

# The Old Dy'borian

The Journal of the former pupils of Dynevor School

[www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk](http://www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk)



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March 2013

## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR! 4 SWANSEA MET. STUDENTS RECEIVE ODA AWARDS FOR 5<sup>th</sup> YEAR Jim Waygood (1955).

Former Vice-Chancellor, now Senior Provost, David Warner introduced ODA President, Phil Stone, at the Ceremony last October, acknowledging the continuing close relationship between the Old Dy'borians and Swansea Metropolitan University as well as expressing his appreciation of the annually presented Awards. Phil Stone then presented them to the 4 deserving Students, nominated by their Faculties

**Desmond Bangura**, from Sierra Leone, a country which has had more than its fair share of problems, was introduced by Dean Leigh Jenkins, of Business and Management, as an outstanding candidate, who decided to seek asylum in the European Union with his wife and five-year-old son. Determined to rebuild his life, he came to Swansea to undertake our HND in Health and Social Care. He aims to become a social worker."



*Photo: Rob Mitchell*

Mark Cocks, Assistant Dean of Art and Design, revealed the reasons for nominating **Jamie Panton**. "In joining our Video Degree programme, Jamie has followed a long-held passion for film-making. Not only has he worked extremely hard to fund his place here, admirable in itself, he is also the main Carer for his disabled partner. A talented film-maker, Jamie secured good marks in his 1<sup>st</sup> Year, producing some outstanding work. He has also worked on Swansea Met's Community Engagement Programme.

*(concluded overleaf)*



## The Power of Nostalgia ..... from the EDITOR

Well, it's all over, that is, it's all over for me! My stint as Editor has come to an end.

No, worry not. In spite of the title, I'm not going to spend or waste this precious space wallowing in nostalgia; sometimes that can be a threat. So, please read on.

I want to start with some earnest, sincere and heartfelt 'thank you's'. First of all, to **Noel Blows and Clem Williams**. In March, 2010, I received a 'fone call from Noel: 'could I meet them somewhere, to discuss a proposition!?' We met in the Woodman, at Blackpill. Just ½ an hour and ½ a pint of Bass later, I was the next Editor of TOD, taking over from the Founders, David Farmer and Dave Tovey.

Next in line are our **Contributors**. This is part 'thank you', part apology. Thank you for some truly wonderful submissions; I'm sorry it wasn't always possible to publish at once; I'm sorry if I could be awkward – Dynevor taught us high standards, which I have always tried to observe in my 'literary' and other work. That can't be bad!

Thirdly, thank YOU very much, all you **Readers**. Thank you for your compliments; thank you, too, for a few brickbats, where they were merited. *I hope you always got something out of your reading of the 6 issues (17-22) of TOD which I have edited.*

And finally, last, but certainly not least, **Jim Waygood** (and his loyal supporters at Swansea Met.). How can I ever thank him – and them – enough? Without Jim, TOD would never have been published; with him, it always appeared on time. Thank you, Jim, for always being there when I most needed support and help with my ideas.

Yes, TOD is about nostalgia, of course it is! Psychologically, I do believe it is a positive thing. In the uncertain world we inhabit today, it's good to look back; things were uncertain then, we'd just emerged from a War that cost 55m. lives. But such were the gifts on offer at Dynevor, if we were smart enough to value the opportunity and, above all, our Teachers, that it is good to reflect, from time to time – 'emotion recollected in tranquillity'. **Thank you, Dynevor, thank you, TOD, thank you ALL.**

.....  
*From Page ONE* .....**Michelle Walker**, who won the Humanities Award, "came to us as a mature student," said Martin Johnson, Performing Arts Programme Director. "She juggles her full-time studies with a young family, also travelling a considerable distance every day to the University. She has managed to sustain this throughout her 1<sup>st</sup> year and has made some outstanding achievements."

Finally, Dr Ian Walsh, Head of Industrial Design, announced **James Coyle-King** as the winner of the Faculty of Applied Design and Engineering award. "James is an exceptional student. Due to his disability, he needs specific assistance to support his everyday living and relocated to Swansea with his mother to find an environment with the right facilities. James is also a sportsman and fits swimming, basketball and rifle shooting in with his studies. Despite this, James has never asked or been given any quarter and even though the automotive design course is physically very demanding; James takes it in his stride."



## **'SALVE ..... et VALE'**

### ***Old Dy'vorian Archbishop moves to pastures new'***

*The Church of England and the English-speaking world heard with surprise and disappointment, some months ago, of the decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams, our President in 2011/12, to retire after 10 years and take up a post as Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge. As your Editor, I took the liberty of writing to ask him for a departing message for Old Dy'vorian. We received the following.....*

'I seem to have started a trend, what with the Pope retiring this last month (I'm watching the Dalai Lama closely...). But I must say that the new post in Cambridge is proving a great treat. Having a bit more time to write (and think) is a joy, and so is the contact with students. I'm just beginning to see the challenges that places like this face if they're to meet the targets set by government for improved access. This college is very good at going out to where people are and running events for sixth formers in places like Liverpool. But the myth persists that Cambridge is only for the elite.

