

Rhif/No. LXXVI

Haf/Summer
2020

the link

Cymdeithas
Llambed

The
Lampeter
Society

*St. David's College Chapel
Lampeter.*

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NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

This electronic-only issue of *The Link* was designed and produced by Jill Sweet (JS Typesetting Ltd., Porthcawl).

Images

Front

The image was submitted by David Clare (1972) and shows the College chapel c.1905.

Back cover

The image of the old Dining Hall was originally submitted by David Clare (1972) and Nicky Hammond (University Special Collections Archivist) found an appropriate high-resolution version; it was taken on Degree Day, 1960. The photograph of the Lloyd Thomas Refectory was taken in 1969 and was found in the Archives by Nicky Hammond.

Explicanda

1. Throughout, dates in brackets after names indicate years of graduation.
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 editors, it appears simply as “ – Ed.”

ERRATA

1. On page 15 of the Winter, 2019–20 issue, in the heading to the article by **Dr Luci Attala** about her research at the South West Wales Health Board, the phrase ‘By Tristan Nash’ appears; it should have read ‘From Tristan Nash’. Our sincere apologies to Dr Attala for any distress caused to her.
2. In **James Ogden’s** article on page 27 of the same issue, there was an error in the second paragraph in which there was a reference to “the James Ogden entente”. This should have read “the Jones-Ogden entente”, as James Ogden himself points out in his letter on p.5.; we apologise for this error.
3. We apologise for the statement in ‘Note from the Editor’ on page 1 of the same issue that the printing was carried out by the College; this was incorrect as it was actually performed by the following company:

Y Stiwdio Brint
57 Bridge Street
Lampeter
Ceredigion
SA47 7DT

EDITORIAL

Adrian Gaunt (1966) writes: This issue was jointly edited by Brendan McSharry (1971) and myself. Brendan has worked tirelessly with Peter Bosley (1967; 1977) – Deputy Editor – and me during these enormously difficult months and I thank him very much indeed for all that he has achieved.

But the moment has arrived. I have really enjoyed my time in this Editorial seat, but it is time to hang up my keyboard, pack away my dictionary and move on, allowing someone younger and fresher to take my place. I started in the Summer of 2016 and was helped enormously by the previous editorial partnership of Pushka (Frances) Evans (1974) and Mick Manson (1976). Throughout, I have also had superb support from Peter as well as from Esther Weller (1999), the Chair – my grateful thanks to them both.

I must also thank the members of the Business Committee of the Lampeter Society for all their ideas as well as all the contributors to the six main issues (in addition to one *Link Extra*) which I have edited. Without them, of course, *The Link* would not exist; with them, it has been possible to create a vast range of items of all kinds.

Unfortunately, owing to a lack of access to the University facilities, this is an electronic-only edition, but it may be possible to produce a paper copy in the Autumn. If so, that will also be jointly edited by Brendan and me but from then on, he will become the sole Editor, with Peter continuing as Deputy. I wish Brendan all the best of luck and really look forward to

seeing this magazine move on to new heights.

Brendan McSharry writes: I look forward to taking on the editorship of *The Link*, but with a sense of trepidation as Adrian will be a hard act to follow, having been such an outstanding editor these past four years. I shall be guided by his professional skill and advice for some time to come, and am grateful to Adrian for his generous support so far and indeed for the help and encouragement I have received from the Chair of the Lampeter Society, Esther Weller, as well as Peter Bosley and the other Business Committee members.

We will continue the present editorial policy and excellent magazine format of *The Link*, with its new focus on academic research, publications etc., but hope to include more Lampeter town updates and interviews with townfolk; more alumni and staff updates, profiles and nostalgic pieces; more staff and student interviews and Lampeter campus student profiles; and regular updates on the Students' Union, the Chapel, and the Roderic Bowen Library & Archives.

These are challenging times with the Covid 19 lockdown, and for the second time in the history of the Lampeter Society, the annual Reunion has had to be postponed till next year. However, we shall do our best to make sure that the 2021 Reunion is a grand one; “we shall meet again”!

In this issue, we launch a new feature series of articles entitled *The Lampeter Experience*, where alumni reminisce about student life on the Lampeter campus in decades long past.

