

Rhif/No. LXXIX

Gaeaf/Winter, 2021–22

the link

Cymdeithas
Llambed

The
Lampeter
Society



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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of *The Link* was designed by Jill Sweet (JS Typesetting Ltd., Porthcawl) and printed by Sarah & Ashley Ward of Y Stiwdio Brint, Lampeter.

Images

The covers for this issue depict early and recent Lampeter alumni, in anticipation of the 2022 Lampeter Society 85th anniversary and University bicentenary celebrations.

Front cover

Photo of an early alumnus, Rev. Willoughby Bean (1847), posted in an article by Kyle Thomason (2015, 2017) entitled *The Third Alumnus* that appeared in the Summer, 2021 edition of *The Link*, no. LXXXVIII, page 22.

Back cover

Image of 2022 alumna, Saskia Judd, at the archway entrance to the Old Building, taken by Laura-Cait Driscoll.

Explicanda

1. Throughout, dates in brackets after names indicate years of graduation. **Please note that it is our policy to include graduation years after the names of individuals. If anyone does not wish this to be shown, please let us know.**

2. In addition to its plural sense, the pronoun ‘they’ is used throughout “to refer to a person of unspecified sex” rather than ‘he or she’ and similar forms. Even though not universally accepted, this usage dates back to “at least the 16th century”. Then, in the late 20th century, it again became common “as the traditional use of ‘he’ to refer to a person of either sex came under scrutiny on the grounds of sexism.” (*Oxford Dictionary of English*, 2nd edition, revised, 2005, p.1832.) Moreover, it seems to be a usage that befits the current gender-sensitive times.

3. Wherever there is a gloss by the editor, it appears simply as “ – Ed.”

ERRATUM

We apologise to Gillian Holf, whose surname was mis-spelt on page 12 of *The Link*, LXXVIII (Summer, 2021).

EDITORIAL

Welcome to this winter issue of *The Link* which is relatively large, with much news and many reviews and feature articles. In it, we read about the future plans for the Lampeter Campus; further amazing and diverse exploits of Geography alumni; reviews of our monthly virtual talks; an emotional and nostalgic account of a return visit to Lampeter by an alumnus 38 years after he graduated; the history of Old Canterbury Building; the academic robes of SDC Lampeter; the new bicentenary ‘Lampeter Gold’ beer; and the Lampeter Society’s activity-packed programmes for the 2022 annual Reunion, the Society’s 85th Anniversary and the bicentenary of UWTSD Lampeter Campus.

In the next issue, we hope to feature articles on the histories of the Chapel, St David’s College School, and the Lampeter Society.

It would be good to hear from you about the current situation and how you are coping, as well as what you think of the magazine and other items you would like to see included in it. Letters to the editor are always much appreciated too.

Meanwhile, please keep on sending me your contributions for future editions. When sending us images though, please ensure that they are of as high a quality as possible with the maximum resolution feasible otherwise they do not transfer well. Also, in an accompanying note, please make full reference to people in the image, the date it was taken etc.

Stay safe and well! The pandemic rages on.

Brendan McSharry (1971)
Brendan.mcsharry2@gmail.com

CHAIR'S REPORT

I'm writing my update on day 3 of self-isolation. Covid finally caught up with me, although thankfully the symptoms have been mild. I hope that you have all managed to stay safe and well. We're still seeing ourselves as being in a state of flux and continue to look towards the future when things are not quite so unsettled.

The Lampeter Society committee continued to work hard throughout the second half of 2021 and I'd like to begin by thanking them all for their support, dedication and commitment to finding new ways of working. We haven't met face to face as a committee for over two years, and while Zoom has been great in allowing us to continue our meetings, it would be quite nice if we were able to sit down and have a cup of tea together sometime soon!

Our monthly virtual book-reading sessions continue to take place. We've been extremely lucky to have alumni talk on a variety of topics, often from various locations and time zones around the world – South Africa, the United States, Singapore, to name but a few. Thanks to all our readers, and a particular thanks to Paul Hedges who gave a fascinating talk, 'Understanding and Hatred: Scholarly pathways from Lampeter to Singapore' a few weeks ago at 3am his time! The talks have been recorded and can be found on the Lampeter Society Facebook page (for those who do not have access to this and who would like to receive a copy of any of the talks, please let us know and we can send them to you). Award-winning poet, Lampeter alumna and former university librarian, Kathy Miles, will be delivering the next session, 'Finding the Wild' on 7 February, in which she will be reading some of her poetry inspired by the landscape of West Wales and talking about the influences on her work. We would love to hear from alumni who have published books and who would like to run a book-reading session. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please let us know.

We were once again disappointed not to be able to meet face to face last summer for our annual Reunion. For the second year running, however, we transferred our plans to a virtual event, and, as you can read in the review on pages 17–18, we had a very engaging and informative day, ending with our usual pub quiz! Well done to our three joint winners! Ian Marchant provided a very entertaining session for us and I'm pleased to say that he has agreed to run a virtual book-reading session later in the year. If his Reunion talk is anything to go by, I know we are all in for a treat! It was great to hear updates from the University campus as well as current research from individual members of staff – and it was just a good opportunity to get together.

As you can imagine, a large part of the committee's time has been, and is continuing to be, spent on preparations to mark the bicentenary of the University. You will see from our timetable on page 42 that we have quite a full and varied programme of events planned. Hopefully you will all have received an email recently providing further information on each of them. If anyone would like more information about any of the proposed activities, please do not hesitate to contact me. Reunion bookings are coming in steadily and we are really pleased that so many new faces, as well as regulars, will be attending our special four-day event. It will be a weekend to celebrate on so many levels! We have included the programme in this edition of *The Link* (on pp. iii–viii). Bookings and payment are being made online only from this year so if you would like the link for this to be emailed to you, please let me know (though it is also given on p. ii).

I'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the '200 Lampeter Voices' project. We are now in the process of putting the final document together and I can honestly say it has been a huge privilege and pleasure to read the contributions.

Full of emotion, wonderful memories and some excellent pictures, the complete volume will be a really important addition to the Roderic Bowen Archives, as well as proving a persuasive marketing tool for bringing future students to Lampeter. The virtual launch of the work, as well as being showcased at the summer Reunion, will feature some of these memories and give a taster of the complete project – don't miss them!

As well as our series of events, look out for more Lampeter Society merchandise to reach the University's new online store. Our scarves and ties are popular and our newly-commissioned, celebratory 'Lampeter Gold' beer, produced by award-winning Monty's Brewery in Montgomery, will undoubtedly prove an equal hit. Due to licensing laws, the product will only be sold on campus at all our events throughout the year – one reason, if any were needed, to visit the University and attend one of our celebratory events during 2022! Alumnus Nicholas Groves's revised work, *The Academic Robes of St David's College, Lampeter 1922 – 1971*, is the latest addition to the shop. Nicholas has included a short piece about it on page 43 of this edition.

Finally, a heartfelt thanks to everyone who has contributed so far to our Lampeter Society bursaries. I spoke in previous updates of our aim of providing two bursaries to the value of £1,000 each for two potential students from the University's social inclusion projects in Newport and London for a start in Lampeter in academic year 2022/23. We are very near our original target, so if anyone else would like to make a donation to enable us to reach (or even exceed) our aim, donations can be made at www.uwtsd.ac.uk/alumni/lampeter-alumni/donate-now/.

Our bicentenary version of the '200 Club' is also proving very popular, with almost 70 numbers having been sold. The funds raised from it will be put towards the Lampeter Society

bursaries, so thanks again to all who take part. New members can join at any time and the registration form is again found towards the back of this edition.

I wish you all a happy and safe bicentenary year and look forward to seeing you at some point, either virtually or face to face in Lampeter.

Best wishes, as always,
Esther

Esther Weller (1999)
Chair, Lampeter Society
estherb16@yahoo.co.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY: AN UPDATE FROM THE PROVOST

2021 has been a challenging time for all of us and, as the Autumn Term draws to a close, the University would wish to record its gratitude to all its staff and students alike for their co-operation, resilience, and support throughout the year. The health and wellbeing of staff, students and those living in the local community have been our priority in planning our response to the pandemic from the beginning, and our hope is that 2022 will prove to be a far happier and more prosperous year for us all.

Of course, next year will see the University celebrating its bicentenary, with a procession through the town of Lampeter being planned for 12 August to commemorate the laying of the Foundation Stone on that very day in 1822. I'm delighted that the University is collaborating with the Lampeter Society on many events including the service to be held in St Davids Cathedral on 14 May. The service will not only commemorate the bicentenary but also the Society's 85th anniversary.

Other plans for the campus include the creation of a bicentenary garden, a new reception area in the Old Hall and the planting of two hundred trees on campus. This is in addition to the recent refurbishment of the Old College and Lloyd Thomas Hall and the demolition of the Texaco building.

On the recruitment front, the campus continues to face challenges in respect of its undergraduate humanities programmes, but the iHumanities initiative and postgraduate programmes have both recruited

well this year. I'm also delighted to announce that 38 undergraduate students will be arriving in Lampeter from the Caribbean islands of St Vincent and the Grenadines in January – subject to Covid regulations of course.

The University has recently launched the Global Humanity for Peace Institute in partnership with the Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace (GHFP) Research Institute. It will be dedicated to the promotion of collective healing, social justice and conflict resolution and will be based at Lampeter.

The *Canolfan Tir Glas* initiative is gaining momentum and was recently awarded £488,000 from the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund to take forward some of its key components during the next few years. These include the establishment of the Pontfaen food village, the Academy of Contemporary Food Wales, a Rural Enterprise Hub, the Wales Centre for Resilience and Harmony (that was successfully launched in November), and the Wales Wood Science and Technology Centre. The

aim is to apply for significant funding from the Mid Wales Growth Deal to allow the University and its partners to develop a national training centre for sustainability on campus, thus enabling the institution to produce graduates that can make a positive contribution to the future well-being of our planet.

One of the highlights of 2021, without a doubt, was the launch of Pam Petro's memoir, *The Long Field*, in November. The book is a fascinating account of Pam's relationship with Wales ever since she arrived in the country as an MA Student at Lampeter in 1983. It is a personal reflection that is beautifully written and that fully justifies its position as one of *The Financial Times's* six Best Travel Books of 2021. It is well worth a read.

Finally, may I thank you, the Lampeter alumni, for your continued interest and support and wish you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

Gwilym Dyfri Jones
December, 2021

JOIN OUR '200 CLUB'!

Our '200 Club' continues to grow, with cash prizes given out monthly! Each time, half of the proceeds will be awarded to one lucky winner and half will go to the Lampeter Society to help us fund our activities and events.

Further information, including the registration form, can be found on pp. xi–xii of this edition of *The Link*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM CARLETON REES TARR (1962)

My thanks to the editorial team for the latest issue of *The Link* [Summer, 2021 – Ed.]. The magazine is a great help in enabling those of us who are not always able to attend Reunions to catch up. Below are a few multifarious thoughts of mine...

I am keen to contact my contemporaries, particularly those living, as I do, in the Three Counties area [Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire – Ed.]. I am wondering if there is a Co-ordinator with whom I could get in touch [we will follow this up – Ed.].

I enjoyed reading about Bruce Parker (1963) [see *The Link*, Winter, 2018 / 19, no. LXXIII, pages 27–28 – Ed.], and his marvellous career as Chairman of Trustees at Winchester, inter alia;

congratulations, Bruce! I last met him on a train going from Oxford to Reading. I was travelling to attend an interview at the Royal College of Music in London... I believe it was a stopping train and I failed to make it in time!

A few weeks ago, we visited Tregaron on our travels and had a short tour of the Kite Centre and Museum, where we discussed some of the photos and other exhibits with the curator. We then went to Tregaron Bog and Strata Florida Abbey, where there was a display of aggregate to simulate the base foundation of the railway track from Aberystwyth to Lampeter via Tregaron. The whole area is of interest to me since a late relative entered Ystrad Meurig [a school near Tregaron which sent many poor students to St. David's College, Lampeter – Ed.] as a mature student in order to study for his Licence in Theology. He had to work in the mining community

apparently in order to afford the fees and then spent his later years in the Merthyr Valley, where his son became a lawyer as well as a fine organist and pianist.

Later last month, we found ourselves at Bowood House near Chippenham where there is a collection of paintings of admirals in Nelson's navy taking on Napoleon at sea. Amongst these was one of Admiral Elphinstone [Elphinstone College in Bombay was a precursor of the University of Bombay – see *The Link*, Summer, 2019, no. LXXIV, page 16 – Ed.].

Finally, regarding the sports field, it would be interesting if *The Link* could give us an update on the College's future plans (it does, see the Update from the Provost on page 3 of this edition – Ed.).

Keep up the good work!



2022 BURSARY FUNDRAISING APPEAL

Our initial aim is to raise £2,000 to create two £1,000 Bicenentary Bursaries for potential students in the University's Social Inclusion projects in London and Newport. In the future, we would like to award a Lampeter Society Bursary for a new student on an annual basis.

If you would like to support our appeal, please donate at <https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/alumni/lampeter-alumni/donate-now/>

Thank you!

FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1/7/2021 – 30/9/2021

Opening Balances at 1/7/21:

Current a/c	1628.81	
'200 Club'	370.81	
Reserve a/c	23002.09	
UWTSD	5555.91	30557.62

Income:

Annual Donations	415.00	
'200 Club' new year subscriptions	650.00	
Bank Interest	0.60	1065.60

Expenditure:

'200 Club' prizes	70.60	70.60
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Closing Balances:

Current a/c	988.81	
'200 Club'	737.02	
Reserve a/c	24215.88	
UWTSD (<i>figures to 31/7/21</i>)	5610.91	31552.62

Notes to Financial Statement:

1.) **Opening balances** of £30557.62 reflect the position at the start of July.

Income:

2.) **Annual Donation** income £415.00 for this three-month period does not include any funds paid to the UWTSD account in August or September – not yet advised to me.

3.) **The '200 Club'** income £650.00 represents contributions for the new year's draws received in the last three months.

4.) **Bank interest** remains low.

Outgoings:

5.) **'200 Club' prizes** £70.60 are up to and including the August draw.

6.) The figures I have for the **UWTSD account** are correct to 31 July. In August I asked Beverley at Swansea to pay *The Link* costs from this account. These were:

Y Stiwidio Brint	£ 1335.00
J S Typesetting	£ 528.00

I currently await an updated report from Swansea confirming these payments and the new balance of our UWTSD account. I will update in my next report.

7.) At the start of the new academic year, as usual, we made **grants** to the Library (£1000) and the Chapel (£500).

8.) Our **total funds** at the end of September (pending update from Swansea) are £31552.62

Andrew Leach (1977)

SPOTLIGHT ON THE LAMPETER CAMPUS

[Except where indicated, items are based on press releases submitted by Arwel Lloyd, Principal PR and Communications Officer, University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD hereinafter), and the images are taken from them too – Ed.]

LEAGUE TABLES

► THE GUARDIAN LEAGUE TABLE RANKS UWTSD 1ST IN WALES IN 10 SUBJECTS

In *The Guardian University League Table 2022* published today (11 September), the University has been placed first in Wales in ten subjects and in the top 15 places in the whole of the UK in six subjects.



Image from the UWTSD Press Office

The University Group, which includes Coleg Sir Gâr, is positioned joint 74th overall out of the 121 featured institutions from across the UK.

The Guardian ranks universities according to nine different measures including: how satisfied final-year students are with their courses, teaching and feedback; spending per student; the student/staff ratio; graduate career prospects; what grades applicants need to get a place; and a value-added score that compares students' entry qualifications with their final degree results.

The subjects which are ranked 1st in Wales are:

- Art
- Classics & Ancient History
- Design & Crafts
- Education
- Fashion & Textiles
- Film, Production & Photography
- Forensic Science & Archaeology
- History
- Mechanical Engineering
- Music

In addition, six subjects were placed in the top 15 in the UK including Design & Crafts (3rd), Art (5rd), Fashion and Textiles (9th), History (10th), Archaeology (13th) and Classics & Ancient History (14th).

The History programme, delivered on the University's Lampeter campus, was also 7th in the UK for careers within 15 months of graduating.

UNIVERSITY NEWS ON NEW PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

► UWTSD SHORT COURSE EXPLORES EGYPTIAN CULTURAL ASTRONOMY

The University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD) has offered a short course for those interested in Egyptian Cultural Astronomy.



From the UWTSD press office course publicity

The 'Introduction to Egyptian Cultural Astronomy' short course was delivered by the University's Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology in Culture and the Sophia Centre Press. The online programme ran for five weeks on Wednesday evenings from 11 August to 8 September, 2021.

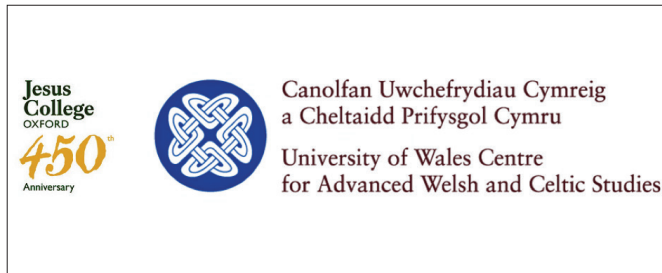
Course tutor, Dr. Bernadette Brady (2005, 2012), commented:

"Egyptian cultural astronomy is more than the Sun, gold and pyramids. It is also the Moon and silver, the blue of the sky, notions of circular time, the never-ending working stars, the ever-changing non-divine planets, and a collection of calendars, all of which created a unique but shifting sky-view that ran for over three thousand years.

The Sun, stars and Moon were interwoven with the Egyptians' view of divine order, Ma'at, and they were represented in funeral objects, texts and temple motifs in different ways over the long history of Pharaonic Egypt.

The course begins with the Old Kingdom, the pyramids and the Egyptian notion of soul and the northern stars, and follows this star focus through to the diagonal star clock of the Middle Kingdom. The dominance of Ra (the Sun god) in the New Kingdom is explored, along with the magnificent astronomical ceilings and the solar cult of Akhenaten. The course concludes with the Ptolemaic temples, where the Greek zodiac was blended with Egyptian astronomical images and ideas."

► JOINT CELTIC SEMINAR SERIES



UWTSD and Jesus College Oxford Celtic Seminar series logo

This year, the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies and Jesus College Oxford jointly held their Celtic Seminars as part of the strategic alliance between the universities.

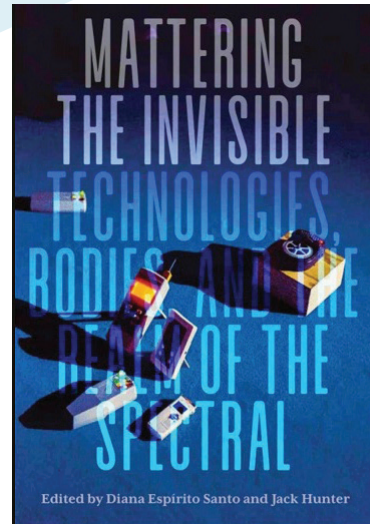
The Centre, founded by the University of Wales in 1985, holds two series of research seminars in the field of Celtic Studies annually. Since the start of the pandemic, these have been held online with speakers and audiences joining not only from the Celtic nations but also from many countries and continents.

The series was opened by Dr Rhys Kaminski-Jones, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at the Centre, on Thursday, 7 October, with a talk entitled *'Hi Hên-Eleni y Ganed! Canu Llywarch Hen yn y cyfnod Rhamantaidd'*. The series was closed by Professor Michael Cronin of Trinity College, Dublin on Thursday, 2 December, with his seminar *'Minority Journeying in the Age of the Anthropocene'*.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

On 7 June, 2021, UWTSD's Sophia Centre launched its publication of *Mattering the Invisible: Technologies, Bodies and the Realm of the Spectral*, edited by Diana Espirito Santo and UWTSD academic, Dr Jack Hunter.

This radical new book brings together an international cast of contributors to explore some of the many different ways that matter is active in expressing the invisible – from the role of the body in manifesting spirits in mediumship, communications with UFOs through radios, and hunting for ghosts with EMF meters, to the efforts of meteorologists and physicists to make sense of hidden



Mattering the Invisible book cover published by the UWTSD Sophia Centre

forces and processes, and more. This book suggests that machines, people, and invisible beings are much more entangled than we might at first expect.

Dr Jack Hunter is an anthropologist exploring the borderlands of consciousness, religion, ecology and the paranormal. He is an Honorary Research Fellow with the Alister Hardy Religious Experience Research Centre and a tutor with UWTSD's Sophia Centre (Lampeter Campus) for the Study of Cosmology in Culture.

Dr. Diana Espirito Santo currently works as Associate Professor at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. She has published many articles and has co-edited four volumes including *The Social Life of Spirits* (2013, University of Chicago Press) with Ruy Blanes.