The trouble is that the general financial pressure on students makes many less adventurous than they might have been. I've often thought that I and others of my generation would have had a tougher time getting to Cambridge now than forty five years ago, just because of the anxieties about how to manage finances. It's rather grim to think that we've become less socially mobile over that period, but that seems to be the case, sadly. *Still, it's worth keeping on trying to get the message across that this isn't just for the wealthy few. Colleges like this will do all they can to help those from less advantaged backgrounds; so tell your friends!*

Looking back on ten years as Archbishop is a strange business, and it feels wonderful to be a bit out of the public eye and away from the feverish media. Two things that I feel really proud of over that decade are that we managed to launch a successful campaign to set up new and more informal Christian communities (reaching at least 30,000 people in seven years), and that we also created a global alliance for church-based development agencies at grass roots in Africa and Asia. And I'm very delighted to be carrying on some of that work as Chair of Christian Aid. It wasn't all firefighting and cat-herding!

***I'm happy to have the chance of sending my warmest good wishes to all of you – and to say again that my Presidency of the ODs was one of the high points of the decade for me. Blessings and success to you all.'***

## 4. The Old Dy'borian



### A 'FIRST YEAR' AT DYNEVOR (suite et fin!)

**Roger Brown (1953)**

*(With acknowledgements to Roger Beynon, who helped out with some of the facts?)*

*.... Roger's story began in TOD21, on Page 19. We continue from 'dinner hour' and what followed ...*

During dinner hour we were allowed out of school. Some made across the bombsites for the Junior Library, so as do to their homework. My mother could never believe I'd already completed it by the time I got home! Others remained in the school yard to play Fives or, in summer, Cricket in the nets.

If it was wet, we had recourse to two shelters, under the Gym Building. The first one housed a Carpenter's shop, with numerous desks and chairs outside, awaiting repair, as well as a long bench. The other, by the Pell Street entrance, had a brick wall at one end, originally built to convert it into an air raid shelter, but never taken down. The Cycle shed, useful for illicit smoking, was here, as well as a water fountain, handy for 'ducking' those unlucky enough to be caught. The benches in each shelter were used variously for games of 'tag' (when one team stood on the bench, defying the other to evict it) and for Shove Ha'penny.

Lessons lasted 40 minutes, 4 in the morning, after Assembly, with a 15 minute break and three in the afternoon. At morning break, we'd be given a free ¼ pint of milk, brought to the classrooms by monitors from a small cubicle, presided over by Ma Baker in the basement of the main school ('below stairs'!!). I never drank mine!

Juniors had to use the lower playground, while the fourth and fifth years had the upper area, used both for Soccer and for a game that seems to have gone out of fashion. One team would line up against another; the other would jump onto their backs one by one, and then collectively endeavour to break the line up. Has this game become another victim of 'elf 'n' safety'?

'Budgie' Burgess, the Gym master, arbitrarily allocated each boy to one of the four school houses, Grove, Dillwyn, Roberts and Llewellyn. I found myself in Dillwyn, with Roger Beynon, who was just above me in alphabetical order. Budgie was the only person I ever knew who rode a bike and smoked a pipe at the same time. Like another ex-Dynevor Cleric, our Missionary in Lambeth, I hated gym and games and wrote bogus letters in my Mother's name, to provide excuses not to take part. I assumed that Budgie took them at face value, but I'm sure he guessed. Somehow, his gentleness and courtesy allowed me to get away with it.

Later on, in the Summer Term, I was elevated as a Cricket Umpire, a position I rather enjoyed. Budgie also ran a Stamp Club. I didn't stay for long, but many did. He told us at our first meeting that no-one had ever stolen stamps from him, a tradition he hoped would endure.

*(To be concluded in TOD 23)*



# E . V . E . N . T . S

Past ...present...upcoming

**\*\* AGM - 6 March** (has gone – see back Page for details of new Committee and all your Contact Nos./ E-mails)

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**MAKE SURE YOU DON'T MISS**

**\*\* Joint SMU/ODA Lecture /25 April**

**\*\* GOLF – Tee off: 10 am - 10 May**

**\*\* 75<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL DINNER**

**6.30 for 7.30 : 10 May**

**\*\* CRICKET: Day 1 v Leics - 21 August**

**\*\* Annual Lecture (Gerald Gabb)/ Oct**

**\*\* Past Presidents' Lunch/ Nov**

**ENTER THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY NOW!!**

*For full details see website or await special mailings*



## **NEW DYNEVOR WEBSITE GOES LIVE!!!**

Jim Waygood (1955)

In early 2011 it was decided to revamp the website in the light of all the developments that had taken place since it was set up by Dave Tovey (1952) in 2003. *In time, it will also incorporate access and use of social media, a 'search engine' and other links embedded.* Our aim is to make the new website accessible and useable by all former pupils and staff from way back up to the closure in 2002.

