arranged to meet twice for lunch at the Lyndhurst Park Hotel on 14th May 2015 and 24th September 2015. Our membership is now reduced to only seven and as Mary Lloyd (Winn) from Swanage has no transport she is unable to join us. In addition, Elizabeth Frewin (Vaughan) has now moved to Manchester.

We would certainly welcome new members. My contact phone number is 02380 490404 and my address 11, Pine Drive, Thornhill Park, Southampton, SO18 5RQ.

Carol Evans (Diamond)

THAMES VALLEY AND CHILTERN BRANCH

The original branch, with its affiliation to the Guild, covered the adjoining counties of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. It was

dissolved some seven years ago, but a group continues to meet informally. At the suggestion of Ann Lawrence (Secretary to the original branch), Elan Preston-Whyte has sent this report of their doings:

"I became the self-appointed secretary of the group which now numbers 15 Hywelians in all. This year seven of us met in May, just after the wettest Spring on record, at The Crown in Playhatch, near Caversham, Over a very enjoyable lunch everything from the state of ourselves, our families and that of the world came under discussion. The greatest difficulty we find in meeting up is finding a venue which is convenient for everyone and, inevitably, there are some who are either away or decide it is too far to travel. Those who made the journey this year were: Elan Preston-Whyte (Jones, 1955); Ann Lawrence (Pride, 1957); Margaret Dart (Carston, 1964); Freda Cook (Parry, 1955); Joy Alcock (Meazey, 1969); Jane Howard Griffiths (Howard, 1970), and Elizabeth Ainsworth (Williams, 1954). "In July, I travelled up to Perth with Jacqui Holder (Moore, 1953) to meet Hywelians in Scotland at their lunch meeting. This advent from two Hywelians from south of the Border will no doubt be reported by their group secretary, Caroline McLean."

Elan Preston-Whyte

SIXTY YEARS YOUNG!

The Bridgend Branch celebrated 60 years of existence at a lunch held in School during the year.

As the photographs below show, there was an excellent turnout and it's obvious that a good time was enjoyed by all present.



L-R. Chris Nicholas, Sheila Hughes, Mary Lloyd, Liz Fryer, Sally Davis, Megan Taylor



Muriel Jeremy, Heather Robertson, Josh Frost (head boy) Barbara Forte, Judith Williams



Enfys Brown, Peggy Lewis, Margaret McCormack, Jose Rawlins



Maureen Frost, Vanessa Yilmaz, relative of Joyce Care, Joyce Care



Lyn Jones, Mary Edge, Barbara Forte



Janet Hussell, Bethan Evans, Kay Powell, Joyce Shields, Sue Rayner

WHAT ARE THEY UP TO NOW?

As always, our Hywelians manage to get up to some fascinating exploits, and make their mark on the world!

YASMIN FORD (née Delpak, 1981-1988) says: 'I went to Bath School of Physiotherapy after Howell's, then started working on the South Coast for a few years.

'In those days (early 90s), it was easy to move in and out of work in the NHS, so I went travelling to China and taught English (Mrs. Maylin would collapse in shock!) for a year, then volunteered at the Bahai Temple in New Delhi for a few months before returning to real life. I enjoyed every minute of my adventures and doubtless HSL gave me the confidence not to think twice about having a go.

'I'm happily married with a little one aged 5 (started a bit late ...!) It's hard juggling work, motherhood, husband and health but there's always someone who has it harder. I love October and make a point of going to Llandaff fields often to scrunch about and feel nostalgic.'

SARAH JONES left HSL in 1991. She tells us that she obtained a Ph.D. in Epidemiology from Cardiff University in 2005, and is now a Consultant with Public Health Wales.

Her daughter, Megan, was born in 2014.

Sarah adds: "As a bit of an aside, I am campaigning for the introduction of Graduated Driver Licensing in the UK. This legislation would help to

keep young people, and those who share the roads with them, safer while driving. If anyone has any interest in the issue, or contacts that may be useful, I would appreciate any support."

CATHERINE FOSTER says she has had quite a busy year! 'In July I took part in a singing tour of the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary and Slovakia in what must have been the hottest summer ever! Singers from all over Canada gathered in Prague during the first week of July. We rehearsed for three hours after breakfast each morning, explored the city, and then travelled through the Czech Republic to Salzburg where we sang a Haydn Mass as part of the evening Mass at the church attached to the Franciscan Monastery in the heart of old Salzburg. From there we travelled to Vienna, where we also participated in an evening Mass at St. Peter's - Baroque architecture, with great acoustics, such a gift to be able to sing in such wonderful surroundings. We also attended a performance of Orff's *Carmina Burana* in the courtyard of a monastery in Klosterneuburg that was celebrating its 900th anniversary. Four full choirs and two full orchestras combined to give an outstanding concert. In the heat of Budapest I sailed down the Danube

to an adjacent island for a little respite from the heat of the city.