AWARDS

► UWTSD CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE DIRECTORS RECEIVE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALS

At a special ceremony recently, UWTSD's Krystyna Krajewska and Dr Thomas Jansen were awarded with distinguished service medals by the Chinese International Education Foundation (CIEF).

The hybrid ceremony was held from Beijing as part of the 'Honouring Our Past, Building Our Future' event on World



Virtual award ceremony at the CIEF Beijing and Confucius Institute, Lampeter

Confucius Institutes Day. This award was established for foreign and Chinese directors of Confucius Institutes to mark many years of service and significant personal contributions to the development of these international educational institutions.

UWTSD's Confucius Institute, based at the University's Lampeter campus, was officially founded in 2007 by Professor Yao Xinzhong, now Dean of the School of Philosophy at the prestigious Renmin University, Beijing. During the past 14 years, the Confucius Institute's work in schools and across the University has consistently expanded under the watchful eye of its directors.

Dr Thomas Jansen served in the Confucius Institute from 2007 to 2019 and oversaw the growth of the Institute through the creation of five Confucius Classrooms in Welsh Secondary Schools. His vision for intercultural communication between Wales and China enabled many UWTSD students to secure places in the Beijing Union University's Chinese summer schools and also to gain 'A Year Abroad' scholarship placements at Chinese Universities.

Krystyna Krajewska joined the Confucius Institute initially as General Manager in 2010 and became Executive Director in 2013. She is also principal of the Confucius Institute Chinese School in Swansea, created in 2016 in collaboration with the Chinese in Wales Association with the aim of ensuring that youngsters from Wales's ethnic Chinese population keep in touch with their linguistic and cultural heritage.

CONFERENCES

► INAUGURAL LECTURE EXPLORES SUCCESSION PLANNING, HOW NOT TO DO IT: ALEXANDER THE GREAT AND HIS SUCCESSORS

On 20 October, 2021, Kyle Erickson, currently Director of Academic Experience, gave his inaugural professorial lecture in the Founder's Library with the title 'Succession Planning: how not to do it. Alexander the Great and his successors.' In his introductory remarks, the Vice Chancellor caused some amusement by suggesting that perhaps he should be taking careful notes, given his impending retirement in the not-too-distant future! As part of the bicentenary celebrations, the University has granted personal professorships to a number of members of staff, and this was the first of what will be a series of professorial inaugural lectures during the course of the year.

Kyle Erickson came to Lampeter in 2010 as a member of the Classics Department and has subsequently been Head of that Department and Assistant Dean of the Humanities Faculty before taking up his current appointment in 2019. He graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2005, and has an MA and a PhD from Exeter University, where he was teaching before coming to

Lampeter. He has specialised in Ancient History and has published widely on the Seleucid Empire, which existed from 312 BC to 63 BC. This lecture concentrated on the period immediately following the unexpected early death of Alexander the Great and was a fascinating insight into an extraordinarily complicated succession battle between his wives and their offspring.



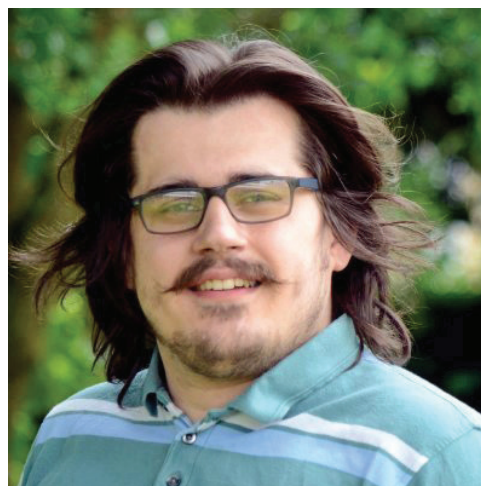
Professor Kyle Erickson's inaugural lecture in the Old Hall

The lecture was given to an invited audience under Covid restrictions and was also live-streamed. It was followed by some lively discussion before light refreshments ended the afternoon.

Kyle is, incidentally, also an active member of Lampeter's Round Table, which has a high profile in the town.

Bill Fillery (1969)

UPDATE: STUDENTS' UNION (November, 2021)



James Barrow

Hello. I'm James Barrow and I am the Lampeter Campus President for UWTSD Students' Union for 2021/22. My work for this year is in three major areas: improving the accessibility for those with disabilities; the implementation and continuation of sustainability campaigns; and ensuring that all international students are 'kept within the fold' through the endeavours of both the University and the Students' Union.

With regard to disability accessibility, I have been in contact with the University estates team and am close to securing further disabled parking spaces on the campus in areas where they were lacking. There is also talk of a report on this being made by the University and I intend to help with the writing of this in the future.

The work for sustainability has been successful, with a number of second-hand books and vinyl records rescued from disposal and repurposed. The books have been repackaged in blank paper, with only the genre being shown. This has been dubbed the 'Blind Bookshelf', with anybody being able to take the books. It's been incredibly popular among the students and has had a positive impact on the way people in the area see reading. The vinyls have been used as part of a redecoration of the Students' Union space as a way of expressing just how things can be reused, and illustrating that unorthodox methods are just as valid as mainstream ones.

The pledge for international students comes in the wake of the news of a number of students from St. Vincent and the Grenadines coming over to Lampeter to study at UWTSD under a scholarship, and stems from the desire for the Academy of Sinology to have more of an impact on a day-to-day basis. This too has been successful as the Students' Union has their first ever part-time officer from the Sinology Department! There is still more to do in this regard though, especially as the Saint Vincentians are expected to be flying over soon, so hopefully a further update can be provided later on.

James Barrow
UWTSD SU Lampeter Campus President

Postscript by the Editor

James writes: "I'm still a part-time student in Lampeter studying a MTh Christian Theology degree. I used to be president of the Performing Arts society and am still a member nowadays (although not on the executive team). Theatre has been a huge passion of mine for a number of years so being able to run that society when I did was such a great opportunity. Acting in one show and directing another was a massive honour for me and a fantastic experience."

UPDATE: THE RODERIC BOWEN LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

At long last things are back to normal and the Special Collections and Archives Library is open for students,

researchers and visitors. We were delighted to begin the term with the taught Special Collections Research module, which resulted in some excellent, well-researched essays.

In September, Ruth Gooding, the Special Collections Librarian, mounted an exhibition on Gilbert White and the Natural History of Selborne, which was followed in October by an online exhibition about the history of sugar, to mark Black History month. The gentleman artist Charles Norris, who meticulously recorded the medieval buildings of Tenby, was the subject for November's online exhibition, which can still be accessed through the Special Collections and Archives webpage. Our wealth of books relating to Captain James Cook will be showcased in December's online exhibition, whilst a physical exhibition in the library will display the accounts of Mungo Park's voyages down the River Niger, to mark the 250th anniversary of his birth.

The current online archive exhibition explores the experiences of the students from both St David's and Trinity Colleges during the Second World War, when St David's College provided a refuge for pupils from Wycliffe School and Trinity College became home for student teachers from Winchester. An accompanying booklet is available and can be requested via n.hammond@uwtsd.ac.uk.

Other titles also available include:

The Corpse as a Commodity – The College Treasurer's family and the Body Snatchers

Derry Ormond Tower and the Battle of Waterloo

The Professor, his Aunt (and a dog) go climbing

St David's, Toc H and the Knutsford Ordination School

Lampeter and the Atom Bomb

Parcell Rees Bowen, St David's College student, war hero wounded by the Bolsheviks, assassinated in Dublin

Morgan Rhys of Cil-y-Cwm

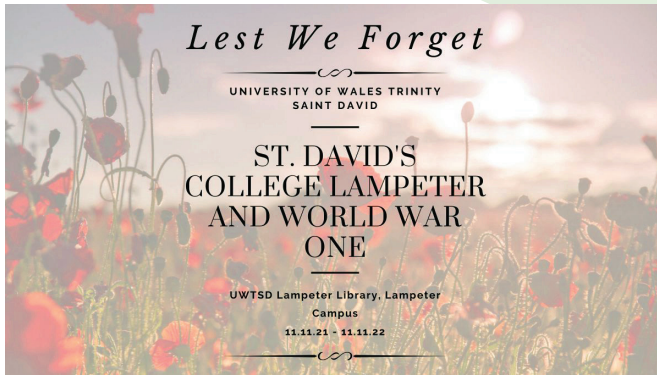
Henry James Prince, the Lampeter student who thought he was God

The college, Hitler's deputy and Churchill's secret army

These are free but any donations are always most welcome. We also have twelve new Special Collections and Archives postcards available.

Visitors to the campus will discover a new permanent exhibition on display outside the Special Collections and Archives Library. It features the history of St David's College during the First World War, written by former university archivist Sarah Roberts, and displays the College Memorial Tablet.

2022 is an exciting year for us which will see the publication of two books and the launch of our online alumni biography project. The numerous exhibitions we have planned, both online and physical, will narrate the



First World War Exhibition flyer – Roderic Bowen Library & Archives

history of St David's College and display the richness of its Special Collections. The first few months will include exhibitions on Bishop Burgess – his vision for a Welsh College and his library; Mary Astell, 'the first female feminist'; the first female students at St David's and Trinity Colleges; Professor Edmund Tyrrell-Green; Travellers in Snowdonia; and St David's College and its missionary heritage.

Nicky Hammond (2009, 2011)
UWTSD Lampeter Campus Archivist

ALUMNI UPDATES

In April, 2021, I sent out a call to graduates in **GEOGRAPHY**, a department which was the biggest in the University when I arrived in 1991, but which sadly closed within a decade. This subject is the focus of the Alumni Updates below. I have split up the reminiscences into decades, ranging from the mid-1970s through to the final cohort who graduated in the early 2000s.

[Editor's notes:

1. *The call generated such a huge response that we have had to publish the contributions in two instalments. The first part appeared in the Summer, 2021 edition of The Link, and the second part follows below.*
2. *Many contributors have sent us fascinating photographs – though unfortunately in some group ones they have not identified themselves. We have, however, still included them but if any of you can identify yourselves, please let us know! Moreover, owing to their age, some images are of lower quality than we would normally publish. – Ed.]*

We shall be issuing invitations to graduates from all of Lampeter's subjects and programmes for future editions of *The Link* and look forward to hearing from you if you want to be included. The next subject area to be featured in the bicentenary edition of Summer, 2022, will be **ARCHAEOLOGY**.

We are keen to hear about what made your time at SDC, or SDUC, or UWL, or UWTSD, so special and memorable. What stands out in your memory? Who were the lecturers who most inspired or influenced you? How did the

skills you learned equip you (or not!) for what you have subsequently gone on to do in your lives?

Dr Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999)
Reader & Head of Religious Studies Department,
University of Kent

1970s

DR JOHN CATER – (1971–74)

December, 1970. Money subbed. Hitch to Northampton. Train to Rugby. Train to Birmingham. Train to Shrewsbury. Train – is this really a train? – to Aberystwyth. Morgan's Coaches to Lampeter. Eight hours. Dark on departure, dark on arrival.

I'd never crossed Offa's Dyke before, and had offers from UCL, Exeter and QMC, but an inspirational teacher, Gwyn Davies, not long out of the Valleys, persuaded me to put a sixth choice on my UCCA form. And David Thomas, leaving London for his homeland, setting up a new Geography Department from scratch, welcomed a dozen of us to Lampeter for a couple of taster days. Free accommodation – in JLT – free food, interesting activities and, for a first-generation small-town boy, a small-town environment I thought I could survive and succeed in.

Nine months on, choices made, grades gained, journey repeated. Home was a Terrapin – unglamorously but accurately entitled Hut 2, Room 11. Thin walls, hollowed by the occasional fist, one washroom, ten people, thrown together by the sequence of the alphabet. Almost all my Lampeter friends had surnames C to F.

John Dawson and Donald Davidson added, the Geography Department now numbered three, the building brand new. With just fifteen of us, David Thomas ran an 'Oxbridge' model – an assignment due every Tuesday at 0900, immediately read and provisionally marked; a two-person tutorial at 1200; and the re-marked essay returned via Rhiannon, the sole administrator, before 1700. I learned a lot from this – how to justify "the rolling English drunkard made the rolling English road" (a quote from Chesterton) that constituted our first essay challenge – and how to stay up all night every Monday, fresh from the Ivy Bush, pen in left hand...

As one intake became two and then three in number, David Kirby and Graham Sumner turned three into five. I picked my way through Human Geography modules, options enhanced by a visiting academic, Kjell Stenstadvold, and, thanks to the alphabet, scraped out as the first name on the first pass list of the first set of Lampeter Geography graduates.

But I learned for life. David and Daphne Thomas regularly fed us in their house in Cwmann whilst Graham Sumner supplied the beer and the food in Cribyn. We were supported but also taught to challenge, to build evidence, and argue a case. And being at Lampeter meant playing a

part in running the Scientific Society; helping out at Folk Club with the late-lamented Mark ‘Moses’ Davis; playing UAU cricket (I’m not sure I should have been competing against the University of East Anglia in the week of finals...); and rugby union – fourteen English lads plus our captain and only Welsh speaker, the wonderful and sadly departed Reverend Stuart ‘Alfie’ Brace, against Llanelli Steel – and a night in Singleton Hospital.



The cricket team with John Cater (seated in the front row, first on the left)

I’ve been back twice. As a guest speaker to the Geog Soc – dinner in the Black Lion, breakfast in Mag’s Kitchen – and, last summer, passing through en route to a week in Pembrokeshire. Fifty years have passed, but the evocation is still strong.

John Cater, CBE DL, has been, since 1993, the Vice-Chancellor of Edge Hill University in Lancashire, the current Times and Sunday Times’ Modern University of the Year. But he knows where the building blocks of his career were put in place.

1990s

KEVIN HAWKSWORTH – 1989–98

Although Lampeter was not my first choice, it quickly became apparent that my failure to meet the required ‘A’-level grades for Sheffield was a blessing in disguise as Lampeter quickly cast a magical spell over me during my time spent there. I am forever grateful to my ‘A’-Level Geography teacher who suggested Lampeter as an alternative – he clearly knew me well! I vividly remember the winding journey by car with my father and thinking “... Will we ever get there and how can there be a university in the middle of nowhere?” Suffice to say my Geography improved and that small town was to become my home for almost eight wonderful and eventful years.

It all started with my Geography course (1989–92) which was ideal for me as I loved all things climatological. On seeing that there was also a weather station adjacent to the river Dulas, I knew this place was just the ticket. The relatively small staff-student ratio meant the quality of teaching was excellent. There was such a great mix of

staff that covered so many different specialisms – their names are so easy to recollect: Atkinson, Beaumont, Cloke, Crowther, Goodwin, Kay, Philo, Walker. To this day, I keep in touch with my old supervisor and mentor, Dr Graham Sumner. My PhD involved analysing rainfall patterns over Wales! To quote Graham, “Wales is wet” – well, it was always an amusing opening gambit to any conference paper we delivered.

The undergraduate field trip to Majorca was memorable and during my PhD years I was able to return to Magaluf (yes, Magaluf!) and organise a microclimate project. I would not care to remember the number of pints of Spanish vodka and cola that were consumed during those trips!

Having arrived at Lampeter, I immediately joined a few clubs. Some inevitably fell by the wayside, however shooting pool was never going to be one of them. I rocked up to ‘The Old Quarry’ as it was called in those days – glass of cola in one hand, ‘golden cue’ in the other. I suitably impressed the captain of the team – and the rest, as they say, is history. The cola quickly turned into K-Cider (8.4%) and then Guinness! As a postgrad I was accepted by the locals and enjoyed playing for the Welsh County team. Many good and long-lasting friendships were forged in that smoke-filled bar, not least with my best friend Neil Parker who was best man at my wedding, and vice versa.



Kevin Hawksworth – Pool Champion

I was also lucky to make many local friends, in large part owing to my having the good fortune to reside with a very well-known and respected couple called Glyn and Dilys Jones. My Welsh did not necessarily improve, but my knowledge and appreciation of the town and surrounding area was immeasurably enhanced by many a good conversation over a few glasses of wine with such a warm and friendly Welsh couple. The house was situated adjacent to the river Teifi, so my obsession with all things fluvial was catered for.



Kevin Hawksworth (L) – Graduation 1992

It was late 1998 when I had to say a fond, but sad, goodbye to Lampeter and take up my first post as a Quantitative Researcher for a housing organisation in Sunderland. I should add that I enjoyed continuing to visit Lampeter for several years to meet up with old friends and shoot some pool in the Quarry. The skills, experience, opportunities and confidence gained from my time at Lampeter served me very well as I tackled new posts in Leeds as a statistician and data manager for a clinical research organisation, and more recently as an information analyst for a public sector research and training consultancy. I now reside in ‘Sunny Southport’ with my wife Lisa, whom I met through Carol Hayes, a good friend (also a geographer) I had made at Lampeter.

They say once a geographer always a geographer – this is true. They also say you can take the student out of

Lampeter, but you can't take Lampeter out of the student – this is even more true.

NEIL PARKER – 1989–93

Coming from a small Derbyshire town, St David's University College, Lampeter (as it was in those days), immediately appealed, not just because of the place, but also because of the Geography course it offered and the calibre of the staff who led the different aspects of it (Beaumont, Cloke, Crowther, Goodwin, Kay, Painter, Philo, Walker are all surnames immediately recalled with the greatest of respect). High-quality lectures and tutorials aside, a low-quality career in the SDUC Pool Team as arguably, if not easily, the worst player in the squad (much to captain Kevin Hawksworth's dismay) kept us based at The Quarry for much of our spare time. Having been best man at each other's weddings, Kevin continues to be my best buddy some 31 years after we first met – although these days, it has to be said, we tend to be more effective at setting the world to rights rather than setting the baize alight.

The International Student Exchange Programme was something that also drew me to Lampeter, offering an opportunity to study in Canada in the second year of the degree course. I duly applied and was delighted when Dr Kay selected me to be one of two students to head off to Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, for the 1991–92 academic year. I was even more delighted when Dr Kay selected my then girlfriend Raina to be the other student on the 'TIP' programme. I'm certain Dr Kay didn't know we were 'an item', and that the outcome was a pure fluke. Regardless, Raina and I will be celebrating our 25th wedding anniversary later this year!



L-R: Kevin Hawksworth, Raina & Neil Parker

Suffice to say, that was one of the best years of our lives, and we promised ourselves that one day soon we would emigrate to Canada – we loved it so much. Before we knew what had happened though, the successful completion of a PGCE at Durham University (in secondary Geography teaching for me and secondary English and Drama teaching for her) led to our buying a house in West Sussex, leaving Canada as one of our favourite holiday destinations. Oh, well...

Since 1994, I've been a teacher in the state sector, starting out at a super school in Wrotham, Kent. Promotion followed in due course, which started our slow, but sure, northerly migration. I moved to a bigger school in Bridgnorth, Shropshire, in 2002 and enjoyed six fantastic years as Head of Geography & Geology. However, all good things must come to an end and I decided to seek a senior leadership position, becoming Assistant Head at another Shropshire school in 2008. Four years later, a staffing restructure saw me having to move on, which led to a relocation to our current north Cumbria home, where I continue to be Deputy Head in a large comprehensive school on the edge of the Solway Plain.



Hester Parr (Courtesy of University of Glasgow, *MyGlasgow News*, 4 May, 2018)

I gained my first academic Geography post in Dundee and was there for 12 years. I then took up a position at Glasgow University, where I am now. I work with Professor Chris Philo (of Lampeter).

I recently undertook a long-term project working with the police on missing people and that received quite a lot of media coverage, including by the BBC's *Panorama*. I'm just starting new research on Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) from a cultural geography perspective – working with clinicians and artists – to explore how people in the West of Scotland live with SAD. It's a new interdisciplinary research programme that will run from 2022 and is funded by the ESRC.

CLARE PIKE – 1998–2001

I studied Geography BA Honours from 1998 to 2001. I spent my second year on exchange at Trent University in Canada, and then, instead of pursuing the MA in Cultural Landscape Management, was Union President from October 2001 to 2002. After my term in office, I completed my PGCE in Geography at Aberystwyth and worked as a



Neil Parker at Kilauea, 2008

Sadly, the Geography Department is no more, but I shall always be grateful and thankful for the education, experience, opportunities and lifelong friendships that were launched at Lampeter. Back then, I thought we'd have children of our own one day to share the story with, but that never came to pass so my thanks to Chris Deacy for inviting me to share it here. However, cats not kids does mean there's more time available in which to do the 'stuff' we want to do. Now, where have I put the pile of 50p pieces for the pool table, and our Canadian tourist visas?