In August 2011, BSS, a company run by Old Dy'vorian Teifion Davies (1960) was awarded the contract. At the same time a small sub-committee, led by retiring Webmaster, Dave Tovey and comprising Keith Morris (1956) and Jim Waygood was set up to oversee the transition and help with uploading the items from the old website to the new - a mammoth task. Single-handedly, Dave has created a massive amount of information, both narrative and photographic, over the past ten years. At BSS, the task of developing the new website fell to Rhian Daniel, Teifion's daughter, who, as well as having a short break for the birth of her daughter, has certainly pulled out all the stops to ensure the development proceeded to plan.

*After many meetings and much fine-tuning behind the scenes, it finally went live last December; in that month, we received over 500 'hits'. Whilst we have encountered minor teething problems, these are being remedied on a 'when required' basis. Should you have any comments, just use the 'contacts' tag on the website to let us know.*

### ***HOW TO USE THE NEW WEBSITE :***

The new website can be accessed at [www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk](http://www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk). It should now also be accessible via all the search engines (Google etc). If you mistakenly use the old website address you will be redirected to the new website. Include the website in your 'favourites' and make sure you access it regularly to keep up to date with the latest news. Use the 'search' tag to find out if you are mentioned anywhere or appear in any of the photographs. If you know any Old Dy'vorian who are not Members, please encourage them to access the website and perhaps join us. An area is reserved exclusively for members which is password protected. (u/name: old dyvorian password: dynevor12)

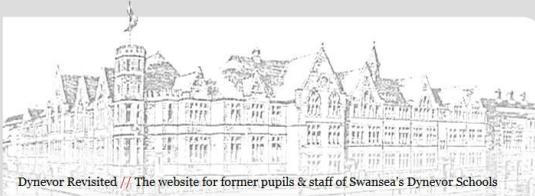
We would like to thank all those Old Dy'vorian who so generously gave donations through the Fighting Fund. Without them we could not have gone ahead.

*Finally, a huge 'thank you' for Dave Tovey, who single handedly and without any financial support has set up a massive resource and maintained the website over the past 10 years.* It has certainly served us well and we wish him a deserved retirement (although he will still be on hand to keep an active eye on the development).

[ **CLOSING THOUGHT** : a handy tip for 'senior moments' – if you're having memory problems, change your Password to 'Incorrect'. In this way, when you Log On with the wrong p/w, the Computer will tell you 'your Password is 'Incorrect'!! – Ed)



# This is the HOME PAGE of our new WEBSITE



Dynevor Revisited // The website for former pupils & staff of Swansea's Dynevor Schools

- Home
- The Association ▶
- School History ▶
- Events ▶
- Join the ODA
- Contact The ODA ▶
- Members Area
- News

**Find your Years**

The links below will access CLASS photos and GROUP/TEAM photos such as sports teams, orchestral, choral or drama groups. The 'Class' photos relate to the year of entry into Dynevor, whilst the 'Team' photos relate the year that the Team or Group existed. The latter photographs will, of course, contain former pupils of many 'Classes' and so you are advised, in your search, to view those years that cover your TOTAL time in Dynevor School.

1930	1931	1932	1933
1934	1935	1936	1937
1938	1939	1940	1941
1942	1943	1944	1945
1946	1947	1948	1949
1950	1951	1952	1953
1954	1955	1956	1957
1958	1959	1960	1961
1962	1963	1964	1965
1966	1967	1968	1969
1970	1971	1972	1973
1974	1975	1976	1977
1978	1979	1980	1981
1982	1983	1984	1985
1986	1987	1988	1989
1990	1991	1992	1993
	1994	1995	

## Welcome to the New Website of the Old Dy'vorians' Association

If you had the good fortune to have been educated at Dynevor, this is your home website. Its purpose is to provide a contact base and information source for the thousands of past pupils of Swansea's Dynevor Schools from all over the United Kingdom and beyond.

This website replaced the site that was born on that fateful day, Wednesday 24th July 2002, when some five hundred former pupils and staff came to the school on the last day of its life. Such was the atmosphere on that day that the collective urge was to do something concrete in memory of the school. This site and 'The Old Dy'vorian' bi-annual journal were the outcome.

The membership of the Old Dy'vorians' Association has increased considerably since that day and this site has contributed to the renewed interest. By using the 'superhighway' of the Web, the Association hopes to make contact with a younger potential membership than the majority of the current membership.

We realise that unless the Association attracts this potential membership, and here we include the pupils and staff of the Comprehensive Schools that succeeded the Grammar' School, the future of the Association will be short-lived.

If you would like to submit photographs of your 'Year' or the teams and groups that you were a member of during your stay at Dynevor, please email: [website@dynevorrevisited.org.uk](mailto:website@dynevorrevisited.org.uk).

*Nihil sine labore!*

### // Latest News

#### Annual Old Dy'vorians' Dinner 2013

28 February 2013

[Read Article »](#)

[More News »](#)

### // Future Events

#### Old Dy'vorians / St Helen's Balconies Day

21 August 2013

...