'My sister Janet (Torriani) who lives in Switzerland, visited me here in Victoria for two weeks in August, during a record-breaking summer that everyone on the West Coast thoroughly enjoyed. Janet was also at Howell's. (we overlapped for a year or two) and will be 89 in January! The family celebrated the birth of my 8th granddaughter in September- a little premature miracle who is now thriving thanks to the neo-natal team at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto. I have yet to meet her, but thanks to modern technology, I receive photographs of her progress via my iPad!

'I am still singing. My choir will be performing Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols' as part of their upcoming Christmas concert - a work I know and love so well!

'I have just celebrated my 84th birthday with my Victoria family, and I still sally forth for good walks, though mountain hikes are no longer on my agenda!

'I wonder whether anyone has news of June Derrick (Ridge) or Valerie Tucker (Combes)? We have kept in touch over the years, but just recently our contact has dropped off.

ADRIENNE CROCKETT left HSL in 1979. She is still at the South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust as Consultant in the Crisis Service. Adrienne is thinking about plans to move back to Cardiff in retirement. Although it is not imminent, both her children are based in South Wales now, so coming home seems to make sense.

JANET KINGDON was at Howell's from 1969-1976. She tells us, 'After graduating from Oxford, I stayed to do my PGCE and then taught maths for six years in a school in the city. I then moved to a girls' boarding school in Wantage, just south of Oxford, for the next 21 years, where I was Assistant Head. Whenever HSL came to play lacrosse against us, I was never sure who I should support!

'In 2007, the school went the way of many small boarding schools and it closed, so I went back to my teaching roots and now teach maths at a very large comprehensive (2,300 students) in Thame, just east of Oxford. I am aiming to retire in 2017.

'In June, I went to the summer Hywelian meeting, having not been back since 1979. I can recommend it! I reconnected with lots of people who were at HSL in and around my time, especially Angela Goodwin (nèe Wakeham) and am looking forward to next year! It would be great to see more people of my era there.'

JAYNE SAMUEL-WALKER left in 1975.

She and her partner Caroline Taylor entered their Civil Partnership on 21 December 2005, having met in 1990. They converted to a marriage on 10 December 2014. There have been a few big trips: the Arctic (twice); Madagascar and South Africa; the Amazon; Ecuador and the Galapagos, and the Antarctic. 'Retirement to follow—life is good,' says Jayne.

RACHEL BREEZE says, 'I was Rachel Breeze, divorced and remarried, so becoming a Chicken in June this year. I've had a very eclectic career

including chef in the army, leading eventually into community development. I'm now the Cluster Manager for Communities First (a Welsh Government anti-poverty programme) in Tredegar. I have two children aged 16 and 17 and two step-children aged 22 and 11.'

LIANE SAUNDERS left HSL in 1987 and gives us a brief update on herself: 'I'm currently on loan to the Cabinet Office from the Foreign Office. I'm working as the Foreign Policy Director on the national security secretariat. My team prepares the National Security Council on foreign policy issues, and is responsible for implementing decisions that the Council takes. I've been here since 2012 and return to the Foreign Office next Summer.

'It's been very busy as you can imagine and I don't manage to keep up with any school friends though I'd love to hear from them. I did manage to catch up with my sister Julie Lucas and her family this summer when they were down from Scotland where they live. It was great hearing from my niece who performed in the closing ceremony of the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

'It's a big year this year as my daughter will be taking her GCSEs next summer. I can't believe it as it seems like only yesterday that I took my own O-levels at Howells!'

Joyce Shields adds that Liane was awarded an OBE in 2004, aged 35!

HELEN DACEY left School in 1971, and is now living in Abergavenny. She works as a Cognitive Behaviour Therapist in both Abergavenny and Cardiff. She recently reconnected

with girls from Oaklands after many years-and says, 'We haven't changed a bit!'

RHIANNON ALLEN (née Williams) says, 'On 9 August, a group of us met up in Cardiff for a mini-reunion: we were the 1979-1986 cohort and some of us had not seen one another since 1986! Those present were: Rhiannon Allen (Williams); Penny Gillies (Leeson); Joanne Fowler; Joanne Potter (Foyle); Louise Plummer (Owen); Sarah Scott (Broughton); Jane Petterson; Sarah McIlroy, and Carrie Hindmarsh.

'We had an excellent evening - dinner, nightclub and casino! They trained us well at HSL!

'We are planning to hold a reunion in July 2015 in Cardiff for our year group so we are in the process of trying to trace everyone. If there is anyone of our cohort who is a Hywelian then perhaps they could contact me *via* the Hywelian magazine or Facebook. So far we are in contact with about 35 of our group.'

SHABNA HARRIDGE (née Rajapaksa) reports, 'I'm one of the class of 1985 - the first intake when the Junior School was created. I stayed on to complete my secondary education at Howells, completing A levels in 1996.

'I emigrated to Australia at the end of 2012. I work in Ballarat, Victoria as a Consultant Paediatrician and Lecturer at Melbourne and Deakin University.'