The Business Committee, led by Esther, will be discussing in the

coming months the relationship between the Lampeter Society and the University and how best to promote them both for the benefit of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David Lampeter Campus. The discussion will focus on how we should market the Lampeter Society, *The Link* magazine and the Lampeter campus and agree what our shared mission and vision of the future should be. In order to succeed in this, we must continuously and meaningfully engage with you all, so that we and Lampeter may thrive and go from strength to strength, for it is vital that we expand our membership and encourage new Lampeter graduates to join the Society, to ensure its future. We should very much value your feedback on *The Link*, the Lampeter Society and the Lampeter Campus and how they can be improved.

Peter Bosley writes: I have been very happy to assist Adrian in his work as Editor of *The Link*. His attention to detail and acute awareness of how the content will appear on the printed page have been exemplary. To follow in that slipstream has required very little effort from me!

I feel sure though that under Brendan's guidance *The Link* will continue to flourish and I look forward to supporting him, the magazine, and thus the Society.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

As I write this, I think it's week number ten of certainly one of the most challenging times of my generation. The pandemic has affected every aspect of our lives, not least the lives of thousands of students – in Lampeter and across the world. Our hearts go out to everybody who has been affected.

We regret that this issue can only be accessed electronically. The University is always very helpful in distributing *The Link* to all alumni but the campus is currently closed so unfortunately we were not able to access the necessary posting facilities. However, as Adrian says in his part of the Editorial on p.2, it may be possible to produce and distribute a paper version in the Autumn.

Most of the Lampeter Society's plans – like all others – were put on hold this year. The London Dinner at the National Liberal Club in May was one casualty and we were all extremely disappointed that our Annual Reunion also had to be cancelled. However, the plans we made for that will not be wasted as we shall be carrying them over to 2021. Indeed, we are working on making that Reunion (23 – 25 July) a huge celebration of many different aspects of life – friendships, connections, and of course, great memories. We would love to see a great turnout!

For me certainly, this pandemic has shown the importance of reaching out to people – sharing times with friends and loved ones and simply being with others, and the Reunion reflects that perfectly. You will find more information about the 2021 Reunion, including the booking forms, in the Winter, 2020–21 edition of *The Link* and on the Lampeter Society Facebook page.

Although the Reunion won't be going ahead this year, do keep 18 July free! We'll be holding a series of live sessions on the Lampeter Alumni Facebook page throughout the day. We will confirm details nearer

the time but they will include, for instance, the history of Lampeter University by Lecturer in Modern History, Dr Alexander Scott; an update by the Provost, Gwilym Dyfri Jones; and the day will finish, of course, with our annual Lampeter Society pub quiz! We would love you to join us!

While plans for 2020 have been seriously disrupted, the Lampeter Society Committee has been busy working on our programme of events to celebrate the bicentenary of the University in 2022. Details of our plans can be found on p.6 in this edition, but I would just like to highlight a few of our proposed activities.

The '200 Lampeter Voices' project is going strong. It has been wonderful to read all the memories already submitted. Face-to-face interviews have been put on hold, but we are still looking for more alumni to contribute in order to ensure we reach our goal of hearing 200 Voices! If you would like to take part in the project, please let me know and I can send you further information. We will be collating all the Voices into a book, ready to launch in 2022.

Unfortunately, the '200 Schools' project has been seriously affected by the pandemic. One of our priorities, however, remains to do what we can to attract new students to study at Lampeter. I am delighted therefore to be launching here our 2022 Lampeter Society Bursary Fundraising Appeal. Our initial aim is to fund two bursaries to the value of £1000 each, which will be given to two potential students from the University's two social inclusion projects, based in Newport and London. If anyone would like to make a donation and help us reach our target of raising £2000, please donate at www.uwtsd.ac.uk/alumni/lampeter-alumni/donate-now/. Thank you! After those initial two bicentenary bursaries, we hope to continue providing an annual Lampeter Society Bursary.