[View Event Details »](#)

[See All Events »](#)



**ORNITHOLOGY (BIRDS) AND ALL THAT**

**Bob Howells MBE**

[ *We reported in TOD21(Page 9) that Bob, who taught in Dynevor for 26 years, had been honoured with the Award of MBE in the Queen's Jubilee Birthday Honours 'for services to Ornithology'. He sent us this account of his lifelong fascination with Birds, especially in Gower and the Burry inlet.*]

I returned to Swansea in July 1958 to take up a teaching post at Dynevor. I had spent the previous 3 years in Dursley Grammar School, where I'd joined in the organization of Summer Bird-Watching courses on the Island of Steepholm, in the Bristol Channel . This experience aroused an interest in Gulls and birds in general. I joined the Gower Ornithological Society in 1958 and subsequently held various posts up to and including President. I am now a Life-member, serving on the Records Committee which produces the Society's Annual Report '*Gower Birds*'.

I joined the British Trust for Ornithology in 1959. It is a Bird Research Charity which investigates populations, numbers and the ecology of birds. I was invited to organize the '*Birds of Estuaries*' enquiry in 1968 and continued to do so when it became the 'Wetland Birds Survey ' in 1993 . I was invited to speak on behalf of the hundreds of observers contributing to the Survey at its launch in Westminster that year. I was nominated as BTO Regional Representative for Glamorgan in 1974 and served for West Glamorgan until I stood down in April 2011.

So, for 37 years I was privileged to represent the BTO and assume responsibility for arranging surveys of various wintering, migratory and breeding species of birds. This could not have been done without the cooperation of local BTO and GOS observers, together with other interested " birders ", bird-watchers and ornithologists , all volunteers, often prepared to observe annual changes in the scale of birdlife in inclement weather, as well as following their own special flair and interests in " bird surveying ".

Although I had spent most of my life in the Swansea area, it was not until my return in 1958 that I became closely attracted to the seashore, coast and marshes of the Gower Peninsula. While interested in birds in general, my main focus of interest, since then, has been in the wildfowl, waders and gulls of the Burry Inlet and those of Swansea Bay at Blackpill.

Burry Inlet is an SPA - " Special Protected Area " - since it regularly holds more than 20,000 birds, including Pintail, Oystercatcher , Knot and Black – tailed Godwit, which are of international importance. During 2008/09 the Inlet held over 45,000 birds; in 2010, at least 18,846 birds were noted and counted at Blackpill.

*We are fortunate in having such a varied biodiversity in our Island and its study and recording is a constantly fascinating experience. I am pleased to have played a part in encouraging fellow observers to maintain the flow of information necessary for its continuation.*



## Letter from Wokingham! *(It's closer than Luang Prabang!)*

One of the joys of TOD Editorship has been receiving letters from Old Dy'vorianians one has never had the pleasure of meeting. Such have been several from Ray Farmer, brother of the late David, guiding light of the revived ODA/ 2002.

Ray (1935) wrote to me again, just after TOD21 appeared last September. Entering Dynevor in 1935 (and walking all the way from Manselton every day!) and leaving in 1939, he joined the re-formed, postwar Old Dy'vorian's in 1949, becoming a regular attendee at the Annual Dinner. There, he would occasionally meet Don Allen (1935), Cyril Goldstone (1934) and Iorrie Mort (1938). He met Grafton Maggs (1937) for the first time at 'Rowan's Dinner!'.

*He thought those 5 were all who remained of the 30's years, until the simultaneous publication last autumn of the 2<sup>nd</sup> OAD Directory of Members (2012). To his delight, he discovered that there are at least 16, two Nonagenarians and 14 Octogenarians. Ray has handed in for the Archive his Life Membership card, numbered 58, price £5!*

He also sent me (*for the Archive, in preparation*) his precious copy of the Programme and Menu for the 1<sup>st</sup>. postwar Annual Dinner, held at the Mackworth Hotel on 3 April, 1950. Alderman Percy Morris, JP, who had in 1945, as Labour Candidate, beaten Liberal-National Conservative Sir Lewis Jones, the sitting Member for Swansea West, into second place, was installed as OAD President that night.

He had come direct from the House of Commons to the Dinner. Howell Mendus asked Ray to meet him at the station. Percy recognised Ray, whose Mother he had taught at Sunday School at Carmarthen Rd. Congregational Chapel! Ray mentions that Morris had worked tirelessly during the War and Blitz, organising Civil Defence and the ARP with HL Lang Coath, the Town Clerk, who got the CBE for his efforts.

The simply typewritten Menu records, that, resplendent in Black Tie, the members, after dining richly on Roast Chicken and Duchesse Potatoes, followed by Fruit Ice, toasted His Majesty the King, then listened to no fewer than seven speeches, before being entertained by legendary Swansea Performers, Radcliffe & Ray and others.