HELEN GRAHAM notes that School has just obtained a wedding licence, and that the first ceremony took place in December. Helen goes on to say, 'It

was registered by a Hywelian registrarme!'

EDWARD PEARCE wondered if his recent exploits were worthy of the Hywelian News! He writes, 'This September I was awarded the Queens Commissioner and became an Officer in the British Army Reserve. I achieved this having completed the four modules required over the past year and I am now a 2nd Lieutenant. In the photos are of my Mother (an Hywelian, Sarah Sheppard, who left HSL in 1976), my father and my brother.



ANNIE FELLOWS (née Anne Haley) was at Howell's from 1966-70. She writes:

'After 21 years in Kent we have just moved to Wiltshire to be nearer family and to get away from the M25! My husband and I are now both retired and enjoying the freedom to travel and visit family in South Africa, and to have time to pursue other interests after a lifetime of hard work.

'My sister Sue Haley (HSL 1966-72) is about to move to Nairobi working for the Gatsby Foundation, which is the charitable arm of the Sainsbury Group, and she is involved in economic development in Africa. In recent years she has spent much time in the USA but is glad to be returning to Africa.

'I'm also in contact with Jane Binstead (HSL 1964-71), who is living in Norfolk with her husband John and travelling extensively and exotically now that they have both retired!

STILL GOING STRONG

Readers may recall that we featured Gabriel Williams in the 2013 Magazine.

Gabriel's daughter, Jane Barrett, wrote, asking for a copy of the article referred to. Our intrepid Membership Secretary found it and sent it on. Jane reports that her mother is now physically a bit

frail, but mentally very bright. She is still living in her own home (with a little help) at the grand age of 102! (*How do these Hywelians do it? - Ed*)

BITS AND PIECES

CLASS OF 1985

WE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED the Cocktails at Christmas evening in the Great Hall on Monday 15th December. It got us thinking that it is 30 years since we left

Howell's. To commemorate this anniversary we thought it would be a good idea to have a reunion in school in the autumn of this year.

If you are from the class of 1985 and would like to be sent information on

the reunion please email School at the address below:

Hywelians@how.gdst.net

Even if you aren't from this class, but know of anyone who is, we would be very grateful if you could pass on the information.

Saskia Russell (née Blair) and Lisa Ford (Liz Ford)

WERE YOU A LEAVER in 1993, 1996 or 2007?

We have a spare Yearbook for each of these years, and would be happy to give them to a leaver from that year who doesn't have one. Please contact Mrs Janet Sully whose school e-mail address is:

j.sully@how.gdst.net

Readers who have enjoyed Janet Sully's *News from the Archives* in the Magazine will be pleased to hear that the Hywelian Guild has co-opted Janet as a member of the Committee.

Janet's knowledge of the School's history and her links with Hywelians contributes a great deal to the Committee's work, and we know that she will be a great asset.

REMINDER!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE a hard copy of next year's Magazine, please remember to send a stamped addressed C5-sized envelope to Joyce Shields, the Guild's Membership

Secretary, by the end of September 2015.

DID YOU KNOW that once your joining fee is paid, your membership of the Hywelian Guild is deemed to be Life Membership? Some members have been wondering why we no longer ask for renewals - this is the reason.

We do, of course, welcome any donations you may care to make!

Guild Secretary Sue Rayner says that she still has a number of Hywelian Guild Badges for sale at £20.00 each (including postage and packing). If you would like to buy one, please email Sue on:

suerayner43@gmail.com



The Maggie Howells Physics Prize

Hywelians Beth Coll and Sian Kellow have generously donated a new GCSE prize, The Maggie Howells Physics Prize, in memory of their dear friend, Maggie Howell who was also a Hywelian.

Maggie was born on 27th November 1956. She lived most of her childhood in Rhiwbina and went to the local Junior School. In 1968 she was awarded a LEA scholarship to Howell's which was a direct grant to the school. During her time at Howell's Maggie was selected to be filmed making shortbread by the BBC as she could be guaranteed to be tidy and well behaved and have a clean white

overall! Maggie went on to study Physics at Birmingham University followed by a B Ed in London.

She then went into teaching and taught Physics, both at St Julian's High School in Newport and several local secondary schools in Newport and Caldicot. Teaching was a good choice for Maggie as she had patience and tolerance and could relate well to teenagers.

Maggie sadly died of a brain tumour on 6 March 2011. We were delighted that Beth and Sian joined us for the Prize-giving ceremony in the autumn term, when the prize was awarded to Holly Cruickshank.

WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!

Ann Cotton OBE was this year's GDST Alumna of the Year—Janet Sully gives an account of just why Ann won the award, and why Howell's can be justly proud of another Hywelian achievement.

THERE WAS NO DOUBT about it this year: Ann Cotton (née Evans), who was at Howell's from 1960 to 1967, was definitely going to be the school's nominee for the GDST's Alumna of the Year

competition! As soon as I realised what Ann had achieved during her career, I knew that we had an outstanding candidate.