HESTER PARR – 1989–92

I came from Nottingham to Lampeter after failing one of my 'A'-levels – but wanting to do Geography at a university. I thrived in Lampeter as we were taught by young ex-Cambridge staff who really enthused us. I was predominantly a Human Geographer but loved courses on glaciology with Mike Walker and soils with John Crother, as well as Graham Sumner on Australia.

I left in 1992 to undertake teacher training in Geography and Expressive Arts in Manchester but found after qualifying that I was no longer motivated to teach in secondary schools and wanted to move into FE and Higher Ed. At that moment, a PhD opportunity came up at Lampeter, with teaching attached. My research was a multi-sited ethnography on living with mental ill health in Nottingham – and I commuted between the city and Lampeter for three years, carrying out the research and teaching first years!



Clare Pike leading the trek across the Lampeter Campus in 1999



Clare Pike in 2020 – knitting during the first lockdown!

Geography Teacher from 2002–2009, then as a primary school teacher and leader from 2009–2019. Since 2019, I've worked for Oxfordshire County Council as the Lead for Learner Engagement. In my spare time, I am a volunteer Guide Leader and regularly count for local and General Elections.

I love my job and have very fond memories of my time studying in West Wales. I was a dedicated member of the Women's Hockey Club and also enjoyed the occasional slot in the DJ booth in The Extension!

KAREN POPKIN (NÉE LEAPER) – 1990–93

I studied Geography at Lampeter 1990–1993 and was taught by Paul Cloke, Mark Goodwin, Chris Philo, Joe Painter and Phil Crang. I was more of a Human Geographer so it's these staff I remember most.

I recall 'A'-level results day in 1990 when I totally failed to get the grades I needed for the university offers I held, and so I embarked on the great clearing ring-around that some others may also remember well.

I spoke to Paul Cloke who not only offered me a place but made me begin to believe in myself again (after a bad set of results) and start to dream of going to university. I had heard of Lampeter but knew absolutely nothing about the place that I would call home for the next three years.

It's safe to say that I fell in love with it almost immediately: its smallness, its remoteness, its community. It was just a

perfect fit for me. Where else could you go to uni and hear sheep from your kitchen window?

I valued so many things about the department. I loved the fact that all the staff encouraged me (us) to believe in ourselves, in our potential, in our geographical musings about the world. I learned to think critically for myself and formed my own views. My time there was fundamental to who I am today.

I graduated near the top of the year in 1993 and followed Paul Cloke to Bristol University where I took my MSc and then a PhD looking at different representations of rurality.

After completing that, I left the world of academia – marriage and then motherhood called – but I have never forgotten those brilliant years in Lampeter.

I am now working part-time as a financial administrator which, sadly, has nothing to do with my Geography skills. I have recently embarked on training as a counsellor and am finding that those old academic skills of writing and critical and imaginative thinking are coming into play once again. I often find myself reflecting on my Lampeter days with each new assignment that I hand in.

I would add that the culture of confidence inspired in me by the Lampeter geographers still propels me forward to this day; it helps me always to believe in myself and be curious about the world around me.

STEVE POPPLE – 1996–99

It was mid-summer, 1996, and a chance pub meeting with a Lampeter-born lecturer with vast enthusiasm for West Wales and Geography piqued my interest.

At 34, and after 16 years with Schiaffino Freight Ferries (Ramsgate Harbour), redundancy had followed. I had taken the HGV1 test and had driven for a few months before renting out my house after a successful but surreal telephone interview with UWL – surreal because I didn't actually know where Lampeter was!

With much trepidation, I handed my lorry keys back on a Saturday morning and was in a Geography lecture 48 hours later on the other side of Britain. I left school with no qualifications, having been a bit of a tearaway, so I knew nothing about Single Honours, Joint Honours, BA or BSc degrees. But at Lampeter, the Geography teaching and support staff were fantastic and after a bumpy first year I felt I belonged.

Lampeter is a gem of a place and I immediately felt privileged to study at its beautiful University. The Geography & Archaeology Department staff were always supportive. My subsequent fifteen years in teaching/education reinforced my original belief that the standard of tuition at UWL was extremely high. There were many hugely enjoyable things about the course but the fieldtrips to Mallorca and Totnes stand out.

I've read the official report which preceded the end of geography at UWL. I'm not sure if the Federal University of Wales fully appreciated or even understood the Lampeter experience. As I write this, it makes me wonder how many other people got a lift up in life at Lampeter and how many will now miss the chance to fulfil their potential now that Lampeter is contracting.

I began teaching at 40 at an SEN special school. In these small settings, teachers tend to teach a variety of subjects. I felt the benefit of the broad background I had received in Geography itself and realised that the thorough way it was taught at Lampeter gave me the skill set for this role. One Year 11 class of eight lads had the highest geography GCSE grades of any English SEN establishment. Credit for this is entirely due to Professors Walker, Beaumont, and Drs. Crowther, Atkinson, Day, Norris-Hill, Bradford etc.

Sincere thanks to all those who made my time at Lampeter so very special.

CAROL ROBERTSON – 1989–92

I was Carol Heyes when I attended Lampeter from 1989 to 1992.

After graduating I lived and worked in London for a short time before moving to Hull where I completed my PGCE. I have worked in education ever since. I moved from Hull back to the North West where I became active in the Healthy Schools initiatives for Knowsley (the ones that helped improve school meals and get fruit into schools) and this led to my working in a school for children with profound and complex special needs for a time.



Carol Robertson

I'm now the Deputy Headteacher in the primary school I attended as a child – which has just celebrated its 50th birthday, as will I later in the year! (I'm not sure which of us looks the best, but I've had significantly less work done!). Recently I achieved my NPQH [*National Professional*

Qualifications for Headship – Ed.] and co-wrote an article with a fellow Lampeter graduate which was published in NATE [*National Association for the Teaching of English – Ed.*] magazine last year – and who knows if that is the last of my forays into writing?

I've remained in touch with several University friends and have also been back to visit Lampeter. Despite the changes, it remains a place where I still truly feel at home and I'm so glad that I chose to spend my university days there – OK, the Clearing System decided it for me, but I wouldn't have had it any other way!



Carol Robertson

STEVE SCADDAN –1990–93

I didn't really go into a Geography-related career because jobs were scarce when I left Lampeter in 1993. But what I learned about taking notes in lectures, researching, statistics and report-writing stood me in good stead when I moved into Personnel and needed to study to gain my CIPD [*Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development – Ed.*] qualifications. I was then able to move on to gain an MSc in Human Resources, but afterwards shifted to admin management, where again the ability to take notes rapidly was surprisingly useful when minuting meetings, conferences etc. I now work as a Subject Access Request Officer for my local County Council.

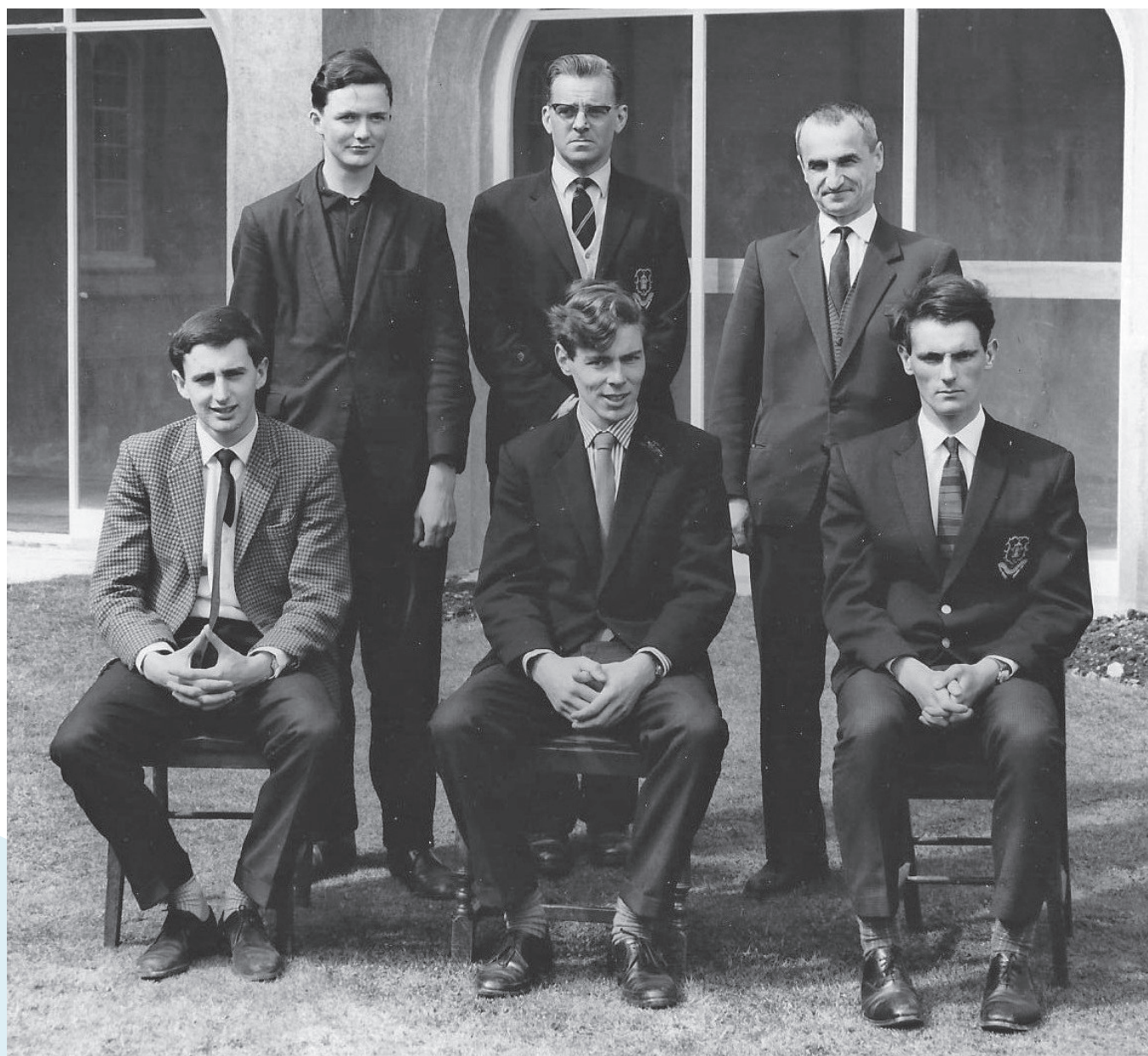
On leaving the University, I found that a problem with a Geography degree was that many jobs required a specialism – for instance, someone with a meteorology degree, not someone who had studied the subject as just part of a course.

Also, initially there was the problem of applying for basic jobs, for which people felt I was overqualified (and in one case said, “How can you prove you can get up every morning in time to start promptly?”!)

But aspects of what I learned have come in useful in a number of ways. Although I struggled a bit with statistics towards the end, I found that what I learned has been more than adequate for many of my roles, such as calculating harbour pilots’ bonuses, finance calculations, working out attendance ratios, and dealing with petty cash and reconciliations.

Moreover, when I was working in DERA (Defence Evaluation and Research Agency) in the training department, we wanted to develop feedback forms. I was the only member of staff with experience of developing questionnaires or with an understanding of the Likert scale, so I was able to play a key role in terms of how the questions were asked and how the responses should be scaled.

Later, I moved into admin management and was a PA for a District Manager in Children’s Services. Again, the ability to take notes rapidly, while still listening critically to the content, was surprisingly useful when minuting meetings, conferences etc., as were the skills in ensuring the wording suited the reader. In fact, the ability to put across an argument and support it can transfer well to being able to write tactfully and diplomatically, which these days I see as one of my key skills – particularly when dealing with difficult staff, managers and customers.



Lampeter Chess Club, 1964-5. Back row, L-R: Martin Johnston (?), Cyril Starling, Dr Josifovski (Skopje University); Front row, L-R: Geoff Davies, Peter Bosley (captain), Christopher (Kit) Windle

REPORTS – YEAR GROUP REUNIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS, 2021 / 22

REVIEW OF THE LAMPETER SOCIETY VIRTUAL REUNION, 2021

Introduction

On 24 July, owing to the situation regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, the Lampeter Society ran a virtual Reunion on Zoom for the second year running. Some 33 alumni participated.

Below is a compilation of reviews by various of them.

The sessions were all expertly chaired by Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999), the Society Vice-Chair, and were linked by an impressive and nostalgic slideshow of photographs of alumni, the town and the campus taken over the years. This was compiled by Esther Weller (1999), the Society Chair, from many contributions submitted to her by various alumni.

The Sessions

Session 1 – Welcome

Esther Weller gave a warm welcome to everyone present.

Session 2 – The AGM of the Lampeter Society

The Lampeter Society AGM was held (virtually) for the first time in two years, the last physical one being in July, 2019, and was effectively and efficiently chaired by Esther Weller. After approval of the minutes of the 2019 AGM (published in *The Link*, Winter, 2019/20, no. LXXV), reports were given by the Chair; the Treasurer of the Society, Andrew Leach (1977); and *The Link* editor, Brendan McSharry (1971). Finally, in view of the circumstances, it was unanimously agreed that the current officers of the Lampeter Society Business Committee (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer) should continue in their roles until the next AGM – which will hopefully be on 23 July, 2022.

Session 3 – Chapel Service

This was conducted by the Revd. Dr. Emma Whittick, with alumni and students reading the lessons. Emma gave a short but moving sermon, as well as a reading from the Gospels.

Session 4 – ‘Reopening the Aberystwyth to Carmarthen railway line; an update’, by Mike Walker, Emeritus Professor of Quaternary Science, UWTSO

Professor Mike Walker (1977) gave a very informed and thought-provoking talk on the prospects of reopening the Aberystwyth to Carmarthen railway line, *Traws Link Cymru*, in which he spoke about the shift in political and economic thinking away from investment in road-building

to railway development as a more sustainable transport option for Wales.

Debates in the Westminster and Welsh parliaments have increased the focus on West Wales, one of the poorest regions in Europe and a population of over 300,000, where transport links are poor and where there is a desperate need for inward investment.

Late last year, the Welsh Department for Economy and Transport released a document entitled *A Railway for Wales* which, for the first time, referred to a new strategic rail corridor down the west of Wales. A recent cost-benefit analysis of the *Traws Link Cymru* project has indicated it would have a benefit to cost ratio of 1+, given that 97% of the rail bed is already in place and a reopened line would reduce the current travel time from Carmarthen to Aberystwyth from 2 hours 25 minutes (by bus) to 1 hour 20 minutes and at a reduced investment cost of £320m (down from the earlier estimate of £775m.) Moreover, it would in the longer term have a significant impact on the economic growth of the region.

In the lively discussion which followed, reference was made to a similar rail project in Scotland (the Waverley-Levenmouth and Borders Railway Link), that has proven very successful. Nigel Harris (1978), editor of *Rail* magazine, commended Mike on his talk and said that *Traws Link Cymru* had done much to raise self-esteem in Wales and make the project an act of political will. An interesting suggestion was made of getting celebrity support for the resurgent rail line, which Mike said was worth pursuing.

Session 5 – ‘Geographies of the past: uncovering the lost landscapes of Britain from the Stone Age to the Saxons’ by Dr. Martin Bates, Geoarchaeologist / Quaternary Scientist, UWTSO

Owing to its inherently complex technical nature, this was never going to be an easy subject to present in a way which ensured the involvement of the presumably primarily humanities-based audience. Nonetheless, Dr. Bates managed to cover the topic using the bare minimum of technical terms to help ensure understanding.

His main focus was explaining how, as a Geoarchaeologist, one of his key tasks concerns palaeogeography (or ‘historical geography’). This deals with the study of the landscape geomorphology or structure during a past epoch, or period, which is now buried beneath sediments formed subsequently. He explained how he has to draw maps to show the earlier features. To do that, he uses

bore holes in order to obtain cores from deep below the current ground surface. The more of these that are dug and examined, the more accurate is the resulting map – though there are always resource constraints so he has to do what he can.

He used four case studies from different periods of the past to illustrate his role. One was Cardigan Bay where there are a number of known Mesolithic sites of hunter-gatherers from roughly 10,000 to 6,000 years ago. However, there was a gradual inundation of the sea from about 10,000 to 8,000 years ago resulting from the melting of ice from the last ice age, so the coastline gradually changed. More in-depth knowledge about the lives of the people would be available if the original coastline where the people were living could be discovered. As a result of using the bore hole technique, he showed us fascinating maps of how that coastline has actually changed over time. In earlier periods, the people would have had access to land where there is now sea, unlike in more recent times. This would have had important implications for the diet and other aspects of the way of life of the people.

Dr. Bates certainly succeeded in explaining a highly technical subject in an accessible, instructive and highly-enjoyable way and even had time to take three questions at the end, which he answered in an easily-intelligible way.

Session 6 – ‘An update on life at Lampeter’ by Gwilym Dyfri Jones, Provost of UWTSO Lampeter and Carmarthen Campuses

The Lampeter Campus Provost Gwilym Dyfri Jones gave us quite an uplifting update on life at Lampeter as the University began its return to campus post-Covid 19 lockdown, prepared for a new academic year and 2022 bicentenary celebrations, and continued to develop its vision and plans for the future.

Some noteworthy points made by the Provost during his talk included:

- * There had not been a single positive case of Covid-19 recorded on campus this year, thanks to the support and engagement of students and staff.
- * The *Canolfan Tir Glas* project represented a new vision for Lampeter, aiming as it did to rejuvenate the town's food industry and economic infrastructure and make the Lampeter campus more international, with the Old Building housing a future international / West Wales conference and communication hub. Bids were being prepared for support from the National Lottery Community Fund and the Mid Wales Growth Fund.
- * 360 students were now studying on campus and some 700 online.
- * The University was planning an exciting range of activities and events to celebrate 200 years of higher education in Wales in 2022, which would include a service in St. Davids Cathedral in collaboration with the Lampeter Society.

Session 7 – ‘How Lampeter made me’ by Ian Marchant (1979), writer, performer and broadcaster

This was a hilariously funny and irreverent romp through Ian's years at Lampeter (1976–1979) and after. We learned that he:

- * realised at college his two main objectives of losing his virginity and establishing the very first punk rock group in Wales
- * avoided getting caught up in the Mid Wales LSD bust called ‘Operation Julie’ in March, 1977
- * left Lampeter without a degree from SDUC Lampeter but he is still studying intermittently for an MA in Church History at the campus, and gets invited for coffee by the Dean of Humanities when in College
- * once dined with a Master of one of the Cambridge colleges who had been a former director of MI5 (A Hero For High Times) – a pinnacle of his achievement!

There followed a humorous exchange with contemporary alumnus Nigel Harris (1978), who shared his reminiscences with Ian and revealed Ian's love for pub-crawling and trains (as seen in *The Longest Crawl* and *Parallel Lines* for example).

Session 8 – The Pub Quiz

The Virtual Reunion ended with a fun pub quiz superbly compiled and compèred by Esther Weller. There were four rounds of 10 questions each on ‘Lampeter’, ‘The Humanities’, ‘Current Affairs’ and ‘General Knowledge’. The questions tested in a light-hearted way, among other things, our knowledge of Conti's Café; Lampeter Campus buildings; Wales, the Welsh language and Welsh rugby; ancient history; the United States; and modern music and art.

Unlike in 2020 when John Ward (1981) was the outright winner (apologies for the belated announcement, John!), this year there were three winning teams! They were Jason Fawkes; Emma Jones; and Ann and Kevin Gilbride, Kevin McSharry, and James Farrier. Hopefully, prizes will be presented both to John Ward and to this year's winners at next year's Reunion.

Conclusion

This was again a most successful virtual event, with some hilarious moments but also some cogent and scholarly presentations which elicited smart, informed questions from some of the participants. Esther Weller's superb overall organisation of the event and Chris Deacy's excellent chairing contributed greatly to this success.

Adrian Gaunt (1966)

REVIEWS OF THE MONTHLY VIRTUAL BOOK-READING TALKS, JULY – DECEMBER, 2021

JULY – *ROOMS WITH A VIEW* – ADRIAN MOURBY (1978)



Rooms with a View

The Secret Life of Grand Hotels

Adrian Mourby

Book cover from publishers Allen & Unwin

Since his graduation, Adrian has enjoyed a fascinating career as a drama producer, travel journalist, novelist and columnist for *Opera Now* magazine. He is also a successful author, the latest of his books being the subject of his informative presentation.

In 50 short chapters, *Rooms With a View* tells the stories of 50 grand hotels around the world, some of which Adrian used in his talk to illustrate the history of such establishments. He began in England in the eighteenth century when hotels were not highly regarded and were used only out of necessity. In 1774, however, a hotel calling itself “grand” opened in London’s Covent Garden, and in the next century there developed the concept of hotels as places where guests could receive comfort and service and meet with friends. Many aspired to grandeur. Some became positively regal and exceeded the expectations even of royalty!