*Such memories are worthy of preservation and I shall send Ray's letters and the effects mentioned above to Roger Williams (i/c Archives) in due course.*

**SUBS! ..... SUBS!! .....SUBS!!! .....SUBS!!!!!! SUBS ..  
Have you updated your Annual Membership Subscription yet? It  
went up on 1 January, 2013 – to £10. Please look at your  
Standing Order or Cheque payment NOW – Thank you.**



## 'Not for the Faint-hearted'

Noel Blows (1955)

The Old Dy'vorian's Annual Lecture – 4 October, 2012 : Tim Richards (1961)

The packed audience knew it was in for something different when Tim Richards, Law Lecturer at Cardiff Metropolitan University and long-time contributor to *Private Eye*, walked on to the stage, merely accompanied by a few notes – no Powerpoint

Tim spoke humorously about writing for *Private Eye* since the late 1980's. There had been a mischievous tone to his time at Dynevor. One jape had been to add the fictitious name, A S Tute to the School's register. This continued for almost a month until the name was dropped before the perpetrators could be identified. An ability to ad-lib and think quickly on his feet may have been born at that time. Certainly, Tim moved on in later life to journalism managed with aplomb because of his earlier legal training.

It was fortunate that the Lecture received no press coverage, as much of what we learned during the evening may well have proved to be politically unacceptable. Tim took us on a journey looking at politicians, particularly in local councils in the Welsh Valleys We quickly learned that much of what we read in *Private Eye* would not have come to light without his exposés. It was interesting to see that, whilst the average individual shies away from adverse criticism and confrontation, Tim has spent a journalistic life actively courting such attention. *Clearly, writing for Private Eye and other satirical magazines is not for the faint hearted.*

We learned that Tim had adopted some golden rules to his reporting. These had clearly served him well for more than 20 years as he had never been sued for anything he had written. It was essential to base any article on proven facts and this was the essence of his reporting; provided the facts were accurate there would be no comeback to anything subsequently printed. He had always researched carefully and proved all items.

The enjoyable evening, attended by more than 70, was preceded by drinks and light refreshments. President Phil Stone introduced Tim and Noel Blows gave the vote of thanks with the hope that Tim would attend future ODA Dinners. The acclaim he received for this lecture would make him a popular table and speaking colleague.

**Bill George (1946)** added: *"The real news is what they don't want you to know"*

Tim is a man of many parts, from Law Lecturer to Journalist and he covered them all in a splendid description of his colourful post-Dynevor career. In terms of his (necessarily anonymous) *Private Eye* contributions he described the care with which these were drafted within legal constraints as well as his collaboration with the ever ebullient editor, Ian Hislop. Tim described how, on occasion, his republican instincts had led to several Welsh Valley Court appearances, when his sharp legal mind had been seen to defeat those of the Barristers acting for the Crown. The Lecture was followed by a range of incisive questions and responses, including reference to the potentially legally prejudicial *Private Eye* cover, 27 Jan. showing the Captain on the bridge of the ill-fated Italian pleasure cruiser – *"Captain tries the Huhne defence – 'my wife was driving at the time'*



## Tim Walters and the VIth Form at Dynevor in 1968

Tim sent us this foto from his personal archive, to accompany our report on his Lecture. There are a number of memorable faces there, of whom readers may be able to identify Tim himself 1<sup>st</sup>. left, back row; next, John Walters, Vicar of Pontardulais; then Gerald Gabb, our October lecturer; Rowan Williams, 3<sup>rd</sup>. on front row, and Graham Davies (1945), Head of VIth Form, next to the Head.



*Back (L/R) **Tim Richards**, John Walters, Gerald Gabb, Powell, O'Sullivan, Paul Dehtiar, Pelleschi, Blackmore, Carl Johnson ( an amazing pianist), Keith Simpson, Barry Rogers.*

*Middle. Nigel Clatworthy, T.G Daniel, Regan, David R.H. Davies, Michael Holly, G.H.Davies, Scarlett, Robert Parry Williams, Jeffreys.*

*Front. Bloom, Phil Webster, **Rowan Williams (Vice-Captain )**, Mike Gange (**Captain** ), Cliff Bunny Evans- deputy head, Bernard 'Barney' Norris (**Head**), **Graham 'Gunner' Davies (VI Form Head)**, (Chris) Davies (**Vice-Captain** ), .Donovan, Fred Samuel*



## *Electronic or not?! That is the question.*

A brief item in TOD21 (Page 17/ **TODNotes**) posed the question ‘*would you be happy to receive and read your twice-yearly copy of TOD electronically?*’ It was prompted by the challenge of the inexorable rise in postal charges (due to go up again in April!). We only received TWO replies! One was from Geoff Kimmings (1953), the other from his classmate, John Griffiths (1953) . They were similar in content.

**Geoff** wrote ‘*clearly a test question, to see if we are reading TOD from cover to cover!*’ He was right – we are NOT! He voted in favour, adding that a local Civic Trust, of which he is a member, publishes something like TOD quarterly, most people now read it on the Internet (as a pdf file), but they have NO PLANS to discontinue printing a supply of hard copies.