I first met Ann on 12th March 2013, when she came to Howell's from her home in Cambridge with her daughter Helen, a documentary film-maker, to have a tour of the school; it was her first visit since she had left in 1967! It was a pleasure to show them around and I was fascinated to hear Ann's story of how she had come to set up her charity, Camfed (Campaign for the Education of Girls). We were very pleased that, despite her very busy schedule, she found time to return to school on 4th March 2014 when, among other things, she spoke to Year 9 geography classes. Ann is extremely unassuming and down-to-earth, and it was only through looking on the internet that I discovered the full extent of her achievements. In her early career, she established and led an education centre for girls excluded from mainstream education in London and was an advocate for children

entering the care of the state. At Boston University (USA), she studied the multicultural education system of Massachusetts before returning to the UK to study Human Rights and Educa-

“...gender inequality in education was caused by families' poverty...”

tion at the London Institute of Education. She was inspired by a research trip to Zimbabwe to do something about the many girls not attending school,

having concluded that gender inequality in education was caused by families' poverty and not, as most assumed, by cultural factors. She started her Campaign for Female Education in 1993 by raising money through cake sales to pay 32 girls' fees. Within nine years, over 300,000 children had been helped by Camfed's education programme. Now almost two million children, primarily girls, have benefited from it, across a network of 3,667 schools in Ghana, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Under Ann's leadership, in 1998 the Camfed Association, Cama, was set up for those who had benefited from Camfed. This offers post-secondary school training opportunities and enables young women to become role models, reinvesting the benefits of their education into their families and communities. Thousands have received

business training and start-up grants to establish their own rural enterprises; others have become doctors, lawyers and teachers. Therefore the educational and economic benefits are truly long-term, helping to reduce poverty and diseases such as AIDS and empower-

ing African women to improve their lives. In 2003, Camfed was voted UK International Development Charity of the Year, and Ann herself has received many awards.

In 2004, she was named Ernst & Young's Social Entrepreneur of the Year for the UK. In 2006, Ann received an OBE in honour of her services to girls' education in Africa. In 2007 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Law from the University of Cambridge. She has also received both a Skoll Foundation and Schwab Foundation Award for Social Entrepreneurship. Ann is Social Entrepreneur in Residence at the Judge Business School of Cambridge University and an honorary fellow of Homerton College. Most recently, in November 2014 Ann was awarded the 2014 WISE (World Innovation Summit for Education) Prize for Education Laureate at a ceremony in Qatar.

Condensing all this into 2,000 characters, as required on the GDST nomination form for the Alumna of the

Year, was a challenge! Then came the publication of the short list and the GDST's encouragement to vote for the candidate of our choice. The winner was announced at the GDST's Annual Reception in London on 11th June and



Ann Cotton with Principal Sally Davis

we were thrilled that it was Ann! The Chairman, Lorna Cocking, presented her with a trophy and cheque for a £500 donation to Camfed. Ann, who attended the ceremony with her daughter and Susan Thomas (née Wilson), her best friend from school, gave a most entertaining and interesting speech about her schooldays and her charity.

Needless to say, we are very proud of Ann and are greatly looking forward to her visit as our guest speaker at Prizegiving in 2015. If you can suggest another Hywelian of similar calibre to nominate for next year's award, please do let us know!.

100 YEARS AGO

BRITAIN ENTERED the First World War on 4th August 1914. The Hywelian New Year's Letter (as it was called) was produced in January 1915. Here are a few extracts from articles in that magazine.

From the school:

“The war has, of course, made a difference in many ways. The war news is read aloud two evenings a week and sometimes at dinner or tea, and there are plenty of war maps on the school room walls. Most of the girls are working very hard knitting for the soldiers. We made six shirts for the Cardiff Red Cross Society, but now we are devoting ourselves to knitting, the elder girls making socks and body belts, the younger ones scarves and cuffs. We have just sent a box of socks etc., for the mine sweepers in the North Sea. Amongst other subscriptions we have been especially interested in the *Daily Telegraph* Shilling Fund for the relief of the Belgians. There is one little Belgian day-scholar in the First Form”

Gwladys Randall

From Darien Red Cross Hospital in Holyhead:

“Often, reading letters in the New Year's Magazine from Hywelians busy with interesting work in different parts of the world, I have felt ashamed that I had nothing to tell, no work to write of – but now I am proud to write telling you of my work, work which was once a pastime, a hobby – but is now the real thing. One terribly stormy Monday night seven weeks ago, an orderly arrived, wet and breathless, with an order from my Commandant that I was to don my uniform and be ready in ten minutes to go out to the Darien Hotel in the local doctor's car, and transform the said hotel into a hospital to receive 37 wounded Belgian soldiers by 10.30 on Tuesday morning. The road was bad and the weather was worse, and both my orderly and myself were wet and tired when we arrived, but all the same, when at 10.30 the following morning a long string of private cars drove up to the entrance and poured in on us an endless stream of big bearded Belgians, the Darien Hotel had ceased to be and the Darien Red Cross Hospital stood in its stead.