As an example, Adrian gave the Savoy in London. This owes its existence to Richard D’Oyly Carte who, in the late 1800s, promoted ‘respectable’ musical entertainment in London’s West End. He formed the D’Oyly Carte Opera Company and flourished putting on the works of W.S. Gilbert and Sir Arthur Sullivan. He then constructed, on the site of the ancient Savoy Palace, a theatre for their works and, inspired by what he had seen of the opulence of American hotels, he planned also to build a luxury hotel that would attract wealthy foreigners visiting London, as well as the British aristocracy.

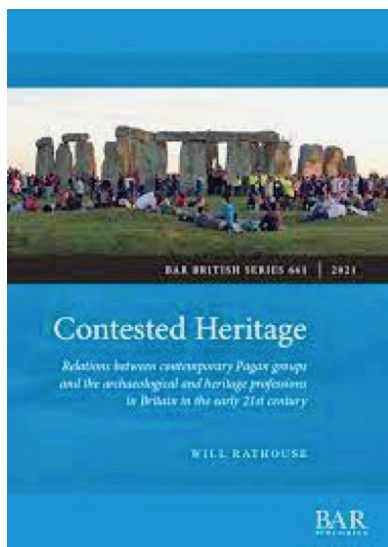
The hotel – which included an electric ‘ascending room’ (a lift) – opened in 1889. Carte’s greatest coup, in 1890, was to lure César Ritz from the Hôtel de Provence in Cannes to manage the Savoy, with Auguste Escoffier as chef de cuisine. The two men were popular with the wealthy and the aristocracy, who were encouraged by the example of the future King Edward VII – often to be seen at the Savoy during the Naughty Nineties. After leaving the Savoy, Ritz established more hotels world-wide. Although the Ritz Hotel in London, which opened in 1905, is not featured in his book, Adrian regards Ritz as the greatest hotelier of the 19th century – “He changed our perception of an hotel”, and the phrase ‘putting on the ritz’ is still widely used.

By the latter years of that century, the grand hotel was being seen as a lifestyle choice, rather than something to be used only when necessity dictated. In the early 20th century this blossomed into the idea that a hotel could be something very special for those in pursuit of the absolute best. Havens from the troubles of the world, they became lucrative businesses after the First World War. During the Second World, some were turned into hospitals or requisitioned for various purposes, but others, behind sandbags and barbed wire, were able to play host to the writers and artists who covered the war, and indeed to the protagonists as well.

What happened after 1945 depended largely on which side of the “iron curtain” a hotel found itself, but many were restored to their former glory and still survive as much-loved institutions, maintained, says Adrian, because they are beautiful and stand for standards of service and hospitality and courtesy. His book is not a lament for grand hotels but a celebration, and a “thank you” to those who still maintain them and keep them going. They have never been grander.

Paul Hamlet
(2004, 2012)

AUGUST – CONTESTED HERITAGE – WILLIAM RATHOUSE (2008, 2015)



Will Rathouse (courtesy of MOLA [Museum of London Archaeology] publicity)

William Rathouse's book cover

William Rathouse (2008, 2015) gave a very erudite talk, with readings, about his book entitled *Contested Heritage: Relations Between contemporary Pagan groups and the archaeological and heritage professions in Britain in the early 21st century*. It describes relations between contemporary pagan groups and the archaeological and heritage professions in Britain in the early part of this century, during prehistoric archaeological excavations involving 'sacred' burial grounds. He spoke extensively about the research behind it, including some fascinating Welsh case studies, most famously that of the 'Red Lady of Paviland'. Much of this work was carried out as part of his PhD studies in Social Archaeology at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David from 2008 to 2015.

William mentioned that some excavations have led to strong, violent protests from neo-pagan groups who have objected to the 'violation' of 'sacred' burial grounds. One famous case was that of the Seahenge excavation on the Norfolk coast, funded by English Heritage and documented by Channel 4's *Time Team*. Another was at the recent investigation of ancient barrows at Nevern Castle in Pembrokeshire, where 'fairy witchcraft' adherents would often attack archaeologists (some from the UWTSU Lampeter Campus) to prevent their desecration of 'holy ground', as they perceived it. In some cases, such interventions have had positive environmental outcomes, saving 'sacred' trees from being felled.

The 'Red Lady of Paviland' (actually a 27,000 year-old skeleton of a Palaeolithic male found at Goat's Hole Cave on the Gower Peninsula in South Wales in 1823) aroused much interest amongst pagan, heritage and archaeologist groups when the remains were moved temporarily from the Oxford University Museum to the National Museum

Cardiff in 2007. The removal brought to the fore the two key areas of William's book: access to interpretation together with preservation of ancient sites on the one hand, and the archaeological examination, storage and display or reburial of ancient human remains on the other. Although the attitudes and views of all three groups are quite diverse, William stressed that they contain many individuals with a good understanding of, and sympathy for, the other groups.

William pointed out that there are some 250,000 people in Britain today with pre-Christian pantheistic beliefs – representing 0.07% of the population. Interestingly, William defined himself as an agnostic pagan, but against aggressive contemporary pagan campaigning.

At the end of the talk, William spoke a little about his work with Mind Aberystwyth and Museum of London Archaeology to promote the mental health and wellbeing of older people, forces' veterans, and people with mental health issues, through archaeology and heritage projects.

All in all, this was a very interesting and thought-provoking talk on a subject we hear little about.

Brendan McSharry (1971)

SEPTEMBER – WAITING FOR THE ECHO & OTHER POEMS – SIMON COCKLE (1989)



Simon Cockle – from Google Images

Simon was a riveting speaker who really excited us with his poetry readings – both of his own work and that of other poets who have inspired him over his life and career.

Simon first arrived in Lampeter in 1986 to read English Literature and he became involved with the English and Media Society. He reflected on the ways in which poetry impacted on him from a young age. The advice he imparted was that it is important not to throw anything away – it can all be used in some form or another. This also gets to the heart of memory in that we are inclined to 'cherry pick' facets of our past, but having records and documents, indeed poetry, from our life can allow us to negotiate the past in a more rounded way. He squirms now about the poems he wrote in his early university days, circa 1987, but

he did mesmerize us with a recital of something he wrote back in 1989 as part of a very beguiling insight into his journey into poetry.

Simon was very open about what he loved (including smoking a pipe while listening to 'The Jesus and Mary Chain' [a Scottish rock band of the era – Ed.]) and what he regrets from his time at Lampeter, and he considered how one may go to university to socialise but as one looks back, one wishes more time had been spent working. He read from Thomas Hardy and R.S. Thomas and moved on to tell us about how he started writing songs post-Lampeter when he returned to Somerset and trained as an English teacher. For the next couple of decades, Simon taught rather than wrote poetry and we were treated to a master class in how teachers can foster and model creative writing in the classroom together with some salutary advice about how, learning from his experience, we could shoot ourselves in the foot if we post poems on the internet as it means we can't then publish them in a magazine or book since they count as having already been published.

Simon's key piece of advice was that one has to treat writing as a discipline (analogous to writing film reviews or diary writing, perhaps) and that one should compose something every day, irrespective of its quality. Simon was thrilled to bits when he had two poems published in *The Lampeter Review* in 2016, and he told us about how when he returned to Lampeter in 2018 he had a rush of nostalgia. As many of the others at the talk were able to testify in their own journeys, Simon felt a palpable sense of history and connection with the place, with a feeling that 'anything can happen'. When he first went there in the mid-1980s he imagined the world was his oyster and envisioned a literary/academic future – and to that end Simon's story is a very successful one.

We felt his incandescent and muscular energy and could see how even if poetry is not enough to pay the bills, it is a privilege to be a part of the poetry and literary world. Well done and thank you, Simon, for inspiring us all.

Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999)

OCTOBER – THE PELAGIUS BOOK – PAUL MORGAN



Paul Morgan – from Google Images

We were treated to a very interesting and engaging session from Paul Morgan (1968), who spoke to us direct from a very early Melbourne, Australia. Thank you, Paul, for setting your alarm for us!

Paul gave a very informative talk on Pelagius. He said that his appeal, although very strong in the eighteenth century, and whilst having ebbed and flowed throughout history, never really disappears. *The Pelagius Book*, although a novel, bases itself on real, historic figures of approximately 1600 years ago. At this time, the Roman Empire seemed to be coming apart at the seams; the entire society at the time was on the verge of a collapse, plunging into darkness and chaos. Indeed, a fundamental question of the book reflects the crucial theme of how humans react when the world seems to collapse around them and the book helps to explore and understand how we humans react to situations common to our condition. In this way, as well as rescuing and giving light to an important historical figure, the book deals with such significant, critical and current questions relating to the human response to terror. As Paul stated, "Pelagius's value and relevance are as great in the twenty-first century as in the fifth century...his greatest value is not with what he tells us but with what he encourages us to ask about ourselves."

Interestingly, Paul spoke about the links between Pelagius and Lampeter. Brinley Rees, former Principal of St David's University College (1975 – 1980), is perhaps one of the most acclaimed and leading scholars of the writings of Pelagius. Contrary to much opinion, Brinley has painted Pelagius as a very liberal and just figure with a message of positivity, hope and optimism. This, however, was in stark contrast to the teachings of St David himself, who very much spoke out against Pelagius whom he declared to be a heretic.

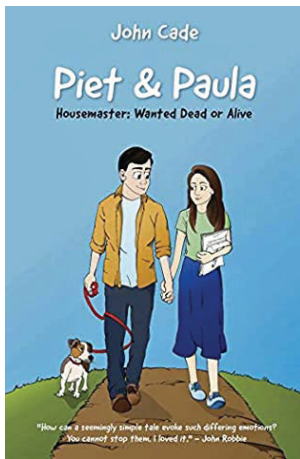
This was a fascinating talk which highlighted key parallels between those dark times of the fall of the Roman Empire and the experiences of many people around the world today.

Currently out of print, Paul Morgan is hoping that *The Pelagius Book* will again be available some time during 2022.

Esther Weller (1999)

NOVEMBER – PIET & PAULA – HOUSEMASTER WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE – JOHN CADE

It was a pleasure to host John Cade (1968) live from his home in Johannesburg on Monday, 8 November, for the month's Lampeter Society book reading. John was at Lampeter in the second half of the 1960s, when he studied English, and we learned about the extent to which his enthusiasm for lectures at Lampeter was a springboard for his debut novel, *Piet & Paula*, which has just been published by WoodRock Publishing. John read a series



John Cade's book – from Google Images

of extracts from it, which is suffused with nostalgia in its evocation of schooldays.

The day-to-day life of two South African teenagers, Piet and Paula, the novel is based on John's own experiences of teaching at prep and boarding schools in South Africa from 1976 onwards. He focused on one dancing episode from the novel, but it was fascinating also to hear about the inclusion of music lyrics. John's enthusiasm for teaching English came to light too during his talk. He told us about how he would laugh with the boys in his class, rather than at them, and how the humorous episodes from over the years have not only stayed with him but he was able to reconstruct them in his novel. John even has plans for a sequel.

John especially remembers from his Lampeter days being taught *Wuthering Heights*, and after leaving SDC in 1968, in his gap year, John returned to the prep school he had himself attended in Cumbria, before teaching in Dorset and then moving to Johannesburg and later Pretoria. John, who also attended the Carnegie School of Physical Education in Leeds, especially remembers his time playing rugby at Lampeter, and recounted various SDC sporting achievements in which he played a part between 1965 and 1968.

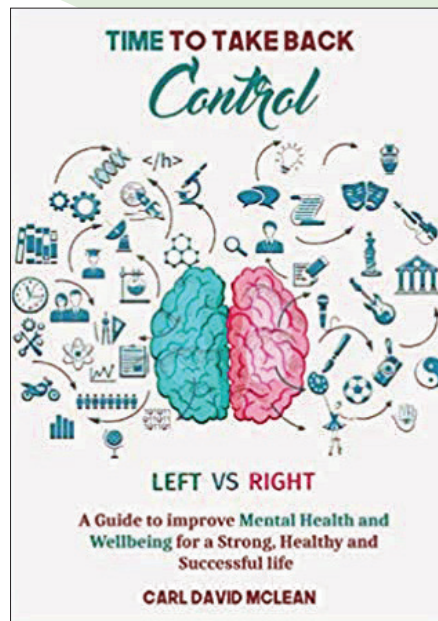
John was at Lampeter when female students were first invited and when pubs were closed on a Sunday. He talked through his contemporaries at SDC, and those with whom he is still in touch, and we will just have to read *Piet & Paula* to find out whether any of his characters might be named after anyone Lampeter-related!

John talked about his post-retirement work, which has included teaching English to Angolan air pilots, and we cannot wait for John to write the sequel to a novel which has been well-received, as have his short stories entitled *The Club* and *A Lesson Learnt*.

John put a smile on our faces as he took us with him on a trip down memory lane that crossed two continents and seven decades.

Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999)

DECEMBER – TIME TO TAKE BACK CONTROL – CARL DAVID McLEAN



Carl David McLean's book cover – from Google Images

Carl David McLean (2001), Welsh educator, author and musician, gave a very engaging and heartfelt talk on two of his published books – *Time to Take Back Control* and *The Seven Circles of Rheingold: The Beast*, a Gothic horror story, from both of which he read extracts. His talk covered his overcoming of mental health issues; the time he spent at Lampeter; his amazingly varied career; his family and poodle (nicknamed The Beast!); the alarming impact of Covid-19 on children's education and health at his schools – Abersychan School & the Ebbw Fawr Learning Community; and the influences that led him to write. Not surprisingly, this riveting virtual talk ran over time, with lots of good questions from the alumni audience who fervently hoped for a return appearance from Carl in the not-too-distant future.

Carl spoke about growing up in Aberavon, Port Talbot, in Southwest Wales and how he fell in love with the Welsh language. He described how, after spending a wonderful and formative four years studying Welsh at Lampeter from 1997 to 2001, he had dreamt of becoming an actor but in reality did the next best thing and became a teacher of Welsh in Swansea, later writing two musical shows for his school.

He read out two moving extracts from the opening 'Epilogue' (*sic!*) of his book *Time to Take Back Control*, describing situations where he felt desperately alone and suicidal while going through a painful divorce and struggling to look after two young children. In one scenario, he is sitting with his dog on a dark, misty night at Aberavon Beach, at three o'clock in the morning, determined to drown himself, but the thought of abandoning his dog prevents him from doing so. In another scenario, he awakes in broad daylight strapped to

a life-support machine after attempting suicide. Drawing pictures of his young children pulls him through.

These readings were followed by his describing how he recovered from these traumatic experiences and feelings of desperation and self-hate by following strategies of positive thinking, mindfulness, healthy living and wellbeing. During this part of the talk, we joined him in his demonstration of some simple aerobic and finger exercises ('The body scan on your back' and 'Finger breathing').

Not surprisingly, Carl found the writing of this book very therapeutic, and it undoubtedly aided his recovery, as did his subsequent writing of five books (to date) and the formation of his own publishing company, CDM Books. He also finds his children and new wife to be of great support to him.

Carl also mentioned some of the major creative influences on his life and work, including the famous Welsh language writer, Islwyn Ffowc Elis (author of the popular folktale *Cysgod y Cryman* [*Shadow of the Sickle*]), with whom he collaborated on certain creative projects, and contemporary Lampeter Welsh scholars, Dr Mair Evans and the late Dr Kathryn Jenkins.

In response to a question from Esther, Carl mentioned the deleterious effect of the Covid-19 lockdown on pupils' behaviour and performance, on teachers' well-being, and on the economic situation of parents. His parting piece of retrospective advice to contemporary alumnus Eoin McGeeney (2002) was, "What one man can do, another can do".

This virtual talk was an amazing event. Perhaps Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999) might invite Carl to join him in one of his future Nostalgia interviews!

Brendan McSharry (1971)

REPORT ON THE FIFTH "OLD CODGERS" RUGBY MATCH / LATE 80s REUNION, 23 OCTOBER, 2021

Once again, all roads led back to Llambled when the Old Codgers had their fifth 'Gathering' from 22 to 24 October, 2021. The official 'opening' on the Friday night was held in the Black Lion and it was wonderful to meet old friends and share a few beers. It was a 'light' evening by the usual Old Codgers' standards as there was the small matter of a game of rugby to be played on the Saturday – though there were a few group members who did veer from that plan (mentioning no names of course!)

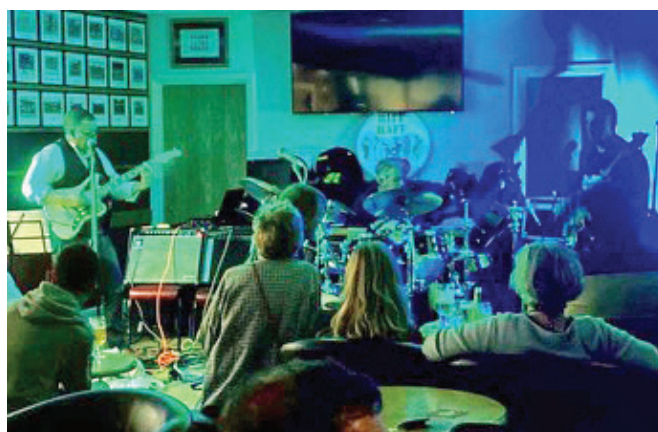
On the Saturday, Lampeter RFC hosted the fifth rugby match between the SDUC Old Codgers and the current crop of students. Youth and enthusiasm would be pitched



Photo taken by Joanne Davies

against old age and treachery in what turned out to be an extremely physical and close encounter. The event poster stated that the collective age of the students was 297 while the Old Codgers ran up a total of 820 years. While this statistic may have been firmly against the Old Codgers, their weight advantage (which shall remain under wraps) was certainly in their favour. Dafydd Jones, the former Scarlets and Wales flanker, made a cameo appearance for the Old Codgers but retired injured after the first 20 minutes; we wish him a speedy recovery. There were also a few guests appearing on each side and they helped make the game entertaining, the students opting for a free-running and exciting style of play whilst the Old Codgers, some quite averse to running at all, played a more physical and direct style which nearly resulted in victory. The result was 35 – 30 to the students but the winners were everyone who took part in the match.

One of the reasons for holding the weekend's events was to raise much-needed funds for little Lexi Colcombe, daughter of College alumnus Anthony Colcombe, who many of us will remember from the mid-1980s. Lexi has Migrating Partial Epilepsy in Infancy (MPEI) and requires constant care. During the post-match entertainment, an auction of rugby and other memorabilia was held and proved to be a massive success, with all proceeds going to Lexi's fund. Also, that evening a 'Rock for Lexi' gig was organised and we were delighted to see Riff Raff, a college



'Rock for Lexi' gig with Riff Raff

band from the 80s, reunite and perform after a break of 35 years – it's fair to say that they absolutely rocked the house! Also performing was the extremely talented local singer, Paul Dark, who gave his services for free that evening to support Lexi. We think that the evening finished somewhere near 12.45am...but we're not completely sure! The following morning a captains' breakfast was organised at the Black Lion where everyone had a much needed 'full English' before saying their goodbyes and heading home.

So, how much did we raise for Lexi over the weekend? Well, after all costs were met the total net figure exceeded £5,000! We must thank everyone involved for helping to make such a memorable event so successful.

To conclude, the Old Codgers' weekend was a roaring success, with many a friendship rekindled, and many new friendships made. It is remarkable that a small university college in a market town in rural west Wales is responsible for so many lifelong friendships and for so many alumni feeling the strong need to travel back there after so many years away. *Hiraeth* is a powerful feeling and having arrived back in Llambled it was as if we'd never been away.

Onwards and upwards to Old Codgers' 6 and the bicentenary celebrations next year; watch this space for dates and then start planning.... you really ought to be there!