**John** agreed, saying, however, that *he liked to see the hard copy drop through the letter box*. He had no serious objection to ‘electronic’ (‘a significant saving’), but remarked that the present generation is being brought up to accept this method as the norm, and ‘*soon it won’t even be a debating point!*’

Another aspect of the discussion centres around methods of ensuring **regular communication** with Old Dy’vorians. After all, the Journal is a twice-yearly publication, focussing on the memories of old boys (and girls); it was never meant to be a news vehicle.

We are already missing ‘Noel’s Monologues’, which, in effect, have become a regular channel of ‘up-to-the-minute’ communication – an **Electronic Newsletter** - and there are no current plans for anyone to continue this valuable undertaking.

*Are there any further thoughts? There must be some ideas out there to combine regular communication with the unique feature of the ‘Old Dy’vorian’. All contributions gratefully received! We look forward to being knocked down in the rush!*

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***DON’T FORGET!*** The updated WEBSITE ADDRESS has changed in some small detail. It is now...[www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk](http://www.dynevorrevisited.org.uk) .....Go on, give it a try! It’s worth a look. You may be surprised at what you find. If you use the old address in error, fear not, you will be re-directed.



## **PAST PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON SUCCESS**

Last November (9th) saw the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual gathering of former OD Presidents, with their spouses and partners, in the beautiful surroundings of Langland Bay Golf Club. Once again, Edgar McCarthy's efforts had been crowned with success, which saw 28 of us enjoy an excellent meal together.



*Our photo shows Edgar McCarthy enjoying a nice bottle of Rioja with Bill Gibbs*

Presidential years represented were **1968/** Cyril Goldstone, **1976/** Iorrie Mort, **1981/** Peter Macpherson, **1984/** Jim & Christine Watkins, **1985/** Alan & Georgina Goodwin, **1986/** Murray & Maureen Donald, **1989/** David Goldstone, **1992/** Stuart & Anne Winks, **1993/** George & Rhona Sambrook, **1995/** Bill & Joan George, **2004/** Edgar & Mary McCarthy, **2005/** David & Barbara Mendus, **2007/** Noel & Maureen Blows, **2009/** Brian and Linda Willis, **2010/** David and Jill Dickinson and **2012/** President, Phil. Stone, with his Wife Alison. (*We were pleased Maureen Hounsell could join us again.*)

*1989/* David Goldstone was unfortunately detained at a meeting, our Chaplain, **2000/** Lionel Hopkins was still quite unwell and our **2012/** President, Archbishop Rowan could not join us. David Dickinson covered for Rowan with an excellent presentation on 'weighing aircraft' – hard work, that! Stuart Batcup and Bill Gibbs were also marked 'unavoidably absent/ excused'!



## Dynevor Memorabilia .... a new Archive

Noel Blows (1955)

School Days at Dynevor followed a regular pattern: photos were taken annually and appeared in the School Magazine most years. Did any of us ever think then that a day might come when these records of school life would become sought-after material?

*It was Dave Tovey who started the archiving process.* He encouraged Dy'vorian to send school photos for inclusion on the website. There, you will now find a vast array of schoolboys and staff of various ages and from different eras adding to the nostalgia as we peer backwards through those ever clear rose-tinted spectacles! .

As our Association's 600+ members grow older, most of us need to turn out lofts and attics, to make life simpler. Increasingly, Committee Members are asked whether use can be made of school magazines, commemorative journals, photos and other memorabilia. During the last days of Dynevor, many useful and interesting items vanished into skips and oblivion. *However Allan Smith, the last Head, didn't allow all the records in his study to disappear.* Ten years ago, he took home bound copies of early editions of the School Magazine and the Headmaster's Daily Log of school affairs, as well as other valuable documents and kept them safely.

*Roger Williams (1958) has taken a lively interest in the project.* He has assembled a comprehensive inventory of material, mainly that rescued by Allan Smith or kept by George Hounsell. He reports that he has 'completed a sample reading of this material' and is 'impressed with its possible value', particularly 'jewels' such as the Punishment Books and Head's Log Books. Much of it will need to be scanned.

*Now, he is thinking about two future activities, first, preparing and archiving material for internet access (website) or display, secondly, for writing a history of Dynevor. In trying to define the target audience for such a project, he is talking to University Librarians and Historians.*

*We are grateful to former Vice Chancellor David Warner* who has offered access to SMU facilities and, with their Archivist, help with the task of collating and preparing material for display in the Dynevor Campus library.

*How can YOU help?* If you have anything you consider worth saving or recording, please send a list (no material yet!) to '[rogerwilliams27@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rogerwilliams27@yahoo.co.uk)'. *Since there will be much to do to place items on permanent record, tell us whether you can help in the collating and scanning process.* A task force is needed. You don't have to live in Swansea to be of help. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

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**WANTED!** The Website sub-Committee urgently needs to appoint a **WEBMASTER**. Principal duties will be loading new material and master-minding entry into the world of social media. Please contact **Keith Evans**.