The language difficulty was soon

overcome, though, with one solitary exception not a man could speak English. It is really surprising how much French one can speak when obliged to make oneself understood. Some of the men speak only Flemish and with these it is of course rather difficult to converse unless one speaks Welsh, when the intonation being similar, one can *understand* the meaning without really understanding the *words*.

They have shocking stories to tell of German atrocities and unfair fighting, while most of them have the terrible memory of ruined homes and murdered families, or are in absolute and most pitiful ignorance of the fate of their nearest and dearest.

We work very hard – but the most we do, or can ever do, is but a drop in the ocean of debt we owe to this wonderful little nation, but a cipher in the tribute we must pay to each individual Belgian for courage, bravery and self-sacrifice.”

Peggy Williams

Some Experiences of a Nurse

“At the time of writing, I am nursing Belgian and British soldiers in a large house given up for that purpose. Comparisons are odious, but I am not alone in preferring the British Tommy to any foreigner. Very few of them are overburdened with modesty, and one tells me that he carried on his back a comrade whose leg was nearly in two for twenty four hours until he joined his regiment. Another, when in the firing line and retreating, saw his friends on all sides being shot, and happening to turn round noticed that his best friend was a few paces behind, wounded. Needless to say our hero turned back and somehow they both lived to tell the tale.

I am afraid this is a poor sketch of a nurse’s life and will give my readers a very vague view of it, but as your Editor seems to think that everyone is interested in my profession just now, I send my little effort, with all good wishes for the New Year to the Hywelian Guild.”

Daisy Davenport

[Note: Daisy’s war medals are in the School Museum.]

NEWS FROM THE ARCHIVES 2014

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

WE HAVE BEEN VERY PLEASED to welcome another volunteer, Michelle Ingram, to the group of archives assistants. With her qualifications and experience in IT, librarianship and archives work, Michelle (who was at school 1995-2002) is a valuable addition to the team. The new donations, together with existing material, are steadily being logged on the computer. At the same time, we have developed a cataloguing system and are reorganising the archives material to correspond to this.

We are most grateful to those who have kindly donated items to the archives and museum this year. These include numerous documents and photographs sent over from the Netherlands by Gaynor Critchell (née Thomas), a boarder from 1984 to 1991; two autograph books of Enfy Brown (née Jones), which include the signatures of members of games teams and photos from the 1940s; receipts for board and tuition from

1947, donated by Margaret Evans; and two tuition receipts from the schooldays of Frances Robinson, née Williams (1970-77), together with photocopies of letters and a



certificate from 1868 pertaining to her great-grandmother, Jane Gower, one of the earliest pupils. In the last few weeks of 2014, Mr Nigel Bourdice donated the delightful little cotton cookery cap worn by his mother, Sarah Patricia Brockwell, who was at school from 1938 to 1943, and Mrs Elizabeth Davies, née Peterson, the niece of Barbara Williams, who was killed on active service in 1940, provided photographs and news cuttings about her. All the old school magazines and the Hywelian magazines to 1932 have been digitised and are available to view online. Please email me for a username and password. You will find the details on the Hywelian section of the school website, under the History and Archives tab.



The date given is for the beginning of the year or years covered by the magazine. This means, for example, that the magazine covering the two years 1982-3 and 1983-4 is listed under 1982. The digitisation process will continue next year.

We organised a display on the school during the First World War, which was prepared for an event held in

school in June to commemorate the war. It was re-assembled briefly for our annual Open Doors Day on 19th September, when we welcomed a number of visitors to school. In addition to a tour, the visitors were able to see some of the archives material. A number of photographs and information from the archives also featured in a display at Drapers' Hall on the connection between the school and the Drapers' Company.



The photographs of the whole school were taken down from the walls during the refurbishment of the Stone Hall area. Some of these have now been re-framed and every single one from 1860 to 2014 is now hanging in the main Dining Room. Some old photographs have been selected to create montages for the concave walls at the end of the Covered Way, near the site of the old School House. A few other projects are also

underway, and we hope the results will be in evidence by the time of the Hywelian Summer Lunch!

For the second year of our Oral History project, we were delighted that Miss Muriel Jeremy, Mrs Vivien Liles (née Morgan), Mrs Mary Lister (née Williams) and Mrs Joyce Shields (née Bingham) agreed to be

interviewed by four Year 8 girls about their schooldays in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The interview was filmed and an

edited version was shown to the whole school at the Founders' Friday assembly in July.

As usual, there has been a steady stream of research enquiries, and a number of Hywelians and other visitors have returned to look around the school and museum.

Please let me know if you would like to come: you would be very welcome.

Janet Sully.

J.sully@how.gdst.net

No more linseed oil and Vaseline...