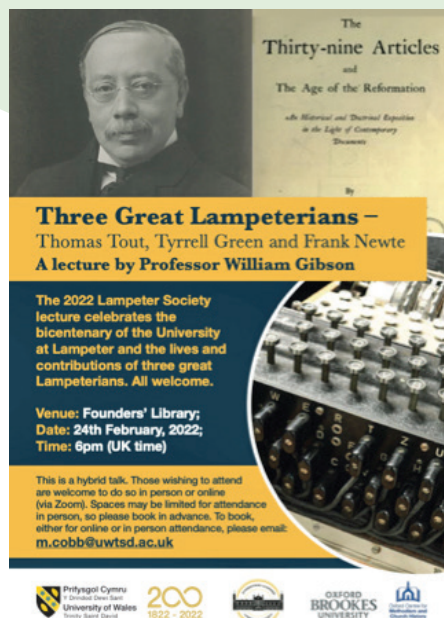
Ieuan Davies (1985)

UPDATE: SEVERN-THAMES BRANCH

Peter Bosley is continuing his efforts to see if a Severn/Thames (M4 corridor) branch of the Lampeter Society can be established to facilitate alumni in that area keeping in touch. Please contact him by email: bosleypeter@yahoo.co.uk

NOTICE – ANNUAL LAMPETER SOCIETY LECTURE, 24 FEBRUARY, 2022

We are delighted to announce that the 2022 Lampeter Society Lecture will be given by Lampeter alumnus Professor William Gibson, Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Oxford Brookes University and Director of the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History. Professor Gibson's talk, 'Three Great Lampeterians', will celebrate the lives and work of Thomas Tout, Tyrrell Green and Frank Newte. A British Historian of the medieval period and one of the founders of the Historical Association in 1906, Thomas Tout served as Professor of History at St David's College Lampeter, 1881 – 1890. Tyrrell Green, Professor of Hebrew and Theology and lecturer in Architecture at Lampeter, 1890 – 1924, was



Flier designed by UWTSD

an English Anglican academic, curate and author. Finally, former Classics lecturer, Frank Newte, was recruited by the Intelligence Corps in 1939 and was instrumental in deciphering the Enigma code – extensively employed to encrypt messages by Nazi Germany in World War Two.

The lecture will be a hybrid event. Alumni are invited to attend the lecture either in person at the Founders' Library, Lampeter, or online via Zoom.

Esther Weller (1999)

NOTICE – CARDIFF REUNION, 2022

Due to the uncertainty of the current situation, the deferred 2021 Cardiff 'mega' reunion will take place sometime in 2022 but a date is yet to be set; it will be decided when the 'way forward' is clearer. This event is always very informal and is not affiliated to The Lampeter Society. Rather, it comprises an eclectic mix of students from the 1970s – although this is far from exclusive, and a very warm welcome awaits anybody who would like to join us in due course [*though hopefully they will also attend the official Lampeter Society Reunion in July, 2022! – Ed.*]

Susan Gandy (née Kearney) (1979)

NOTICE – VIRTUAL TALKS: WINTER, 2022



VIRTUAL BOOK READINGS – 7pm START

10 JANUARY – ‘UNDERSTANDING AND HATRED: SCHOLARLY PATHWAYS FROM LAMPETER TO SINGAPORE’ – PAUL HEDGES (1991, 1994, 1999)

Author and scholar Paul discusses how he was formed as a student of religion at Lampeter, and how that pathway has led him to look at prejudice and violence as well as at the role of dialogue and religion in social cohesion. His talk employs themes from his two most recent books – *Understanding Religion* and *Religious Hatred* – as texts that help us think about the world around us and the current global situation.

7 FEBRUARY – ‘FINDING THE WILD’ – KATHY MILES (1975, 2016)

Join award-winning poet Kathy Miles as she reads poems inspired by the landscape of West Wales and describes some of the influences on her work.

14 MARCH – ‘FROM LAMPETER TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT’ – JEFF POWELL (1975)

Jeff reflects on how he arrived from reading Theology at Lampeter to being a senior U.S. Government official and constitutional lawyer. He reads from his book, *Targeting Americans*, which is a study on the lawfulness of the U.S. Government’s use of drones in the ‘war on terror’.

To book your place, please contact estherb16@yahoo.co.uk

[A full review of all these events will be published in the next issue of The Link – Ed.]



Courtesy of Adrian Gaunt (1966)



2022
LAMPETER SOCIETY
REUNION
22 – 25 JULY

This event is definitely not to be missed! After a two-year break, the bicentennial Reunion will be an extended four-day weekend of great celebration. Details and booking advice can be found at the end of this magazine and on the Lampeter Society Facebook page, but here's a taster of what you can expect:

- 2022 Bicentenary Concert
- Renowned Brummie comedian and Lampeter alumnus, Andy White (1994)
- Talk by William Gibson (1980, 1983, 2004) and launch of Nicholas Groves's (2000; 2008) publication on the history of the Lampeter robes
- Annual pub quiz
- Guest speaker, music journalist and *Broken Greek* author, Pete Paphides (1992)

FEATURES

THE LAMPETER EXPERIENCE – FROM THE 1960s AND 1990s

FROM THE 1960s

DAVID MURRAY'S EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY 1960s

In recent years I have read with ever-growing interest and envy the stories and reminiscences of Lampeter graduates from the 1960s and later.

From 1956 until 1960 I attended a fee-paying English boarding school which relished its misnomer as a 'Public' school. I hated every minute of my time there. A combination of the school's mediocre academic staff and my own selectivity as to what I wanted to learn resulted, by age 17, in my achieving eight 'O'-level passes and my prediction that I would achieve three 'A'-level passes within a few months. However, at the time, this praiseworthy goal was, according to correspondence from myriad Readers, Rectors, and Registrars, insufficient to gain admission to *any* British or Irish university since none of my 'O'-level passes included any foreign language.

Fortunately for me, the exception to this absurd rule was, of course, at the degree-granting but ever penurious St. David's College, Lampeter, where, at the time, the frugal yet indomitable Rev. John Roland Lloyd Thomas, ruled supreme as Principal and decided who, and under what conditions, a supplicant/applicant such as I would be admitted.

After 60+ years, I still treasure my acceptance letter from him which told me that if I did actually obtain the three 'A'-level passes I had confidently predicted, he would let me in subject to the requirement to study (from scratch!) Greek language and literature for two years – plus, of course, Greek and Roman history, also for two years. How could any innocent, sheltered and callow 17 year-old public schoolboy, who wasn't even sure where Greece (let alone Lampeter) was located, say 'no' to that deal –

especially since there was, at that time, no other university-level education available to me anywhere else within the British Isles?

Accordingly, in mid-October, 1960, my father drove me from our comfortable home in suburban London to Lampeter, where he gave a cheque for about £100 for tuition, room, board, lodging, student fees, etc. etc. etc., to Mr. Tom Jones, a tiny, well-dressed gentleman whose title was The Manciple (the person in charge of buying supplies and supervising the few non-academic staff). Within days I learned that he was generally known as 'Tommy Mance'.

As was the case for all my three years at SDC, I was fortunate to be assigned a room in a Ward within OB. Besides a single bed, it was equipped with a 1kw portable electric fire (also serviceable, when laid on its back, for boiling water for coffee), a study table (but no table lamp), an armless wooden chair, a small dresser, and a sink with hot and cold water from a 20-imperial gallon water heater which served all six rooms in the Ward. Each Ward had a bathroom fitted with a bathtub and toilet. If you got up just before the clanging of the 7a.m. chapel bell, which reverberated around the OB quadrangle, it was just possible to fill the tub with moderately warm water before any of one's neighbours rose from their slumbers.

In those days, at least half of the student body, including "freshies", were Anglican ordinands – ultra-serious but not necessarily boring. There was also a strong contingent of ex-military people who were using their demobilization gratuity for university study. They generally supplied some maturity to the otherwise adolescent student body.

Almost all students came from the industrial areas of South Wales or the North and Midlands of

England. The exceptions were the handful of innocent (spoiled?) lads like me from the Home Counties and the half-dozen or so Nigerian students who, for the most part, were sponsored in their studies by some Anglican charity in Wales or elsewhere. Save for occasional chapel attendance, they did not participate in College social affairs, sports, or the perpetual student political intrigue that equipped a few of us for subsequent successful careers in Law and Government.

And, yes indeed, there was lots of politics in those far off, 'un-woke' days. The non-partisan '57 Club' flourished as a political talking shop – and quite often at either the Black Lion or Conti's café on the (misnamed) Harford Square; there were vigorous Labour and Conservative Associations which generally met weekly; and spontaneous political debates in the assembly hall were common-place and well-attended.

Back in 1960, Plaid Cymru and the then Liberal Party had minimal adherents in the student body but a solid following amongst the local electorate. The local MP, Roderic Bowen, was a Liberal and a staunch proponent of SDC who spent little time at Westminster!

In the 1960s and before, there was no Students' Union, let alone a Students' Union office or building dedicated to students, and, obviously, nothing remotely resembling a student pub or even coffee shop. Also, there was nothing like a Faculty Club for the academic and senior admin staff. The lack of a student lounge or coffee shop on campus was compensated for by the existence of Conti's cafe and the public bars at the Black Lion Hotel and the Castle Hotel. The licensee at the 'Black' was called Frank, a plump moustachioed chap with a stained regimental tie and propensity for double scotches.

Instead of a Students' Union, there was the Junior Common Room (aka JCR) which appropriately comprised all undergraduates and a scattering of the somewhat pious graduates studying for various Licences and Diplomas at the neighbouring and austere, red-brick Bishop Burgess Theological Hall on Bryn Road.

The JCR convened in plenary session on a Sunday afternoon about three times per term in a large gym-type hall which was formerly called College School [closed in 1945, this was used by the University for various purposes and finally demolished in 1973 – Ed.] and was adjacent to Station Terrace. It had no other 'home' as such for its raucous meetings. It did have an executive committee though which comprised a President, VP, Secretary, etc., but, interestingly, no Treasurer as such.

That role was performed by what was called (in somewhat 'soviet' parlance) the Central Committee, which comprised the heads of the various student societies such as the Chess club, Rugby club, Debating Society, Railway club, etc. Given that this august body was concerned with the disbursement of money raised by student fees, it was chaired in those paternalistic days, not by a student JCR member, but by the omnipresent Principal Lloyd Thomas. He was ably assisted and guided by an influential Committee Secretary – a position I got myself elected to for two consecutive and influential years.

Though austere, 'churchy', isolated and poor, SDC was far from boring. There is no truth in the legend that the consumption of alcohol was prohibited. In fact, in a typically Anglican 'double standard' fashion, it was encouraged. This was because every day at lunch in Hall (the main meal of the day, compulsory for all students, and crisply managed by a Mrs. Phillips) it was possible to buy bottled beer and cheap, but wickedly strong, cider – all suitably marked up in price by 'Tommy Mance' in the interests of the College's financial viability. After a couple of glasses of cider we all felt proud of how we were helping Prinny to achieve fiscal stability for the College.

The Debating Club was a popular fixture of College life. Typically, it met twice monthly on a Tuesday evening. We participated in *The Observer* Mace inter-university competition every year. In 1963, our debaters lost in Round 1 to Swansea – which of course had at least 20 times as many students as SDC to draw on for talent, many of them young women.

In one of the wards of OB, the JCR funded a smoke-filled TV room equipped with about six soft-ish armchairs and a dozen more hard-backed ones. There was only one distinct TV channel (BBC) alongside a snowy ITV offering struggling to reach us over the Brecon Beacons. Nevertheless, the TV room was jam-packed full every Saturday night as we watched Hollywood fare such as *Perry Mason*, *Gunsmoke*, etc., which were considered good quality in those days.....

....Not that SDC didn't try to keep up with other larger universities in the realm of student drama. There was an annual play offering in each of my three years. In February, 1963, I was cast in Shaw's masterpiece *The Apple Cart*. It was produced and directed by second-year student Peter Grimwade, who later gained well-deserved fame for his *Doctor Who* TV series. Others in the cast included Terry Prince, John Hatton, and Penny David, who was the daughter of History lecturer, Rev. Fred David, who was also at the time Mayor of Lampeter. Penny performed well in the play.

In my third and final year at SDC, I was given the job of editing *Gateway*, then the College's fairly well-polished literary magazine. I was ably assisted in this by such stalwarts of the era as Dale Grey, Lawrie Glanville, Bruce Parker and David Sellick.

By today's standards, the teaching demands of SDC in the early 1960s were pretty 'cushy'. There were no lectures or other tutorials before 9a.m. and all were finished by 12.40p.m. Afternoons were supposedly for private study, but were actually reserved for sports, naps, conversation, tea parties, country drives, political intrigue, etc. At least

once a week one would expect to host or be a guest for afternoon tea and cookies at 4p.m. with a fellow undergraduate or younger faculty member such as the much-respected Don Jones. All these afternoon teas were highly civilized with shades of Somerset Maugham thrown in – but with, of course, no female guests.

The one exception to the 'No classes after 12.40' was the compulsory Essay Writing on Friday afternoons for all first-year undergraduates. Overseen by the popular English lecturer, Arthur Sambrook, this was much-resented, although much-needed by many – especially by those whose first language was not English. Indeed, the lessons learned through these forced exercises benefited me greatly in that they compelled logical thinking and the employment of persuasion through the use of understandable and illustrative prose.

In 1961, the calibre of the academic staff rose remarkably. Real scholars such as Don Jones and John Ryder joined just the handful of others who had any scholastic depth – such as Frank Newte, Harold Harris, Stanley Boorman and Ray Renowden. The same year the former Professor of History, Danny Dawson, died and was soon replaced by a real scholar, namely Doug Chandaman, formerly of the University of Glasgow. Dawson's *modus operandi* had been simply to stand at a lectern and dictate what he wanted you to regurgitate in the end-of-term exams.

Nevertheless, hard work was demanded. Exams at the end and beginning of every term determined, cumulatively, if you would advance to the next academic level. Though demanding, these standards and requirements enabled me to earn a couple of low-paying scholarships and gain admission to the SDC Honours History programme – which had a maximum of eight scholars back then. Through the intercession of a very generous History department head (Doug Chandaman), who provided kindly and generous references, I was offered – and of course accepted – a renewable Fellowship at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Canada....

....And thus began a very successful career focused on employment law which culminated in my appointment to the Bench in 1995, only 32 years after leaving Lampeter.

David Murray (1963)



David Murray unveiling a plaque in Niagara in 2019

FROM THE 1990s

NIGEL BINDING'S EXPERIENCE IN THE 1990s

[All images in this article were taken by Nigel during his years in Lampeter from 1990 to 1998 – Ed.]

How many of you remember these symbols?



In my seven years at Lampeter, I was an active member of the LECU (Lampeter Evangelical Christian Union). I witnessed 10 years' worth of students who were a part of one of the most attended clubs/societies of the 1990s. I was CU President for the 1995–1996 year, the same year that Dawn Thomas was President of MethSoc. It was in 1996 that our relationship started; we've now been married for 22 years and have two grown-up sons.

How many of you remember the House Party weekends that we had? I was privileged to lead the catering team one year for The Haven, Pembroke weekend, and we had a memorable time in Bryn-y-Groes, Bala too.

In 1992, there were seven of us from LECU that took part in an outreach event in Spain, coinciding with Expo' 92. This was jointly organised between UCCF and Horizons, a Christian organisation based in North Dock, Llanelli. We spent a week in Gibraltar learning Spanish and then helped out at a church in the Huelva region for two weeks.

It was in Spain that the logo for the 1993 Who Cares?/*Pwy sy'n Poeni?* Campus Mission was first drawn by Chris Townend. This started with a four-week advertising campaign, led by Jo Ball and her art team. A brick wall for week one was followed by a question mark, then the question Who?/*Pwy?* Finally, the full title was presented: Who Cares?/*Pwy sy'n Poeni?* Some of you may remember the pens and badges that were distributed as well as a campus-wide questionnaire, the results of which are still with me. I was the Campus Mission Co-ordinator.

Allow me to share some of the findings with you and ask that you kindly reflect on how you would respond to the same questions now:

Q1. Did you know the University had a Christian Union?

Yes: 347 No: 7

Q4. If you think there could be a God, what do you think He is like?

- a) Someone who cares about us: 145
- b) The Big Boss: 15
- c) Not powerful enough: 16
- d) Other: 78

Q7. What do you think was His (Jesus's) main purpose in coming to Earth?

- a) To cause controversy between religion and politics: 6
- b) To start a new religion: 27

- c) To brainwash people: 6
- d) To show us God's care and love in action: 187
- e) Other: 24

Q9. What is your definition of a Christian? Someone who:

- a) Prays and reads the Bible: 19
- b) Goes to Church: 11
- c) Leads a good life: 82
- d) Is born into a Christian family/country: 18
- e) Has a relationship with Jesus and has been forgiven for his/her wrong deeds: 151

Sadly, some faithful friends from the CU are no longer with us. Here's a tribute to three active members from the 1990s. Audrey Burger (Emmaus attendee) passed away in 2006. I was with her in Station Terrace for two years. Both Dawn and I attended her Celebration of Life Memorial, held in Birmingham. That was a joyous time when I had been invited to share some Lampeter memories. It was so humbling to have Audrey's family members thank us for the thoughts shared. Her mum even offered us accommodation if we were ever passing through Jamaica as she was planning to live there.

Another CU member and former President was Joanne Carr (née Gregory).

She also served as Secretary of the CU. When attending her Thanksgiving Service in 2018, it was great to meet up in High Wycombe with students whom I hadn't seen for over 20 years and chat as if it were only yesterday that we'd graduated.

I was with Jo Greg in D Simon Evans Hall for two years. We were on the bottom right corridor in our second year and moved to the bottom left corridor in our third year. She leaves behind Ryan, her husband and two children, Amy and Elliot.

Let me end with two more memories.

Mark Woodward, another former CU President, and Nathan Stephens were the Ant 'n' Dec of LECU in the 1990s but had stiff competition from Tim

Mineard and James Nicholl. Many a fun night was had in their company.

Phillip Segadika was from Botswana. He was an Archaeology MA student in Lampeter and represents those international students who enjoyed their time at CU.



Phillip Segadika (bottom)

He left Lampeter by telling Dawn and I: “When you guys get married, I’m gonna sing at your wedding.” And that he did with this:

*Beloved, let us love one another,
For everyone that loveth is born of God
and knoweth God.*

*He that loveth not, knoweth not God
for God is love.*

Beloved, let us love one another.

1 John 4, verses 7 and 8.

All of these started their Lampeter journey with me back in 1990 – happy memories for which I am very grateful. *Diolch* all.

Nigel Binding (1994, 1998)

[Nigel’s article follows on a generation later from Nevil Williams’s article on the Lampeter Christian Union in the late 1970s, which appeared in the Winter 2020/21 edition of The Link, no. LXXVI, page 26 – Ed.].

A LONG SLIDE DOWN INTO LAMPETER: REVISITED AFTER 38 YEARS

It was easy to forget those smooth, black, rolling turns in the excitement of returning to a place where I had been truly happy; down through the hedge rows and hills until the memories start to cluster around a bend in the road, a building, a chapel and then, suddenly the corner of the College grounds and Lloyd Thomas building. I began to exclaim stupid, over-excited reminiscences. Jackie seems pleased and smiles, trying to share my enthusiasm, but it is not fair, really. How do you get excited about brickwork and shop fronts that are not part of your history?

Ruins of once familiar businesses pockmark College Street. Was that still a post office when I was here and what had happened to Spar? That quartermaster of student living is now abandoned, broken, peeling and just a dirty window opposite a kebab shop, a luxury I was sure to have adored had it been available in ‘my day’. The ground floor ugliness of the old minimarket, though, is contrast enough for the light shining on the white walls above to draw my eye upwards. Suddenly, the grandness of the full building, with moulded arches around the sashed oak windows and roof corncicing, offers hope. It would make a fine restaurant, if only Lampeter needed a fine restaurant.

Here is the point. Lampeter’s buildings display a history of prosperity that has rolled on from era to era, sometimes chipped and shaded, sometimes painted and dusted back into life. Right now, it is in between, and I am delighted – on looking to check the traffic from the ‘new’ mini roundabout in front of Conti’s – to see a street scene almost unchanged from 1983, probably even 1933. I can’t wait for more of this tomorrow, reliving my past from the safety of my future in which, thanks in part to this place, I prospered.

I need to be reminded to concentrate on the road as I continue a commentary of superlatives and exclamations in burbling delight.

We pay deference to my lack of concentration by slowing the pace over the bridge and rounding the chicane by the now derelict Cwmann Tavern. The roads are starting to come back to me and I indicate for the hidden turning towards Cellan before I see it. More hedgerows, more bends and there it is – Coedmor Fach, white and blue in the sunlight, alone on the hill and visible from the green in front of the College’s old building. The commentary has not stopped. There is meaning in every house and turn: a farmer picked me up here on my long walk of doom into finals; the sheep screamed for their lambs in the corner of this field as the truck drove them past on the way to market; Bob, Andrew, Geraldine and Deb in the car as I slithered up the hill in my Triumph 1300 in the great blizzard of 1982, back from the Fishers Arms, only just avoiding being caught outdoors. I don’t even need to think to find the track that leads up the steep gradient to the house, even if Elgan Jones (yes, it is still the original farmer from my days) has built a huge cow shed at the entrance now.

I am driving a big, wide Audi 6 up this track now so the 30cm drops into the ditches either side of the concrete path, and its hairpin bends, give me no trouble. I am too well-practised, even if thirty-eight years have passed since I was last here.