## **Learned Society of Wales.**

*In a brief note in TOD21, we reported the admission of Bill George (1946) to Fellowship of the LSW. Bill was formerly Dean of the Faculty of Science and Head of Chemistry at the University of Glamorgan.*

The President of LSW is Sir John Cadogan FRS, a former pupil of the other place (!)

The 58 'Founding Fellows' include 24 of the British Academy (FBA) and 21 of the Royal Society (FRS). Dynevor is represented by Rowan Williams FBA, Archbishop Emeritus of Canterbury and ODA President in 2011, Bryan Flowers (dec'd), former Vice-Chancellor of London University and Imperial College and ODA President, 1965 and Ken Walters FRS (1945), former Head of Mathematics at Aberystwyth.



*Our picture shows Bill being congratulated by Sir John Cadogan*

Dynevor has produced a number of distinguished Churchmen, including Tony Pierce (1952), former Bishop of Swansea and Brecon and Alan Rees (dec'd), Benedictine Abbot of Belmont, Hereford, Politicians, including Nigel Evans, MP, Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, Sportsmen, including Mike Davies (1947), British No. 1, 1958-60 and Entertainers, especially Sir Harry Secombe and Spencer Davies.



PAUL HENRY

Steve Way (1965)

*Does anyone else recall this talented Musician and, in particular, Harmonica player?*

I was reminded of him and of St. David's Day Eisteddfodau in School one day, a while ago, whilst driving home from work. Those concerts were generally hours of tedium endured in a stuffy hall, where the atmosphere was made worse by the eye-watering aroma of hundreds of well chewed leeks. The whole experience was only made bearable by the fact that afterwards we had the afternoon off.

The event I'm thinking of took place in the late 1960s. Around this time, with my brother Clive and the rest of my friends, we were big fans of Eric Clapton and through his work with John Mayall's Bluesbreakers had discovered Blues music. John Mayall's Harmonica playing on a track called Parchman Farm was a revelation.

Whilst stopped at the pedestrian lights at Blackpill this particular afternoon, a figure with long blond hair and a baseball cap crossed in front of me. The figure of Paul Henry was instantly recognizable. I had last seen him about 20 years before, playing in a bar in Wind Street. I don't profess to know Paul (he was a couple of years older than me), but until his parents moved to Caswell he used to catch the same bus to school as me, the old number 77 from Oystermouth Square.

The MC at this particular Eisteddfod was Ieuan Jones (Iggy), our Chemistry teacher and Form master. He came on stage to introduce the competitors in an open category. He introduced Paul playing Harmonica, accompanied by Andy Bevan on guitar, playing a piece called (if my memory serves me correctly) Skull Bone Blues.

I seem to remember the introduction was delivered with disdain in his voice and a sneer on his lips. The mention of Harmonica and Blues awakened me from my slumber and what followed was astonishing. This was the first time I had heard someone playing blues harmonica live. Most of the audience were soon tapping their feet and clapping their hands. At the end of the performance the hall erupted, boys were stamping their feet clapping and cheering and shouting for more, something I had not witnessed before in my seven years at Dynevor - nor heard since!

I'm not sure who Paul was up against and have no recollection of what instrument the other contestant played. If the gentleman who performed that day is reading this then I can only offer my profound apologies. The Independent Adjudicator admitted he would be unpopular, but he declared the other boy the winner, whereupon the hall erupted yet again, this time to a cacophony of boos, the only time I have witnessed booing at an Eisteddfod. The Headmaster, Bernard Norris, went ballistic, giving us a right telling off for being so ungentlemanly and not showing respect to the adjudicator, but as far as the vast majority in the hall that day were concerned, Paul Henry was robbed.

*Paul was undoubtedly a good Harmonica player and he contributed to my most memorable St. David's Day event. In fact I am unable to recall another single event from St David's Day in all my time at Dynevor*



## **DY'VORIANS GET EVERYWHERE!**

**(Sponsoring Freedom Fighters FC and Justice Paradise FC, Gambia)**

*We carried a lovely story in TOD21, entitled 'Postcard from Luang Prabang' – Pp.10/11), by Gerry Paster. This time, our 'Letter from Wokingham' is somewhat nearer home (see P.9). However, before making (invidious?) comparisons, we thought you would enjoy this story about a place about half way between the two.*

*Bill Gibbs (1959), President in 2006, and his Wife, Brenda, went on holiday to the Gambia in 2007. As well as having a restful time, they enjoyed meeting the local people, who were very friendly, even visiting some families in their homes.*

*They found that, although desperately poor, they had some great local football teams, football being pretty well their only leisure enjoyment, because it cost nothing!*

*Having told their story to the Directors of Swansea City, they've been able to take gifts of new footballs, kit and the Swansea City flag with them on subsequent visits. They have been every year since 2007 and, indeed, three times in 2012/13.*

*They have also promised to sponsor a child throughout her education, which otherwise would come to an end after Junior School.*



Bill and Brenda are seen proudly holding up the Swansea City Flag, whilst surrounded by enthusiastic local footballers, some proudly wearing their Swans' kit.