I happened to see a small article in my newspaper recently which brought back memories of the hours I spent in our cold garage, trying to get my lacrosse stick into the sort of shape that Miss Bates seemed to think would help me play the game with a little more panache than at present. As I merrily splashed linseed oil everywhere and gummed up both myself and the thongs (note the technical term!) with petroleum jelly, I dreamed of gaining my colours and standing on the podium to receive the accolade of all. It wasn't to be, and I read with regret that the last wooden lacrosse stick maker in the UK is to retire. Tom Becket, you have much to answer for! *Lyn Owen*

IN MEMORIAM

We are always sad to report the passing of Hywelian Guild members, and send our condolences to their families and friends. Some of the notices below refer to the very end of 2013, after last year's Magazine had been printed.

Audrey Rapport (née Fligelstone) (1917-2014)

Audrey's daughter *Heather Hockley* sent in this information about her mother.

Audrey joined her older sisters, Marjorie and Doreen, at Howell's School, Llandaff in the 1920s. She often spoke of her happy school days and the walk to school through Llandaff Fields from her home in Cathedral Road. She enjoyed school sports and was proud to be in 'Star Gym'. Audrey Bates, who would later teach sport at Howell's, was at school at the same time. Miss Trotter was Headmistress and Audrey was taught by the two Miss Taylors (Slug and Bug) and Miss Tickner (Tick).

Audrey left school in 1935; she was a keen student and would have liked to have gone to university like her sister Doreen, but instead stayed at home to look after her father. She learned shorthand and worked for a firm of solicitors in Cardiff. During the war she was in the Land Army. Audrey married her childhood sweetheart Cecil Rapport in 1943 at Cathedral Road Synagogue. They had a son, Derek and daughters, Valerie (who sadly predeceased her in 2006) and Heather. They had nine grandchildren and there are 11 great grandchildren to date. She was a dedicated wife and mother who supported Cecil throughout his busy public life as Alderman, Deputy Lord Mayor of the City of Cardiff, High Sheriff and Deputy Lieutenant of Glamorganshire. She

worked hard for many charities and was always there to help others.

Audrey stayed involved with HSL throughout her life. Her daughter Heather, granddaughter Katie, nieces Wendy and Jill, and other family members followed her through school. Two great granddaughters attend South Hampstead School, also part of the Girls' Day School Trust. Audrey joined the Hywelian Committee in the 60s and was a regular attender at Hywelian events. Audrey was delighted by the new music and computer facilities. She went back to school in the late 90s to learn about computing.

Audrey always had a happy disposition. She enjoyed life to the full and was never known to complain or say a bad word about anyone. She was an elegant lady who said she learnt her good posture at school. She fortunately remained in good health throughout her days. Audrey loved HSL and sang the School song to her family just two days before she passed away peacefully at the age of 96.



Audrey Rapport (nee Fligelstone)

Carol Carr (née Jones)

Carol's husband Michael informed us at the beginning of this year that, sadly, Carol died on 18th Dec 2013 after suffering dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Carol left HSL in 1955 at the age of 16 just after her "O" levels.

Dr Hannah-Mari Thomas (née Beddow)

Mari died on 13 October 2013. She left School in 1950 to go to Medical School. Mari returned to school for the Summer Lunch in 2010 where she met up with some of her friends from Medical School. She sent the following e-mail message to the Membership Secretary in December 2010 about the Lunch that year. We reproduce it almost in full, as it is so full of wonderful memories!

Dear Joyce,

Thank you so much for your letter and also for all your trouble in organising the Summer Lunch. Glenys Rees (now Lindsay) and I attended together, knowing that a couple of our contemporaries from the 40s to 50s era would be there. We found others long since forgotten!

We thoroughly enjoyed the day. Some of the school was still familiar and seemingly unchanged, while other parts were obviously different. The lunch was excellent—not at all like the old school dinners with their 'hangover' from the war years--reconstituted potatoes and dried egg -ych a fi!

The school hall seemed smaller and less colourful than I recall, and as we climbed the steps leading to it, I could almost see the P.E. Mistress, Miss Disney, eyes narrowed, looking at us up and down for

poor posture and untidy uniforms; I subconsciously braced my shoulders. What a breath of fresh air the current Headmistress is! I was in school in the era of Miss Margaret Lewis who seemed well advanced in middle age but was probably no more than in her mid-thirties! She was a true Academic and an excellent Head, striding around like a crow in her black gown!

I recall appearing on the stage either in a play or in the choir—I can still sing excerpts from Dido & Aeneas, Merrie England and Hiawatha's Wedding Feast but my acting role always meant holding a spear, wearing a sack and standing at the back of the stage.

I failed to find the gymnasium where again Miss Disney ruled. Those of us not blessed with great agility spent fearful lessons striving to climb ropes and vaulting over a horse. The latter I did with such determination that I fell into the waiting hands of Miss Disney and onto my head. As I got up unsteadily she proclaimed, "I don't like girls who show off, Mari," which she pronounced as 'Ma-ree'.