If you were happy at Lampeter and had no reason to return between leaving university and retiring, it is this that grabs you. Your mind is pricked by reminiscences of memories you thought you had forgotten, and there is the deep joy that so little has changed, though enough to keep the place alive. The final approach up the avenue of beech trees that leaned their new, springy, leathery leaves into me on that morning walk to finals are still here. As I throw the car around the final hairpin, I am drawn back to that day, full of fear and uncertainty. Once again, I can see the almost lime-green leaves and their touch of kid leather. I



Coedmor Fach Cottages, Cellan, taken from Nigel Sanctuary's car – August, 2021

also recall the sudden realisation, on that day, that everything was going to be all right if the world could look and feel like this. I had a reason to be grateful to these trees, and here they were – taller, older, but still cosying the weathered traveller up the long, last straight to the farmyard into which we now turned.

I am bursting with excitement, because I truly, truly loved this place and the people I was with when I lived here in 1982/3. My sister had remarked in a curious tone to someone, "It was the first time I had ever seen him truly happy". I park the car and cannot wait to jump out, so that I stand before the house, looking back into the valley: Magic Hill, with the blank walls of Harris and Richards hiding the college [*The Harold Arthur Harris Hall – named after the erstwhile Professor of Classics at SDC, 1934 – 1968, and John Richards Hall I & II – named after the Bishop of St Davids, 1956 – 1971 and SDC Doctor of Divinity – were both built in the mid-1970s – Ed.*]; The Falcondale, proud as a gentleman sentinel, surveying the town from the head of its own personal valley, cloaked by its own personal wood; and the Teifi, snaking silver through flat meadows and shrublands.

After unpacking the car and marvelling at the conversion made to turn our holiday lettings from the tangled and broken shearing shed it

had been into a luxury 'cottage', we step out again to view the landscape. Jackie wants a walk and asks if we can climb the hill behind. We trip over the same rocks and gullies that Bob, Geraldine, Andrew, Deborah and I negotiated decades before. 45 miles to the North there is what looks like Cadair Idris, and the Preseli hills 30 miles to the South. The day is clear, the white clouds fluffy and spaced into the blue sky, and below is the valley, the fields brocaded in dark green hedge rows, a hill marked with a columnar folly that I had completely forgotten. It is a scene straight from a Railway poster of the 1950s.

On my return to the farmyard, the owner of my old student house comes out to explain the parking conventions for the (now) six dwellings that make up our once lonely farmhouse. He seems interested to hear about its days as a student house and the different layout. I tell him of the snowdrift in the attic and our attempts to clear it; the bath full of dirty snow that wouldn't melt because of the cold in the house; the frost on my duvet one morning; and the endless bean and curry paste cassoulets heated, for calorific sustenance rather than culinary delight, in the kitchen that is now his spare bedroom.

Back to the present and to the next morning. I rise and try, as nonchalantly as possible, to suggest it might be nice to go to look at the old College with its beautiful quad, the high quality of its medieval illuminated manuscripts, and its important Archaeology and Geography departments.

The College does not disappoint. It has changed, but not unrecognisably. The sad loss is the inability to access the old library where I played many a Flat Sam gig or tried to inaugurate a regular college drama workshop with Andrew and various other members of the Drama Society, or the Union Bar, which had been so important to my arrival at College and was the setting for so many trysts, mine included (Jackie stopped me before I got going on that one)....

Jackie was mightily impressed, as everyone is, by the old building quad and the chapel. She correctly spotted that the fountain had been used for various imposed or voluntary dunkings on special occasions. I applauded her knowledge of student japes and pointed out, spuriously, that I believed it had been specially constructed for the purpose in 1847.

Canterbury building was, of course, a shock. Most of my lectures were in there and now it was replaced...gone... and my memories evaporated with the rubble and dust. The main exam hall was not accessible, either, but still we wandered the grounds and I pointed out where the Terrapins were.

Then to finish the walk we wandered back to the Porter's Lodge and sat on the benches. I took in a panoramic view and looked at the buildings around me. They hadn't changed, the view had not altered a bit, and it struck me how many of us, myself included, must have arrived here to live more or less independently for the first time, without our families' support. How many of us came to study both life and literature, philosophy, history, geography, theology or classics, wondering what would become of us. Here we could reinvent ourselves; nobody knew us here.

In College Street, many buildings have changed and the old house of my girlfriend (Caroline) had been demolished and replaced with a 1990's block, once housing the Islamic studies unit. The streets still have people going about their daily business, but you will no longer find a cattle market in the square behind The High Street – just Sainsbury's and a car park (now I see why the Spar shut). The Black Lion is slick and posh and the Dalis Bar now the Dalis Centre.

As I sat downing a pint behind the old windows fronting the main street, the two carved oak pillars made me think of the wool-coated, flat-capped farmers who gathered about the tables among the smoke and beer chatting and enjoying the short break from their tough lives on the hills around the town. The shops are still, mostly,



Nigel Sanctuary outside Conti's

independent, selling their eclectic mix of what sells – fashion wear remains idiosyncratic. However, crowning it all for me, and probably for 90% of others, is Conti's.

Still in its spot, despite being badly burned out some years back, it retains the frames to the windows between which Leno let me put my wordy poster in pink and blue announcing the formation of a new youth drama club in the College main hall. It continues to sell the most fantastic ice cream, cakes and snack lunches, though I think the pasties I lived off have gone. So many people on the alumni Facebook site photograph themselves in front of Conti's that you know that this is both café and memorial site. Leno and his family of rallying sons and entrepreneurial daughter were central to our experience. He was tough, but sympathetic and kindly and, for me at least, like Elgan Jones and so many of the village business owners, a grounding point for what was sensible and real in life compared to my silly, inexperienced undergraduate projections. Jo Conti's son now runs the café – he had only recently opened a hairdresser in the High Street when I left. The business gene, clearly, continues to dominate.

I stopped to say goodbye to Leno on my way out of the town in 1983, having sold my drumkit and packed my case. He was genuinely touched at

these gestures, I think, and he must have been thanked by many for letting us linger and chatting to us as we struggled to grow up.

Lampeter is full of colour, like so much in Wales now. If there is one clear difference from 'my' time to now, it is the sight of closed pubs and converted chapels. Life changes faster nowadays and mores and sentiment fight for space in the landscape, but I think Lampeter has still found its own way. The college, the farms, the shops, the pace and meaning of life are all more independent, finding their own way in a world that slices through decades with an insatiable appetite for the new and exciting to titillate. I don't know how long that will pass Lampeter by, but for now and for the benefit of us students of the pre-digital age, thank heavens it does. Your memories are here, largely undisturbed, everyone. Go get them.

Nigel Sanctuary (1983)

MARGARET TYRRELL GREEN, LAMPETER'S GREAT WAR POET

In 1891, Margaret Roberts married the newly-appointed lecturer in



Margaret Tyrrell Green, circa 1905 (from the Howells Studio via eBay, courtesy of William Gibson)

Hebrew and Theology at St David's College, Lampeter, Edmund Tyrrell Green. Within a few years, Green had been made Professor of Hebrew and Theology and had a very successful career as a teacher and writer. He published five books on theology, but his popular series on church architecture is what Edmund Tyrrell Green was best known for. His interest in architecture led him to help design the College's cricket pavilion. After the First World War, he was one of a group of college staff who opposed Principal Gilbert Cunningham Joyce's luckless plan to turn Lampeter into a postgraduate theological hall. Joyce resigned in fury and Lampeter remained a university college. Two years later, in 1924, in circumstances that William Price said were 'shrouded in mystery', Green retired from Lampeter.

It was, however, Green's wife, Margaret, who was the war poet. In two small volumes, now so rare that there are only a handful of surviving copies (and Inter-Library Loan has to obtain a copy from the USA), she expressed her sorrow at the war and, in 1917, the death of her son, Denis Noel Tyrrell Green in Palestine [during the first Battle of Gaza on 26 March, 1917 – Ed.]. Largely forgotten now, Margaret Tyrrell Green merited an entry in the 1916 book entitled *One Hundred Best Poems of the European War* and has an entry in the 'Female Poets of the First World War' blog (<http://femalewarpoets.blogspot.com/>).

Her first volume, simply entitled *Poems*, appeared in 1917 and was dedicated to her son "in gratitude for a loving and lovely life laid down in the service of God and his Country". She had previously published some of the poems in the *Western Mail*, the *Welsh Gazette* and the *Church Family Newspaper*. They are poignant and mournful verses, typified by one stanza in 'A Grave In Palestine':

*There he is lying, he, my son, my boy
Cut off in the full tide of manly
strength*

*Vigorous and beautiful; where the
larks sing joy
He lays his length...*

But the poems that might be of most interest to readers of *The Link* are those she wrote before her son's death, which record her love of Lampeter. Three are perhaps worth reproducing.

LAMPETER

*By Teifi's stream there stands a pile
poetic
The pioneer of learning for Wales's sons
A rival fair in form and grace and
beauty
Of those where Granta flows or Isis
runs.*

*Its picturesque grey Quad speaks peace
and quiet
Its velvet lawns with beeches tall and
grand
Spread wide about the buildings; and
its niches
Hold saints whose spirits sanctify the
land.*

*On summer eves on Sunday, service
over,
In ivied Quad are all together met,
The Dons and men and choir, each in
white surplice
A scene I never, never shall forget.*

*And then their country's hymns so
weird and haunting
They sing, as sons of Wales alone can
sing
The sweet, but mournful strains
arising, falling
A surge of saddest melody to bring.*

*The cloistered Quad, with creepers
warm and cosy,
Soft summer sky and swallows swift in
flight
By battlemented towers –this dream of
beauty
Still lingers in my memory with delight.*

THE LAMPETER MAN'S LAMENT
*The trill of the lark transports me
O'er fancy's ocean wide
To the daisied meads where the Dulas
Flows into Teifi's tide.*

*And leaving the toil of the trenches
I am back on that happy shore,
'Mid scenes of mirth and innocence
In those days that are no more.*

*And my heart grows sick with longing,
While I aim and hit my mark,
Still striving to do my duty
To the soul-stirring strains of the lark.*

*Dear little warbler ethereal,
Whose song is embodied joy,
'Mid strife and sorrow I greet thee
From War's blood-red employ.*

*Please God, when peace is with us,
I shall hear thee again on those meads
Where tender memories linger
And whither my fond heart leads.*

THE TALE OF THE TEIFI
*I am the Teifi River
And I wind about Welsh hills
Laughing and gurgling and gleaming
And fed by crystal rills.*

*I am the Teifi River
And I try, with God to work
To make the world more beautiful
More free from moil and murk.*

*My limpid, silvery waters
Reflect the heavens high
And in my bosom's mirror
A thousand beauties lie.*

*If sometimes 'neath a storm blast
My flood should muddy show
It soon clears and when calm comes
And then I nobler flow.*

*Fishermen by my green banks
Find food and happy dreams
For sweet, fresh air blows by them
And all life lovelier seems.*

*I am the Teifi River
That has been sung in song
Ah! never pollute pure waters
And your blessings will be long.*

*Like to the poet's music
I ripple by cot and town
Oh! keep me then from knowing
The poet's saddest crown.*

Both Edmund and Margaret were devastated by the death of their son. Edmund tried to come to terms with it in a book entitled *The Sacrifice of the Best*, published in 1919, and in further studies of church buildings. But Margaret Tyrrell Green clearly did so in her poems. Her poetry may not represent the finest verse, but it was clearly heart-felt and had an emotional power, and she should be better known as Lampeter's Great War poet.

William Gibson (1980, 1983, 2004)

HISTORY OF OLD CANTERBURY BUILDING

This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of the demolition of the Old Canterbury Building [designed by Professor John Henry Middleton – Ed.] in the summer of 1971. Originally opened on 24 June, 1887, at a cost of £5,650 with a further £1,500 for furnishings, it originally housed, inter alia, the College's Physical Science laboratory. Thereafter, it served a variety of purposes although it always housed students of one sort or another and, during the Second World War, was home to one house of Wycliffe School which had evacuated to Lampeter from Stonehouse in Gloucestershire. It was the first home of the Theological Hall, which eventually moved on in 1958 to Walters Temperance Hotel in College Street.

As time passed, the building showed more and more evidence of subsidence, in spite of bank strengthening work in 1948 which merely delayed the inevitable. It gently moved towards the valley of the Dulas, so once the new Arts Block was ready, Old Canterbury was quietly taken down – before it fell down! New



Current Canterbury Building, courtesy of Esther Weller, November 2021



Canterbury Building, St. David's College, Lampeter.
Old Canterbury Building c. 1950

Canterbury followed, being opened in October, 1973, but on a site well clear of the Dulas! *[In turn, this was knocked down in 2012 and replaced by the current Canterbury Building in 2013, which currently houses Student Services – Ed.]*

I hope that the enclosed postcard (*above*) is of interest and might bring back a few memories for those who remember Old Canterbury. The aerial view was produced by J. Lemuel

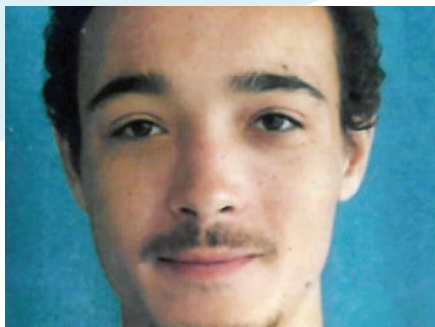
Rees, in my time the newsagents on Bridge Street, and probably dates from around 1950. Old Canterbury nestles in the trees in the foreground across the lawns from Old Building. Somewhere in the trees, towards where College Street met Station Terrace, is the old College School building which lasted until the summer of 1973 – I remember a wonderful Folk Club night on my first visit to Lampeter for an open weekend in March, 1972.

This view of Old Canterbury includes a cannon. Why it was there I cannot imagine! *[The mounted cannon in this view of Old Canterbury Building 1, taken in 1919 or 1920, features in an article entitled 'Dark Days For Lampeter', that appeared on page 7 of Issue 68 of The Link, March, 2015 – Ed.]*

Richard Morton (1975)

OBITUARIES

JACK AMPADU (1983–2021)



Jack Ampadu, courtesy of *Opera News*, November 2021

Jack Ampadu was a Philosophy student at UWTSD Lampeter Campus and graduated in 2013.

He was a wonderful soul and a kind-hearted man whose generosity touched many hearts during his short life. Jack was taken from his family and friends in a knife attack that tragically ended his life on 15 February, 2021, in Kentish Town, London, at the age of 37. He was born in Dublin, and sadly leaves behind his sister Hazel and his mother.

Here below are some messages from his contemporaries and friends at Lampeter:

“Our dear friend and big brother Jack. We nicknamed him Grandad after his infectious deep laugh and shrugging shoulders. I treasure the informative and deep discussions we had, particularly about his motherlands and culture. He always loved visiting and exploring where he came from and encouraged us all to do the same. Jack was cheeky but somewhat shy, especially when it came to the dance floor. He would try to avoid shaking a leg or two but we always made sure he did – not least when the song reminded him of his time in London. Thank you, Jack, for your love, your teaching and your care throughout our years in Lampeter. Sleep well, King.”

Banke Jemiyo (2013)

“Jack had the most infectious and contagious laugh of anyone that I have had the pleasure of meeting. I could be sad and Jack only had to laugh to make me smile, simultaneously making the world feel like a better place. He was also kind, caring, honest and cheeky – a rare soul indeed.”

Leni Evans (2014)

“We’d chat a lot to and from swimming in Lampeter. I mentioned the old adage about ‘having a boyfriend’ and he clocked my south London ways and told me to basically ‘cut the crap’. Brief but wonderful philosophical talks – such a light.”

Oshun Airey (2013)

“There are no words. None. Always in my thoughts, I’ll remember you. Love and rainbows, Jack Ampadu.”

Naomi Hodge (2013)

“Jack was a real character, probably that’s why we became friends so quickly. We both had a passion for arguing about politics or philosophy or pretty much anything we could think of. We didn’t always keep it civil even! But that probably wasn’t even the point. He was a man who knew what he believed in and would stand up for what he thought was right. He had a strong sense of fairness and justice and made a point of considering alternative viewpoints. He had a great sense of humour, that is as long as you weren’t the butt of his joke! He was intelligent and witty, brimming with ideas and plans for the future. His life was cut far, far too short. He will be missed by his friends and family, but his memory will certainly live on in everyone who met him.”

Max Thompson (2013)

Jack was a wonderful soul – quiet, smiley and always up for an in-depth discussion about life. It was an honour to have known him and he will be sorely missed. Sleep tight, Jack.

Amy McNally (2013)

Amy McNally

CANON JOHN BINNY (1946–2021)



From the Order of Service for John Binny’s funeral, courtesy of Judy Binny

Early on Tuesday morning, 19 October, John passed away as he had conducted his life – quietly and without fuss or bother. As one priest friend said: “(He was) a rare and a true gentleman, in every sense of that word”. John leaves a daughter, Rachel, a son, Christopher, and Judy, his wife for so long, as well as many colleagues, parishioners and personal friends who held him in great affection. He was born, and he died, in Rhiwbina, North Cardiff. His parents were committed church people, and from the beginning there was within John an inherited and strong sense of service.

He came to Lampeter from Penarth Grammar School taking his BA degree in Biblical Studies and Philosophy. He then studied for the Ministry at St Michael’s College, Llandaff. After ordination by Archbishop Glyn Simon, he went for his Curacy to Edwin Davies at the large Glamorgan parish of Llantrisant. In John, Edwin found a fine and loyal colleague – much quieter and shyer, but as outrageously and quirkily humorous as he himself. They got on well. Edwin

much appreciated John's ability to remain quiet when necessary – to look at a situation carefully and to seek counsel – and *then* act! John and Judy met and married there.

In 1977, John was inducted as Vicar of Troedyrhiw with Merthyr Vale, a fine parish just coming to terms with the closure of the mines. But one of the difficult times came when a large culvert on the canal bank just above the vicarage collapsed, and they had to move out into temporary accommodation. The flood waters affected the ground all around, and an enormous sink hole appeared in their back yard. John took me down to see, and with a typically quizzical look he pointed to the bottom of this deep hole where a brand new Range Rover lay upside-down – wrecked! John was ever a master of the laconic! He explained that a neighbour had just bought it but had had to go away on business, so he'd asked John if he could park it at the Vicarage 'for safety'. "Well," said John, "the Insurance people said this whole disaster was 'an act of God' so at least that's one thing they can't blame the Vicar for!"

John and Judy, and newly born Rachel, were happy there. But John's pastoral gifts had been noted and in 1982 he was inducted to Eglwys Brewis with St Athan, Gileston and Flemingston, a beautiful and demanding set of Vale communities. There, to their delight, Christopher arrived. John and Judy gave much to those communities – not the least being major building work at St Athan's church.

After 13 years, John moved to Pentyrch where he spent eight years. A major task there was to weld together the five quite distinct communities into a workable unit – and as a careful and talented parish priest, he did that well. Again, that whole area had become an "overspill" from the growing business world of Cardiff, and he had to balance the strong and conflicting opinions which some from it inevitably brought with them!

After eight years, John retired to the family house in Rhiwbina, and at once he became a very active part of

the Parish team of Whitchurch but he also took services all over Cardiff and the East Vale. Again, from 2011 to 2018, he was a hard-working Bishop's Commissary for the Diocese of St. Helena.

In about 2018, his health began to give concern and he had three stays in hospital but the greatest challenge came with lockdown. John was on the shielding list and the isolation affected him badly. Yet still he lost none of his gentlemanly grace and kindness. He continued in his study of space technology and I remember standing outside the front gate with him one winter's night watching the space capsule crossing from West to East and putting a new sparkle into the night sky. He also maintained his great interest in working as a Radio Amateur – and at his funeral on 12 November the members of the Cardiff Radio Amateurs formed a guard of honour.

One of John's mentors (and one of his heroes) was Principal John Rowland Lloyd Thomas, who had been very kind to both John and his parents. Like many generations of students, we owed Lloyd Thomas a great debt. Hence, just a couple of years ago, he and I sought out the Prin's grave just outside the lovely hilltop church at Llanfabon – the ancient parish church of Nelson – a place of real holiness.

But to our surprise the headstone on this family grave gives nothing other than his name – nothing of his ordination, nor his glittering academic career. Yet that tells you so much about Lloyd Thomas himself. He was a dedicated parish priest, and later the Principal (and saviour!) of Lampeter. But he was also a gruff realist who never sought high office: the job was there to be done – and he did it. The 'greasy pole' was anathema to him! In so many respects John Binny was the same. And the parishes John loyally and lovingly shepherded were so much the better for it.

Bless you, John – and bon voyage!