***It's a great story. If anyone feels impelled, as a result of this article, to help Bill and Brenda continue and expand their good work, please contact Bill on 01792 411401 or E-mail him on [williamt.gibbs@ntlworld.com](mailto:williamt.gibbs@ntlworld.com)***



**\*\* BOOK THIS DATE – NOW!! Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**

*The 75th Annual Dinner will be held at the same venue as in 2011 & 2012, namely, Swansea University. Membership is at an all-time high, so we're looking forward to another packed 'congregation'!*

*At the dinner, our new President, Kevin Johns MBE will be installed and will introduce his Guest Speaker, the well known Historian and Raconteur, Professor Peter Stead*

***A booking form is included with this issue for your convenience.***

**BOOKING DEADLINE 4<sup>th</sup> April**

*You can't afford to miss the*

**ANNUAL SMU/ODA LECTURE, 2013**

Thursday, 25th April 2013 at 4.30pm ( Refreshments follow the lecture )  
Samuel Roberts Lecture Theatre, Dynevor Centre for Art, Design & Media  
Swansea Metropolitan University

**Emeritus Professor Garel Rhys**

*'The Global Motor Industry and the Welsh Economy'*

*Reserve place(s): Joyce Wills on Tel 01792 481100 or Email [joyce.wills@smu.ac.uk](mailto:joyce.wills@smu.ac.uk)*



*Ken Sharpe with Peter Walker at the cricket last August. This year the festival, organised by the 'Balconiers', will begin on 21 August. All enquiries to Ken*

**GOLF AT CLYNE – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May.**

Ken Sharpe (1953) is once again organising a **GOLF DAY** at Clyne Golf Course, Mayals on the same day as the Dinner. All ex-Dynevor pupils are welcome. Refreshments will be available before and after the **18 hole Stableford competition.**

**Tee off from 10.00am**

**Members £10, Visitors £25**

**Entry forms are available from [ken.sharpe@btinternet.com](mailto:ken.sharpe@btinternet.com)**

**MAKE IT A GREAT DAY OUT. NEW players are WELCOME**



## IN MEMORIAM':

We regret to report the deaths of the following Old Dy'vorian and Teachers. More extensive tributes may sometimes be found in our new and updated Website [www.dynevorrevisited.org](http://www.dynevorrevisited.org)

- 29 January, 2013: Brian Kerslake (1942).  
- *Both Brian and his Wife, Judith (1984-2002), taught at Dynevor*
- February, 2012: Herbie Williams (1934).
- September, 2012: Gareth Walters (1940).  
- *Gareth was heavily involved for many years with the Swansea Festival*
- 5 October, 2012 : Billy Hullin (1953)  
- *Billy had a first-class Rugby career; a former Captain of Cardiff, he was capped for Wales, was Vice-Captain and also played for the Barbarians.*

***“May they rest in peace”***

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## WHO PUT THE SCHOOL CREST ON THE PEW?

Edgar McCarthy (1953) and his Wife, Mary called at St. Mary's last September, on its Open Day, to take the chance of a visit 'up the Tower'.

Once completed, they spent some time (in prayer?), as well as roaming around the Church, which, of course, had to be virtually rebuilt after the 1941 Blitz. They were excited to discover two Pews which had the Dynevor School Crest engraved in full colour on the endpiece.

Edgar took fotos of them and tried to set in train an enquiry as to their origin, unfortunately without success. We have made our own enquiries, which equally, have yielded little success before publication

**Our foto shows one of the endpieces. We hope to report a successful outcome to our search in TOD23. Any offers or suggestions? Please contact me on [petermacbarbican@gmail.com](mailto:petermacbarbican@gmail.com)**





**WHO'S WHO IN THE ODA: 2013/ 2014**

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**Secretary: Phillip Davies**

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**New Webmaster: to be advised]**

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**Golf/Cricket: Ken Sharpe**

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*The other Members of this active and experienced Committee are:*

**Graham Hanford** *Dinner*     **Peter Samuel** (1959) *Golf*     **Keith Morris** (1956) *Ties*

**Phil Stone** (1958) & **David Dickinson** (1948) *Past Presidents*

**NEW EDITOR: Jeff Humphries (1958) will take over after this issue. Originally from the Rhondda, he went from Dynevor to the University of East Anglia, where he read History. He taught at schools in Norfolk, before joining the Western Mail as a Cub Reporter in 1970. His wide experience with Associated Newspapers has taken him to a number of prominent titles in the East Midlands. He currently lectures on Journalism at Staffordshire and Wolverhampton Universities, as well as De Montfort, Leicester. The ODA team is very happy to welcome him to their ranks.**

**Copy deadline for TOD 23 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013**

**Please submit in 'WORD' format – 500/600 words MAX + fotos if poss.**

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