Being an only child and a Day-girl I spent much of my time before lessons and in the afternoon practising lacrosse and hockey. I still have firm friends such as Glenys Lindsay, Gill Yeo, Pam Davies and Sheila Kidd.

Glenys, Sheila and I all trained together in the Welsh National School of Medicine, where I met my darling husband (my typist!).

I look back on my days in Howell's with great affection: things such as not eating in the street and standing up for my elders on a bus are still ingrained. Our

daughter (now in her 40s) attended Howell's in Denbigh and married her best-friend's brother. Thank you Thomas Howell! "

Margaret Jill Lewis (née Williams)

Jill passed away peacefully on Tuesday Sept 2, 2014, at the age of 67. She was in School in the late 50s and early 60s, and was the daughter of Mrs Beulah Williams who taught Biology full time from 1962 to 1982. Jill had a son, William.

Jill was a very dear friend of Jan Sainsbury (née Hughes) who writes: 'Jill was diagnosed with cancer at the end of last year. Her death was very unexpected but like many cancers the end is often unpredictable.

'She was here at my home in July having lunch with other friends from school. Jill will be greatly missed.'

Adrienne Timothy.

Adrienne left HSL in 1952. Her niece, *Rebecca Comley* writes:

'Adrienne was born in Ton Pentre in 1932, younger sister of Muriel, my mother, who says that their childhood was a very happy one. Adrienne was a very bright child, ahead of her school years. She came top in the competitive entrance exam for Howell's, where she thrived, excelling both academically and at sport; she became Head Girl in 1951-1952.

'She gained a Law degree at University College London (in spite of suffering from tuberculosis) but decided not to practise Law, but instead became an Examiner with the Patent Office, reaching the position of Senior Examiner before taking early retirement because of arthritis and the fact that the London

office was moving to Newport.

'She was a very exotic Aunt and I enjoyed staying with her in London. We did all the sights, and I had experiences such as meals out, theatre trips, shopping trips, visits to trendy hairdressers, and new food experiences. She was very good company and I always looked forward to her Christmas visits.

'Adrienne sadly had to give up playing the piano in the 1990s when her arthritis got too bad. Being a perfectionist, she decided she didn't want to play at all if she could not play well.

'An accomplished cook, Adrienne gave very good dinner parties; she was an entertaining conversationalist, with a quick wit, which she generally used to amuse her guests. Some, however, will remember being on the end of a sharp and less benevolent tongue!

'She bought a flat in the Barbican early in the 1980s so that her elderly mother could move in. She did a wonderful job of caring for her, with theatre trips, concerts and dinner parties. They shared a love of crosswords and there was lively competition to be first to finish the Times crossword. After her mother's death in 1990, she continued to enjoy London life, and also spent time helping children learn to read at a local school.

'Adrienne spent much time renovating a small summer house she owned near Llangranog in West Wales. She liked going back to discover more about her Welsh roots.

'Adrienne maintained her connection with Howell's throughout her life, being an active member of the Hywelian Guild. Although she began a process of

withdrawal from family and friends in the years prior to her death, she still continued to attend Hywelian functions, a sure sign of how important the Howell's connection was to her and how much she valued the friends she had made there.

Pamela Mary Hartnell (née Davies)

Pam's great friend *Gill Dash* (née Yeo) sent this tribute :

'Pam attended HSL from 1943-1950 and then moved to University College, Cardiff, where she studied Chemistry and Zoology.

'Unfortunately, she contracted polio in her final year, which hampered her studies and curtailed her sporting activities; nevertheless, she continued to play tennis to a high standard for many years. Having missed her degree at Cardiff, she later became a qualified radiographer while living in Worcester.

'Pam married in 1956 and is survived by her husband Brian. They moved to Truro a few years ago to be nearer their daughter. Pam will be greatly missed by her son and daughter, grandchildren and many friends.'

Gill writes that she and Pam were at both School and university together and had kept in contact for the last 70 years!

Pam's last 18 months of life had been difficult, as she had always been a very active person.

Joan Ewart Thomas

Miss Thomas died in Devon 18th Sept 2014, at the age of 89. Although not a Hywelian, she was Senior Mistress 1963-5. She taught French and was usually known as Tommy French (There were a number of Thomases on the staff; we distinguished between them by tacking on their subject!)

BRIEFLY...

The details below are all that we have by way of information.

Mary Gratland (née Hunt)

Mary left school in 1931. Her son informed us that she died in 2013, a month after her 99th birthday.

Betty Johnson (née Powell)

Betty was born in 1914/15, and left School in 1932. She lived in Beckenham, Kent, but spent her last years in a Nursing Home.

Joan Strong (née Clarke)

Joan left in 1930. She died last year, and she would then have been 100 years old.

Mrs Morfydd Morgan (née Llewelyn)

Morfydd died peacefully in April 2014 at the remarkable age of 106. An interview by Janet Sully appeared in the 2013 Hywelian Magazine

Rosemary Elizabeth Hanson-Cross

Rosemary passed away on March 8, 2014 at the University Hospital of Wales. Rosemary, a Hywelian, taught history at HSL in the 1970s.