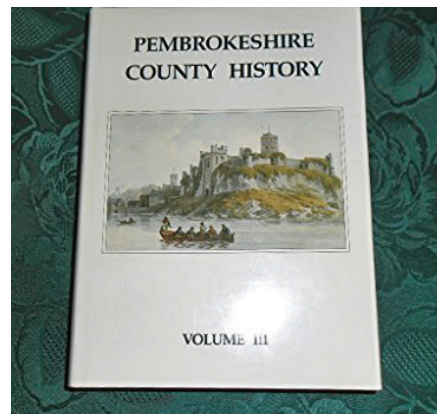
The Rt Revd Dr Richard Fenwick
(1966, 1986, 1995)
Bishop Emeritus of St Helena

BRIAN HOWELLS (1931–2021)

News has been received belatedly that Brian Howells, MA, FRHistS, died suddenly at his home in Stackpole, Pembrokeshire, in February, 2020, aged 90. In the death notice of the *Western Telegraph*, Brian was described as "the devoted and dearly loved husband of Anita (his second wife) and a much-loved father (of son John), grandfather and great-grandfather."

A graduate of University College Wales Aberystwyth, with his MA from there too, he became a lecturer in history at St David's College in 1964, having previously taught for several years at Pembroke Grammar School. Although one of his two main scholastic interests lay in Tudor England, his first task was to deliver courses in the broad sweep of medieval history, which he admitted to finding taxing, but he was able to indulge his Tudor interest in the following year. Like his immediate colleagues, he was always ready to discuss historical issues with students away from the lecture room and he welcomed many to the house which he and his first wife, Kitty, (lecturer in German, 1965–1983) had had built in Cwmann.

He disappointed many in SDC when, in 1967, he joined the staff of Aberystwyth, where he was appointed as a senior lecturer. Gratifyingly, he remarked a few years later that he had "seen nothing in Aberystwyth to suggest that students were any better



Edited by Brian Howells

than those in Lampeter and that, if anything, standards were not quite as high!"

His second area of special interest was in the history of his native county, Pembrokeshire, about which he wrote extensively as author, contributor, and editor, until almost the end of his life. One of his achievements was a county history published in 1987.

John Baker (1967)

MARK HEINZ SCHOEN (1961–2021)



Mark Heinz Schoen, taken from his funeral notice

The messages below on the sad death of Mark Schoen (1983) are taken from the Facebook page of the 'SDUC 80s Throwbacks Disgo Heno' group. He left behind his wife Denise and children Katie, Sam, Henry and Tom.

"This is one of those posts you hope you will never have to make, but for all of you who knew our great friend Mark Schoen, I'm sad to say that he lost his battle with cancer on the 1 August, 2021, aged 59 years; he died with his children and Denise around him in a hospice. Several of us had been to see him recently and to the end he still had the cheeky little grin we all knew. I had known him for over 40 years, and he had always been the very best cheerful company, always willing to argue, throw in some contrary view and sit back and giggle when you went for the bait. Tim, Mike, Gary and I shared some memorable afternoons skiving off work in Soho in a Chinese restaurant drinking and arguingloudly! So long 'Shakey'; we're all going to miss you so much."

Mick Bass (1983)

"Fully echo Mick's words. A lovely person who would light up the conversation. Many afternoons and evenings spent putting the world to rights, blind faith in his beloved Spurs and English Rugby. A love of red wine and traditional beer. Huge loss to us all. X"

Mike Berry (1983)

PROF. HINRICH GERHARD SIEFKEN (1939–2021)



Prof Siefken in his seminar room at SDUC Lampeter in 1978 or early 1979

Born in April, 1939, in Leverkusen (near Cologne), elder son of eminent chemist Werner and wife Lisel, Hinrich spent the end of the war as an evacuee on a farm. Together with his baby brother, mother and other refugees, he hid for several days in abandoned mines in fear of the Russian advance. A quick learner, despite starting school late, at age 11 he went to grammar school where he was educated in science and classics. A trip with Scouts to England in 1954 began his love of Britain. After his *Abitur* [university entrance diploma acquired at a secondary school in Germany – Ed.], he attended Tübingen University where at the end of his first year he switched from Greek and Latin to German and English, a fortunate decision for his later family.

In 1964, he received his DPhil for his work on the medieval *Kudrun* epic. He then began work on his *Habilitation*, an essential step to becoming a Professor in Germany. While waiting for a permanent appointment, he spent a year as *Lektor* at University College North Wales Bangor. Here he met Marcia, a final year student of German. This experience convinced

him that he not only preferred the British Higher Education system, but that he wished to switch from Medieval Studies to specialising in Modern German Literature.

In 1967, after an interview in Cardiff, he took up his first teaching post in Lampeter, under Carl Lofmark's leadership. After his marriage to Marcia in 1968, they settled at 26, Penbryn – the first bungalow on the Bryn-yr-Eglwys estate. Brigitte was born in 1970, followed by her brother, Kristian, in 1973. Both children later attended Ysgol Ffynonbedr.

The 70s saw great expansion at St David's, with three staff sharing one office. It was during this time that he wrote *Kafka: Ungeduld und Lässigkeit* (1974), followed (among other publications) by *Thomas Mann: Goethe – "Ideal der Deutschesheit"* (1978). During the vacations he travelled to Germany, Austria and Switzerland for research.

Already Senior Lecturer in Lampeter, Hinrich was appointed Professor of German at Nottingham University in February 1979, where he lectured on a wide range of modern literature and on the Third Reich. This developed into a major interest in the writings of Theodor Haecker, a Catholic pacifist who influenced a group of students known as *Die Weisse Rose*. Six students wrote several pamphlets against Hitler and the Nazi terror, paying for it with their lives. Hinrich organised three international conferences in Nottingham, bringing together survivors, academics and the wider public. His work in this field, including *Theodor Haecker: Tag-und Nachtbücher 1939–1945* (1989), was recognised by the University of Nottingham with a DLitt during his time as Dean of the Faculty. He wrote extensively on the Resistance movement, also producing a book on the subject for use in schools. After a spell running the Institute of German, Austrian and Swiss Affairs, he chose early retirement in 1997. Marcia retired from teaching German at the same time. Brigitte continued the tradition of teaching German, and Kristian is an academic in Victorian Studies.

In his retirement Hinrich was very active in 'Probus' [*a local, national and international social group of retired people with shared interests – Ed.*], and in the rebuilding and reshaping of the spiritual life of the local Methodist church. A passionate gardener, he put his practical skills to use in redesigning the garden – laying paths, building pergolas and, in the months before his death, a new rose arbour. After celebrating his 82nd birthday, he died at home after a short illness.

**Brigitte Siefken
Radcliffe-on-Trent**

MERULA SMITH (1951–2021)

It is very sad to report the death from cancer of Merula Blodwen Smith (née Williams – 1973) on 16 June, 2021, at the age of 70, at Arrowe Park Hospital in Birkenhead, Wirral. She was married to Colin Smith (1971) and they had three daughters (Corinne, Jacqueline and Caroline) and one grandson (Roman).

Colin and Merula met at Lampeter as students of German (and in Merula's case, of French too). Her mother was German and lived in Hamburg. For many years, they had been running a very successful translation business called International Translations Ltd. in the Wirral, Cheshire. Contemporary alumnus Noel Hughes (1971) remembers them well and writes:

As students, both were very well known and popular. Colin's green VW (of course) Beetle were part of the College landscape. They both enjoyed their student residency away in Germany (or, as we all thought, at home – according to Merula!) She was a lovable, colourful student and like us met the love of their lives at College. Colin and their daughters would have been devastated – as we are now.

During her career as a professional translator, Merula worked on various projects for such notable companies

as British Aerospace, Rolls Royce and GKN Aerospace. These assignments involved prolonged stays in various countries of West Africa (where she acted as interpreter in negotiating contracts with heads of state and chiefs of staff), Algeria, and the French West Indies.

Merula and Colin regularly attended the Lampeter Society annual Reunions over a number of years and were very active participants. Merula will be sorely missed.

Brendan McSharry (1971)

DR MAYA WARRIER (1969–2021)



Maya Warriar – from Google Images

The Lampeter Society was deeply saddened to receive news of the death of Dr Maya Warriar on 24 September, 2021, after a long illness. Maya was a lecturer in Religious Studies in the Department of Theology, Religious Studies and Islamic Studies at the University of Wales, Lampeter, from 2001 to 2015.

Maya joined the Department in January, 2001, filling a vacancy opened by the departure of Gavin Flood. Later that year, I joined the department too and Maya and I became colleagues and firm friends, having offices next door to each other for much of the next decade. She enriched my life immeasurably, both professionally and personally.

Maya's first book, based on her PhD, *Hindu Selves in a Modern World: Guru Faith in the Mata Amritanandamayi Mission*, published

by Routledge in 2004, was about the lives of urban, middle-class devotees in a transnational *bhakti* tradition. Following that publication, Maya went on to have a wonderfully productive collaboration with John Zavos at Manchester. This resulted in their work with colleagues on 'Public Hinduisms' and the development of a methodology that she went on to use in her work in other settings, for example on the West Wales temple of Skanda Vale and its deployment of 'Hindu' identity around the threat to life of the temple's beloved bull, Shambo.

In the mid-noughties, with then-Lampeter theologian Simon Oliver, Maya co-founded a ground-breaking seminar series at Lampeter around the disciplinary disputes between Theology and Religious Studies. She argued for a better understanding of what was at stake in our disciplinary disagreements. An edited volume *Theology and Religious Studies: An Exploration of Disciplinary Boundaries* followed from that collaboration and was published in 2008 by T&T Clark.

Later in her career, with a prestigious grant from the Wellcome Trust, Maya worked on transnational Anglophone Ayurveda. Her last publication was 'Ayurveda: the modern faces of "Vedic" healing and sacred science' in the new *Routledge Handbook of Religion, Medicine, and Health*, imminently due for publication at the time of writing.

Maya left Lampeter in 2015 to take up a post at the University of Winchester, serving as Head of the Department of Theology, Religion and Ethics, 2015–2019. She retired as Reader in Religious Studies in 2020, on health grounds.

On receiving the sad news of her death, many of Maya's students left warm reflections on social media or wrote to their departments indicating the various ways she had inspired and empowered them.

Lampeter graduate Gemma Beard (2010) said, "Maya...managed to make

me really reflect on a lot of my ideals and principles. She is the reason I'm now teaching religious studies as a secondary school teacher and have been for some years. I hope to impassion my students in the same way she did me ten years ago."

Colleagues and students across the sector have been in touch with memories of Maya as a teacher, scholar, mentor, supervisor, external examiner, and as a friend, all speaking of her integrity, fairness, humour, warmth, gentleness, openness,

modesty, and her incredible courage. All these messages have been shared with Maya's family.

Dr Wendy Dossett (1990, 1997)
Associate Professor of Religious Studies, University of Chester

MAKING BEQUESTS TO THE LAMPETER SOCIETY

Bequests are always most welcome and members of the Business Committee would encourage all alumni to include the Society in their wills to ensure that in the future we are able to continue providing a quality service for the College, alumni and current students.

MEMORABILIA

LAMPETER SCARVES AND TIES FOR SALE

Lampeter Society and University merchandise are on sale at the University's new online store [see the article below from the University Alumni Officer – Ed].

Scarves are in Saxony wool, 180 cm in length and 23 cm wide. There are nine stripes in black and gold on the front together with the logo embroidered in the central black stripe, whilst the reverse has five stripes in maroon, blue and gold. Each one costs £30.

Ties are in black silk and have a double diagonal gold stripe with the St. David (in-his-niche) logo; they cost £15 each.

Postage costs are now £3.20 for a scarf or £1.55 for a tie. A joint scarf and tie order is £3.20 as the ties do not weigh much. Two scarves are £4.65.

Orders and payments can be made online using the following link:

<https://store.uwtsd.ac.uk/product-catalogue/short-courses-conferences/faculty-of-humanities>

Richard Haslam (1994)



Scarves



Ties

THE NEW UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ONLINE STORE

We are pleased to announce the opening of our new alumni online shop, home to where you can purchase University merchandise, such as the famous SDUC ties and scarfs. We are also excited to be selling copies of *The Academic Robes of Lampeter* by Nicholas Groves [see article below in the *Bicentenary Celebrations* section – Ed.], which has been republished to celebrate the University's bicentenary. All the above items are available from the online store which we hope to update soon with new merchandise that represents every iteration of our University!

Orders and payments can be made online using the following link:

<https://store.uwtsd.ac.uk/product-catalogue/short-courses-conferences/faculty-of-humanities>

Matt Cowley (2020)
Alumni Officer at the University's Lampeter Campus

MISCELLANEOUS

THE LAMPETER SOCIETY

GENERAL

Enjoyed your time at Lampeter? ... help us support the Lampeter Campus.

The Lampeter Society exists to support the Lampeter Campus of the University and to act as a focus for alumni. All Lampeter graduates are automatically members of the Society and those who have donated to the Society receive a hard copy of the Society's full-colour, bi-annual magazine, *The Link*, copies of which are on the UWTSO website in the Lampeter Society section.

Our support is given financially or in any other appropriate way and covers the whole range of University life. In recent years we have:

- made annual donations to the Library and the Chapel
- donated the History of the College – a sequence of large, pictorial boards
- funded an annual Lampeter Society lecture
- bought a mobile bar for the campus catering team
- contributed towards the cost of the Harmony Garden
- subsidised a Rugby Club tour and kit for the Fencing Club
- purchased four volumes of John Donne's poetry for the Library as well as a book on C.R. Cockerell, the architect of Old Building
- Paid for some conservation work of two of the Library's treasures in the Special Collections – *The Austen Volumes*

- supported an international conference on 'Globalism in the Ancient World', organised by the Department of Ancient History.

However, all of these activities rely on the Society having sufficient funds available. It is thus dependent on donations made to it. Some graduates make one annually (the minimum requested is £20 – but if you wish to give more, this would be gratefully received). Such donations are essential to enable us to maintain the range of support we offer to the Lampeter Campus – please give generously.

The Society's main event is the annual weekend Reunion which takes place in July on the Lampeter campus. It includes the AGM and the Reunion Dinner. Details are to be found on the University website, in *The Link*, and on the Society's Facebook page. This is intended to be a relaxing, informal and enjoyable weekend for catching up with old friends and meeting new people. The programme is completely flexible, and you can take part in as many or as few of the events as you like. You are also welcome to bring along other family members or friends. [See details of the events scheduled for 2022 on p.42 – Ed.]

Other reunions and meals take place in various parts of the country, when there are alumni willing to organise them. The Lampeter Society is always ready to support and publicise these events.

Andrew Leach (1977)

REQUEST FOR COPY FOR FUTURE EDITIONS OF *THE LINK*

The deadlines below will have to be rigidly adhered to; copy received after the date stated will, regretfully, not be included.

* **Summer, 2022: Friday, 6 May, 2022**

* **Winter, 2022–23: Friday, 18 November, 2022**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LAMPETER SOCIETY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Chair / Reunion Coordinator: Esther Weller (1999)	estherb16@yahoo.co.uk
Vice Chair: Chris Deacy (1994, 1996, 1999)	deacychris@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Andrew Leach (1977)	ajpleach@gmail.com
Secretary: Chris Reaney (1982)	c.reaney350@btinternet.com
Editor of <i>The Link</i>: Brendan McSharry (1971)	brendan.mcsharry2@gmail.com
Deputy Editor of <i>The Link</i> / Severn-Thames Convenor: Peter Bosley (1967, 1977)	bosleypeter@yahoo.co.uk
Technical Support to <i>The Link</i>: Adrian Gaunt (1966)	adrian_gaunt_04@yahoo.co.uk
UWTSD Liaison: Bill Fillery (1969)	fillerybill@gmail.com
London Convenor: Richard Haslam (1994)	rhaslam@hotmail.com
Swansea Convenor: Nevil Williams (1980)	nevilwilliams1957@gmail.com



BICENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

LAMPETER SOCIETY 85TH ANNIVERSARY AND LAMPETER CAMPUS BICENTENNIAL EVENTS IN 2022

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 19 February | Wreath-laying on Bishop Burgess's tomb, Salisbury Cathedral, 1.30pm |
| 24 February | 'Three Great Lampeterians'
Lampeter Society Lecture (Virtual / Founders' Library, 6pm)
Professor William Gibson |
| 25 April | Launch of '200 Lampeter Voices' (virtual) |
| 14 May | Bicentenary Service
St Davids Cathedral, 4pm |
| 27 May | London branch dinner |
| 22 – 25 July | Lampeter Society Reunion |
| 24 July | Lampeter Society / Lampeter Music Society Bicentenary concert
Lloyd Thomas Hall, 3pm – 5.15pm |
| 3 October | "Such Hoods As Shall Be Approved": the Robes of St. David's College'
Nicholas Groves (2000, 2008)
Lampeter Campus, 6pm |
| 2 – 4 December | Commemorative rugby weekend |
| 2 December | Commemorative Media and Training rugby session, Caio
Dave Chaplin's farm field, Caio, 2–3pm |
| | Formal Dinner at UWTSD, Lampeter Campus
Lloyd Thomas Hall, 7.30pm
(Guest speaker, Selwyn Waters, Mayor of Lampeter and author of <i>The Fighting Parsons</i> , a volume which looks back on the early developments of rugby in Wales and its links with the University.) |
| 3 December | Sixth Old Codgers' Rugby match
UWTSD Lampeter Campus alumni v Llandovery College alumni
Lampeter RFC, 12.00pm |
| | Bicentenary Rugby Match
UWTSD Lampeter Campus v Llandovery College
Lampeter RFC, 2.30pm |

THE ACADEMIC ROBES OF SAINT DAVID'S COLLEGE, LAMPETER, 1822 – 1971



From Nicholas Groves's book, courtesy of the BURGON Society

In 2000, the College published my short booklet on the SDC robes – those for BA, BD, and LD. I worked from rather limited material, and, as can be imagined, a great deal more information has come to light in the last 20 years, both in terms of primary sources and actual robes. So this is a much fuller version – what used to be called an 'expanded edition'!

I still have no idea exactly what the inspiration for the BA's 'ermine' was: all that was said in the Charter in 1865 was that the robes were not to duplicate those of Oxford or Cambridge. I suppose the black spots are a sufficient difference. I also know now, from seeing a fair number of BA hoods, that no two are exactly alike.

Besides being the College's bicentenary, 2022 is also the 170th anniversary of the College gaining the right to award the BD, and I have managed to find an account of the ceremony at which the first BD graduates were admitted: the hood and gown were much admired.

The book is fully illustrated in colour with pictures of all the hoods and gowns, including those of the very short-lived LicDD. Also, in an appendix, there is an account of a 'Naughty Vicar', who (amongst other things) was accused of wearing a Cambridge BA hood and not a Lampeter one, though why on earth one would wish to pass as a member of some lesser institution escapes me. I finish with a suggested scheme, based on the original robes, for all degrees, should TSD ever decide to cease using the robes of the University of Wales.

[Nicholas will be giving a talk at the Lampeter Campus on Monday, 3 October, at 6pm, entitled "Such Hoods as Shall Be Approved"; the Academic Robes of St David's College. The talk will examine the origins and developments of the gowns and hoods of the College's two degrees and other awards, and will set them in the context of other universities. It will be illustrated with both photographs and samples of robes – Ed.]

Nick Groves (2000, 2008)

(Nicholas' new, revised work is now on sale at the university online shop <https://store.uwtsd.ac.uk/product-catalogue/short-courses-conferences/faculty-of-humanities/alumni-the-academic-robes-of-lampeter-preorder> – Ed.)

The Academic Robes of Saint David's College, Lampeter 1822-1971



Nicholas Groves

Book cover – published by the BURGON Society

THE BICENTENARY 'LAMPETER GOLD' BEER



To celebrate the bicentenary, the Lampeter Society have commissioned Monty's Brewery, a Montgomery-based brewery, to develop 'Lampeter Gold'. Described by the brewery as "a golden, moderately hoppy, floral ale, packed full of citrus aromas, with a wonderfully distinctive, dry finish", Lampeter Gold is a perfect way to celebrate 200 years of higher education in Lampeter. The beer will be on sale on the campus at alumni-based and other events throughout 2022 priced at £3.00 for a 500ml bottle.

Esther Weller (1999)

'Lampeter Gold'
anniversary ale
(courtesy of Esther
Weller, November 2021)

THANK YOU

My grateful thanks to the following with regard to this issue of *The Link*: all the contributors, for their hard work and for adhering to the copy deadline; the Deputy Editor, Peter Bosley; Adrian Gaunt, for providing technical support; Esther Weller (Chair) and Chris Deacy (Vice Chair) for their ongoing support; Jill Sweet for her excellent design work; Sarah and Ashley Ward of Y Stiwidio Brint for their superb printing; and Matt Cowley for his tireless Alumni Office liaison and distribution efforts.