Mrs Jacqueline Lanfear

Mrs Lanfear was the school's Financial Secretary from September 1978 to February 1987.

SOUND FAMILIAR?

These 'offences' look very tame today, but they were obviously the height of bad behaviour then!

ONE OF THE FASCINATING ITEMS in the school archive is a Report Book, listing some of the offences for which girls were punished in 1923, as follows:

- Speaking on the front drive
- Not learning recitation
- Not doing a punishment given by a prefect
- Being on the apparatus in the gym without permission; being tiresome in class
- Cheating in French class
- Reading a story book while pretending to write an essay
- Leaning over the banisters
- Writing lines in class
- Wearing someone else's gym shoes on the hockey field
- Being absent from detention (*very daring!*)
- Bringing sweets to school
- Being continually late leaving school
- Carving initials on a desk
- Wearing a school badge on another hat
- Wearing a brown hat
- Calling out the answer to another girl's question
- Making a noise on the stairs
- Cycling from the playground to the road through the wrong exit
- Going upstairs without permission
- Continuing to ride a bicycle to school when forbidden
- Taking ink into the Assembly Hall
- Opening the mistress's desk and putting dirty torn up paper in it
- In a drawing exam: painting names on the table, flicking paint on her neighbour's paper and painting her own face

In the book there's a column for forfeits: sadly, we don't know what these were. However, my aunt features quite regularly in this column, so if anyone knows about the forfeits, I'd love to hear from you!

Sue Rayner

WITH THANKS

School was grateful to receive a generous donation [of £500] from Jan Errington-Gibbs, which she wished to go towards the renovation of the Great Hall.

Jan is the sister of the late Glenys Audrey Hayter, who was at HSL from 1944-53, and who died in 1981. Glenys obtained a degree in German and French at Cardiff University, then worked in the Foreign Office

Jan also sent the accompanying photograph. The original was in poor condition and we are very grateful to HSL's IT department for their efforts to improve its quality.



*Back Row L-R: Vivienne Hill (Hayes), Betty Ebbet, Elizabeth Hunt
Centre Row: Gill Morgan, Anne (Bunny) Burnell
Front : Glenys Hayter*

KEEPING IN TOUCH

FOR THOSE WHO USE FACEBOOK, the Hywelian page is a great way for you to keep in touch with your former classmates; share memories and photos; and find out about everything that is going on at Howell's. Remember, you don't have to contribute to Facebook - you can just read the content! You'll find it at "*The Hywelian Guild*": there are now over 420 members.

And if you would like to be informed about everything that's

happening at Howell's, you can follow us on Twitter: [@HowellsSchool](https://twitter.com/HowellsSchool).

Vanessa Yilmaz, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, also reminds all Hywelians that they can email School to give or ask for any information concerning Hywelians or the Guild on the email address below:

Hywelians@how.gdst.net

RECENT MARRIAGES AND NEW ARRIVALS

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

MARRIAGES...

Anne-Marie Williams married Stephen Tuck in Cardiff in May 2013. They are delighted to announce the arrival of Bessie Mae in May 2014!

Anne-Marie left school in 1997.

Victoria Yandall married Graham Hillman on 26th April 2014 in St Denys Church, Lisvane.

Victoria was at Howell's Senior School from 1994-1999 and then

... AND BIRTHS

Kirsty Leeke (née Thomas) and her husband were delighted to announce the arrival this year of Jessica Nicola Anne Leeke. Jessica is their second child and was born on 4 May 2014. Kirsty attended Howell's from 1992-1999.

Sarah Green (née Finlay) had a lovely baby girl on 25 July 2014.

Eliza Mari Thaïs, weighed in at 9lb 7oz.

Jane Howard Griffiths (née Howard) is the proud grandmother of Grace Elizabeth Mazarine Halsey, born 4 July 2014. Parents are Susanna and Jim, and Grace is a cousin to Kiah and Taylor-Jane. Jane left Howell's in 1970.

HELEN K WESTWOOD (formerly Helen Katherine Jones) says:

'I recently met my childhood sweetheart, David, of 30 years ago, left my job, and relocated to Scotland. We got married on 5th March 2014! David is the brother of *Patricia Westwood* who is also a Hywelian.

'My husband has been undergoing cancer treatment since last year and we were lucky enough to arrange our wedding in

between his chemotherapy sessions. Thankfully he is now feeling much better, and we were able to visit the beautiful Scottish Islands of Islay, Jura, Shetland and Fair Isle as part of our honeymoon. I am now a happily-married Scottish housewife!

Helen and puffin



... AND FINALLY



Photograph: Sian Owen Photography

As we said earlier, Howell's School is now registered for weddings and the above photograph shows Louise and Mark (no surnames, unfortunately!)

on their wedding day in December 2014. Also in the photograph is Registrar (and Hywelian) Helen Graham.

SPONSORS 2015

SCIMITAR DEVELOPMENTS