FFURFLENNI / FORMS

ADUNIAD / REUNION, 2022

BOOKING ON-LINE NOTE

The University is no longer accepting paper booking forms so all bookings need to be made and paid for using the link below:

<https://forms.uwtsd.ac.uk/view.php?id=461863>

**PLEASE NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR BOOKING 2022
REUNION PLACES IS THURSDAY, 31 MARCH, 2022**

ADUNIAD CYMDEITHAS LLAMBED, 2022 – RHAGLEN

ADUNIAD CYMDEITHAS LLAMBED, 2022

Gwener 22 Gorffennaf – Llun 25 Gorffennaf

Bwriedir i'r penwythnos hwn fod yn un ymlaciol, anffurfiol a phleserus i ddal i fyny gyda hen ffrindiau a chwrdd â phobl newydd. Mae'r rhaglen yn hollol hyblyg a gallwch ddewis cynifer neu gyn lleied o'r digwyddiadau a restrir isod ag y mynnwch – mae popeth yn wirfoddol. Wrth gwrs, mae croeso i chi ddod ag aelodau eraill o'ch teulu neu'ch ffrindiau gyda chi.

(Sylwch, oni bai eich wedi archebu ymlaen llaw, ni fydd llety, y cinio aduniad a phrydau bwyd eraill, ar wahân i ginio dydd Sul, ar gael.)

Rhaid archebu a thalu ar-lein ar <https://forms.uwtsd.ac.uk/view.php?id=461863>

Unrhyw broblemau, cysylltwch ag Esther Weller, Cydlynnydd Aduniad, ar estherb16@yahoo.co.uk

– – – PRIF DDIGWYDDIADAU – – –

GWENER, 22 GORFFENNAF

3.00 yp – 5.00 yp: Cofrestru	Cloriau, Adeilad Dewi Sant (wedi hynny gellir casglu allwedd i o'r Dderbynfa). Lluniaeth ar gael. <i>Bydd cynllun eistedd ar gyfer Cinio'r Aduniad ar gael; gwnewch yn siŵr eich bod chi'n gofrestru ar gyfer sedd cyn i chi adael yr ardal gan y bydd hyn yn rhoi mwy o amser paratoi i'r staff arlwygo.</i>
5.30 yp: Derbyniad Croeso	Caffi / Bar 1822
6.30 yp: Barbeciw	Undeb y Myfyrwyr
7.30 yp: Cwis Tafarn	Undeb y Myfyrwyr
8.45 yp: Andy White (digrifwr Brummie enwog – graddedig Llambled 1994)	Undeb y Myfyrwyr

SADWRN, 23 GORFFENNAF

8.00 yb – 9.00 yb: Brecwast	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas
9.15 yb– 9.45 yb: Datganiad Organ	Capel. <i>Organydd i'w gadarnhau</i>
10.00 yb: Gwasanaeth blynyddol y Gymdeithas Llambled	Capel. <i>Pregethwr – Yr Hybarch Paul Mackness, BA (1996), Archddiacon Tyddewi</i> (Mae croeso i chi gynnal y traddodiad o wisgo gwisg academiaidd)
11.00 yb: Coffi, te a biscedi	Cloriau, Adeilad Dewi Sant
11.15 yb: Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol y Gymdeithas Llambled	Darlithfa Cliff Tucker. Bydd diweddariadau gan BCDDS am y campws, rhaglen academiaidd ac ati.
1.00 yp: Cinio Anffurfiol	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas
2.00 yp: Adnewyddu Addunedau Melanie Corp (1988) a'r Parchedig Jonathan Parker (1993)	Capel. Arweiniwyd gan Yr Hybarch Mones Farah

2.30 yp: Arddangosfa 200 o Leisiau	Llyfrygell y Sylfaenwyr
3.30 yp: Coffad arall Llambled: 1852 a Graddau Llambled	Llyfrygell y Sylfaenwyr <i>William Gibson, cyn-fyfyriwr ac Athro Hanes Eglwysig, Prifysgol Oxford Brookes</i> <i>Ar ôl y darlith, bydd cyfle i brynu copïau llyfr Nicholas Groves, 'The Academic Robes of St David's College, Lampeter, 1822–1971' (ail argraffiad)</i>
4.30 yp: Te Mefus Dathliadol	Cloriau, Adeilad Dewi Sant
6.45 yp: Llun grŵp	Camau wrth ymyl y llyfrygell (os bydd y tywydd yn caniatáu!)
7.00 yp: Derbyniad diodydd cyn-cinio	Bydd poteli o win ar gyfer Cinio'r Aduniad ar gael i'w prynu. Bydd tocynnau raffl ar werth am £1 yr un, gyda'r holl elw'n mynd i gronfeydd Cymdeithas Llambled.
7.30 yp: Cinio Aduniad	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas SIARADWR GWADD – Pete Paphides <i>Gwisg smart achlysurol os gwelwch yn dda (ond mae gwisgo'n fwy ffurfiol yn gwbl dderbyniol os dymunwch!)</i> <i>Ar ôl y cinio, bydd Undeb y Myfyrwyr ar agor tan yn hwyr, gyda disgo yn yr Estyniad.</i>

SUL, 24 GORFFENNAF

09.00 yb – 10.00 yb: Brecwast	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas (i'r rhai sy'n gallu llusgo'u hunain allan o'r gwely!)
10.15 yb – 11.15 yb: Sesiwn holi ac ateb gyda Seren Llambled, Hag Harris (1974)	Llyfrygell y Sylfaenwyr
11.00 yb: Taith hamddenol ddirgel	Cwrdd yn y Cloriau, Adeilad Dewi Sant
12.30 yp: Cinio Dydd Sul	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas, a ffarwelio tan 2022.
3.00 yp – 5.15 yp: Cyngerdd Daucanmlwyddiant 2022	Neuadd Lloyd Thomas <i>Bydd Clwb Cerdd Llambled a'r Cymdeithas Llambled yn cyflwyno'r Cyngerdd Daucanmlwyddiant 2022 a Dathliad Penblwydd 40 mlynedd Clwb Cerdd Llambled, gyda cherddoriaeth 1822</i> <i>(Cost ychwanegol. Lleoedd cyfyngedig)</i>
7.00 yp: Cinio	Caffi / Bar 1822
Bydd croquet ar gael ar y lawnt y tu allan i'r Hen Adeilad a gemau bwrdd ar gael trwy'r prynhawn yn Undeb y Myfyrwyr)	

LLUN, 25 GORFFENNAF

09.00 yb – 10.00 yb: Brecwast	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas
10.00 yb – 12.00 yb: Arddangosfa Dyddiad Cynnar Coleg Dewi Sant	Llyfrygell ac Archifau Roderic Bowen <i>Bydd Nicky Hammond, Archifydd, ar gael i ateb unrhyw gwestiynau</i>
12.30 yp: Cinio	Neuadd Fwyta Lloyd Thomas
2.00 yp: Ffarwel tan 2023	

HEFYD...yn unol â thraddodiadau Cristnogol Llambled, bydd gwasanaethau'n cael eu cynnal yng Nghapel Prifysgol Dewi Sant trwy gydol penwythos yr Aduniad – mae croeso i bawb.

**RHAGLEN GWASANAETHAU CAPEL (Adeilad Dewi Sant)
(GALL AMSEROEDD NEWID)**

Gwener 22 Gorffennaf 5.00 yp:	Gosber
Sadwrn 23 Gorffennaf 5.00 yp:	Offeren Catholig Rhufeinig gyda Fr John Pascoe (1967)
6.00 yp:	Gosber
Sul 24 Gorffennaf 11.00 yb:	Cymun Bendigaid

LAMPETER SOCIETY REUNION, 2022 – PROGRAMME

LAMPETER SOCIETY REUNION 2022

Friday 22 July – Monday 25 July

This celebratory, extended Reunion is intended to be a relaxing, informal and enjoyable weekend for catching up with old friends, meeting new people and celebrating all that Lampeter has to offer. The programme is completely flexible and you can choose as many or as few of the events listed below as you like – everything is voluntary. You are, of course, welcome to bring along other family members or friends.

(Unless pre-booked, please note that accommodation, the Reunion dinner, and other meals apart from Sunday lunch, will *not* be available.)

All bookings to be made and paid for online at <https://forms.uwtsd.ac.uk/view.php?id=461863>

Any queries, please email Esther Weller, Reunion Coordinator, at estherb16@yahoo.co.uk

– – – MAIN EVENTS – – –

FRIDAY, 22 JULY

3.00 pm – 5.00 pm: Registration	Cloisters, St David's Building (thereafter keys can be collected from Reception). <i>Free refreshments.</i> <i>The table plan for the Reunion Dinner will be available: please ensure you sign up for a seat before you leave the area as this will give the catering staff more preparation time.</i>
5.30 pm: Welcome Reception	1822 Coffee Shop
6.30 pm: Barbecue	Students' Union
7.30 pm: Pub quiz	Students' Union
8.45 pm: Andy White (renowned Brummie comedian – 1994 Lampeter graduate)	Students' Union

SATURDAY, 23 JULY

8.00 am – 9.00 am: Breakfast	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
9.15 – 9.45 am: Organ Recital	Chapel. Organist TBC
10.00 am: Lampeter Society Annual Commemoration Service	Chapel. <i>Preacher – The Venerable Paul Mackness, BA (1996), Archdeacon of St. Davids</i> (If you wish to maintain the tradition of wearing academic dress, please do so.)
11.00 am: Coffee, tea and biscuits	Cloisters, St David's Building
11.15 am: Annual General Meeting of the Lampeter Society	Cliff Tucker Lecture Theatre. <i>There will be updates from UWTSd about the campus, academic programme etc.</i>
1.00 pm: Informal lunch	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
2.00 pm: Renewal of vows of Melanie Corp (1988) and Reverend Jonathan Parker (1993)	Chapel. <i>Conducted by The Venerable Mones Farah.</i>

2.30 pm: '200 Lampeter Voices' Showcase	Founders' Library
3.30 pm: 'Lampeter's other commemoration: 1852 and Lampeter's degrees'	Founders' Library <i>William Gibson, Lampeter alumnus and Professor of Ecclesiastical History, Oxford Brookes University</i>
	After the talk there will be an opportunity to purchase copies of Nicholas Groves's book, <i>The Academic Robes of St David's College, Lampeter, 1822–1971</i> (second edition)
4.30pm: Celebratory Strawberry Tea	Cloisters, St David's Building
6.45 pm: Group photo	Steps next to the library (<i>weather permitting!</i>)
7.00 pm: Pre-dinner drinks reception	1822 Coffee Shop <i>Bottles of wine for the Reunion Dinner will be available for purchase. Raffle tickets will be on sale @ £1 each, with all proceeds going to Lampeter Society funds.</i>
7.30 pm: Reunion Dinner	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall <i>GUEST SPEAKER – Pete Paphides</i> <i>Smart casual wear please (but dressing more formally is perfectly acceptable if you wish!)</i> <i>After the dinner, the Students' Union will be open until late, with a disco in the Extension.</i>

SUNDAY, 24 JULY

9.00 am – 10.00 am: Breakfast	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
10.15 am – 11.15 am: Question-and-Answer session with a Local Lampeter Luminary – Hag Harris (1974)	Founders' Library
11.15 am: Leisurely 'mystery' walk	Meet in the Cloisters, St David's Building
12.30 pm: Sunday lunch	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
3.00 pm – 5.15 pm: 2022 Bicentenary Concert	Lloyd Thomas Hall <i>Lampeter Music Club and the Lampeter Society present the 2022 Bicentenary Concert and Lampeter Music Club's 40th Anniversary Celebration, featuring music of 1822 (Additional cost applicable. Limited places.)</i>
7.00 pm: Dinner	1822 Coffee Shop

Croquet will be available all afternoon on the lawn outside Old Building and board games will be available in the Union bar.

MONDAY, 25 JULY

9.00 am – 10.00 am: Breakfast	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
10.00 am – 12.00 pm: Exhibition on the Early days of St David's College.	Roderic Bowen Library and Archives <i>Nicky Hammond, Archivist, will be available to answer any questions.</i>
12.30 pm: Lunch	Lloyd Thomas Dining Hall
2.00 pm: Farewells until 2023	

ALSO...in keeping with Lampeter's proud Christian traditions, services will be taking place in St David's University Chapel throughout the Reunion weekend – all are welcome.

PROGRAMME OF CHAPEL SERVICES (St David's Building)
(TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Friday, 22 July, 5.00 pm:	Evensong
Saturday, 23 July, 5.30 pm:	Roman Catholic Mass with Fr John Pascoe (1967)
6.00 pm:	Evensong
Sunday, 24 July, 11.00 am:	Holy Communion

CINIO'R ADUNIAD, 2022
REUNION DINNER, 2022

Cwrs cyntaf – Starter

Cawl moron a sinsir cartref gyda rhôl a menyn (LI)
Home-made carrot and ginger soup served with a roll and butter (V)

Coctel corgimychiaid, seleri ac afal
Prawn, celery and apple cocktail

Madarch garleg hufennog gyda ciabatta wedi'i dostio
Creamy garlic mushrooms served with a toasted ciabatta

Prif Gwrs – Main course

Ffiled eog mewn saws sbigoglys a gwin gwyn
Fillet of salmon served in a spinach and white wine sauce

Brest cyw iâr wedi'i stwffio â brie a bacwn, a'i gweini mewn saws Madeira coeth
Supreme of chicken stuffed with brie and bacon served in a rich Madeira sauce

Polenta a phentwr llysiau (LI)
Polenta and vegetable stack (V)

Pwdin – Sweet

Cacen gaws gartref mefus a siocled gwyn
Home-made strawberry and white chocolate cheesecake

Pwdin taffi gludiog cartref gyda saws taffi cyfoethog a chwstard
Homemade sticky toffee pudding with a rich toffee sauce and custard

Te neu Goffi Ffres gyda Mintys ar ôl Cinio
Freshly brewed tea or coffee with After Dinner Mint

Everyone who has booked will be emailed nearer the time for their menu choices.



CYFFREDIN / GENERAL

NEWID CYFEIRIAD / CHANGE OF ADDRESS

To help us maintain the accuracy of our records, please keep this form until required then, when you change your address, return it to:

Lampeter Alumni Office, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter Campus SA48 7ED
Phone: (01570) 422351; email: lampeteralumni@uwtsd.ac.uk

Also though, please update your contact details at the following web address:

<https://forms.uwtsd.ac.uk/view.php?id=193668>

Name:	
Year of Graduation:	
Old Address:	
New Address:	
Postcode:	
Email:	

LAMPETER SOCIETY ANNUAL DONATION STANDING ORDER MANDATE



To the Manager [<i>your bank</i>]	
Address of bank	
Postcode	
Sort code	
Account number	
Account name	
<p>Please pay The Lampeter Society the sum of £ (The minimum recommended payment is £20, but if you wish to be more generous, this would be gratefully received.)</p> <p>Date of first payment: (Please allow four weeks from return of the form to the start date of your standing order.)</p> <p>Date of subsequent payments: 1 March annually</p> <p>Iban no. for payments from abroad: GB36 LOYD 3094 8500 0724 66</p>	
Signed	
Date	
<p>For Bank Use: The Lampeter Society, c/o Lloyds Bank, 9 High Street, Lampeter SA48 7BQ (Sort Code: 30-94-85; Account number: 00072466).</p> <p>Reference: The Lampeter Society – [<i>your name</i>]</p>	

Additional information for Lampeter Society and UWTSO records:

Name	
Telephone	
Email	
Graduation year	
Profession/ occupation	

Please return this form to: Lampeter Alumni Office, University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter Campus, SA48 7ED



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Lampeter Society 200 Club! We set it up to help us with our fundraising activities – our current priorities being the proposed events to celebrate the Bicentenary in 2022. Further information, including the registration form, is found below. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Esther Weller (Lampeter Society Chair) at estherb16@yahoo.co.uk

INFORMATION

* The Lampeter Society '200 Club' is a private lottery and is open to all graduates, staff and past students of the Lampeter Campus of the University of Wales Trinity St. David.

* You pay a monthly fee and each month one member will win a cash prize.

* Membership costs £12.00 per year (£1 a month) or *pro rata*, in advance, renewable on 1st July each year. For example, if you sign up to the '200 Club' in March, you will pay £8 for membership until the following June. This buys you just **one** unique membership number, which will be entered into a monthly draw – the same number each time. However, further numbers can be purchased throughout the year and also paid for on a *pro rata* basis.

* The Lampeter Society Business Committee will inform you of your allocated number(s).

* The prize fund will depend on the number of entries. However, the percentage will remain the same: 50% of the money collected each month will be distributed as a cash prize, whilst the other 50% will be allocated to the Lampeter Society. We shall use this in furtherance of our aim of supporting both the Lampeter campus and the whole range of university life there, as well as alumni activities that bring people together (such as the Annual Reunion).

* If you win, the money will be transferred to your bank or a cheque will be sent to your address. The name of the winner will be published in the Summer and Winter editions of *The Link*, unless you opt out.

* The prize draw takes place on the last Friday of each month and is drawn using the random number generator at random.org. The first draw of the next phase takes place on 29th July, 2022.

TO ENTER

If you would like a chance of winning, please complete and sign the membership form overleaf and return it to Andrew Leach, Committee Treasurer, at ajpleach@gmail.com. You may either send a cheque to Andrew (address available on request) or, preferably, transfer the membership fee to our bank account, using your name as the reference:

Lampeter Society 200 Club
Account number: 20256668
Sort code: 30-94-85

Esther Weller (1999)

LAMPETER SOCIETY '200 CLUB'

APPLICATION FORM 2022/2023



Name:	
Postal Address:	
Email Address:	
How many numbers would you like to purchase? (at a cost of £12 per number, per year, or pro rata)	

- ✓ I agree that if I wish to cancel my membership I will inform **the Lampeter Society Business Committee** of this decision.
- ✓ I understand that membership fees are non-refundable.

I give / do not give (delete as appropriate) the Lampeter Society Business Committee permission to publish my name in The Link.

Signature _____ Date _____

LAMPETER SOCIETY LONDON BRANCH – ANNUAL DINNER, 2022

Dear Lampeterian,

I should like to invite you to the Annual Dinner of the London Branch of the Lampeter Society. This event is open to all alumni, their friends, partners or anyone who feels an affinity with Lampeter. The dinner will be held at the National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place, London, SW1A 2HE, on **Friday, 27 May, 2022**. Please aim to arrive by **7.00pm** to dine at **7.30pm**.

As is usual, it is a little early to confirm who will address the dinner, but I am confident, as in years past, that an excellent candidate will step forward to entertain and enlighten us. Indeed, this year the Vice-Chancellor has confirmed he will be attending.

As the Head Chef selects only fresh produce, the menu is also yet to be confirmed but this is an indication of what to expect:

Pea, Bean and Mint Bruschetta

Roast Tarragon Lemon Chicken Breast with Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes

White Chocolate and Passion Fruit Mousse

Coffee and Mints

A vegetarian option is also available. Please indicate this preference on the booking form below or by email. Should you have any other specific dietary requirements, these can be accommodated if you let me know in advance.

The cost is £38 which represents excellent value for a Central London location of this quality.

It is preferable if payment can be made by bank transfer to: The Lampeter Society; sort code 30-94-85; account number 00072466; reference "**London [your surname]**". Please follow this up with an email to advise me of payment and/or of any special requirements, and/or names of guests etc.

If you cannot pay by bank transfer, please return the booking form below, with a cheque made payable to Richard Haslam, to **29 Gilbert Street, Enfield, EN3 6PD**. Places for the dinner are limited and in order to confirm numbers with the Club in sufficient time, I should be grateful if all bookings and payments could be completed by **Friday, 20 May, 2022**.

The regulations of the National Liberal Club require that gentlemen wear a lounge suit or similarly tailored jacket, collared shirt and tie (jeans and trainers are not permitted). Ladies should be dressed in a similarly smart manner.

Please send all correspondence by email to rhaslam@hotmail.com.

Should you be unable to attend the dinner on this occasion but would like to be kept informed of future events, please contact me so that we are able to keep a record of those interested in the Lampeter Society's activities. Also, if you know of anyone who may have such an interest, please pass on this information and encourage them to contact me. Further information is also available on the alumni pages of the University's website and the Lampeter Society Facebook group. Do look us up and get in touch!

Yours sincerely,
Richard Haslam, Convener, London Branch (1994)

Booking Form – please complete and return to Richard Haslam, 29 Gilbert Street, Enfield, EN3 6PD

Name & address or email for confirmation: _____

Please reserve me _____ places at £38 each. I enclose a total payment of £ _____, made payable to Richard Haslam.

Name/s of guest/s if applicable: _____

Please indicate here _____ if your preference is for the vegetarian option, or indicate in the space below if you have any other specific dietary preference or any other requirements.