To help with our fundraising efforts, we're also launching today the 'Lampeter Society 200 Club'. Further details, together with the application form, can be found on pp.iii–iv of this issue.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Adrian Gaunt, who is stepping down as Editor of *The Link*. Adrian has been in the role since the March, 2017 issue; he took over in the Summer of 2016 from two long-standing stalwarts – Pushka (Frances) Evans and Mick Manson, and has been ably supported throughout by Peter Bosley as Deputy Editor. He has carried out the role professionally, thoroughly and with true integrity. He has developed *The Link* into the quality magazine we see today. Thank you, Adrian.

Taking over the role, I am delighted to welcome Brendan McSharry. As a loyal Reunion attender, many of you will know him, and he has co-edited this edition of *The Link* with Adrian. Welcome on board, Brendan! Together with Peter Bosley, who will continue in his role, *The Link* will continue to be in good hands.

I should also like to welcome Rhodri Thomas to the alumni family. Rhodri is currently a Religious Studies lecturer at Lampeter and will be taking on the role of Lampeter Alumni Officer on a part-time basis. He will be replacing Gemma Russell, who left the role earlier this year. I should like to take this opportunity to thank Gemma for her support and to wish her well in the future.

We hope that you will join us as plans and activities (hopefully) return to normal next year; I look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible. Meanwhile, take care of yourselves and I hope you all manage to stay safe and keep well.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY

(press release – 29 May, 2020)

UWTSD CONFIRMS PLAN FOR NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

UWTSD's campuses in Wales will be open and ready to start teaching at the beginning of the new academic year and we look forward to welcoming new and returning students. We are planning a blended delivery pattern which means a combination of on-campus teaching as well as online delivery.

Earlier this year, the University transferred all of its teaching online, adjusted assessments and took the necessary steps to ensure that the vast majority of our students were able to either complete their awards or progress to the next level of study. Building on our current experience, we are looking to deliver the very best educational experience for our students, integrating face-to-face teaching on campus with online delivery. We want to ensure that we offer a flexible, creative learning environment that makes best use of the students' time on campus and supports practical learning and social activities – all within the social distancing Government guidelines.

The strength of UWTSD is the diversity of our students and we aim to provide the very best educational environment for each individual to reach their potential. Our recent campus developments have emphasised small group and practice-based teaching, integrating physical and virtual study spaces for maximum impact. The pandemic has accelerated this approach, but the direction of travel was already determined as we seek to prepare our graduates for a constantly changing workplace in which the utilisation of technology plays a central role.

We are here to help and support all students at this time and will make every effort to ensure that they have the best possible student experience and continue to be able to develop their potential to the full. The safety and welfare of students and staff is a top priority for us and we will have a range of safety measures in place on all campuses. Small class sizes and individual attention has always been a key strength on each one and is valued by our students.

Our planning is, of course, subject to Government directives and we will continue to inform students of what this means for them and their programmes. UWTSD students can be reassured that our blended approach to learning and teaching will ensure a seamless transition from face-to-face to online delivery as future circumstances dictate, ensuring that they are able to complete their studies as planned.

[Editors' note: On 1 June, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Medwin Hughes, DL, released a video message; here are links to the Welsh and English versions:

<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/cy/newyddion/neges-wrth-yr-is-ganghellor/>

<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/news/vc-message/>]

2022 LAMPETER SOCIETY BURSARY FUNDRAISING APPEAL

Our initial aim is to raise £2,000 to create two £1,000 Bicentenary 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 new students 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/>

<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/cy/alumni/alumni-llambed/rhoddwch-nawr/>

Thank you!

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

From Peter Bosley (1967, 1977)

I saw on BBC Wales recently that Aberystwyth received £10m from the National Lottery for renovations to the Old College to celebrate a mere 150 years' existence!

We have put forward ideas for the commemoration of 200 years! Do we know what UWTSO is planning?

About three years ago Jeremy Smith suggested a working party of delegates from Lampeter Society and UWTSO to get things moving.....

[We have already had many suggestions and some will be being put to the University – see p.6 – Ed.]

From James Ogden (Assistant Lecturer, SDC, 1961–3)

Congratulations on a substantial and informative issue of *The Link*, no. LXXV. You do well to aim for 'balance', and I think you achieve it. I was especially pleased at your focus on research, publication and conferences. Admirable work is being done by both staff and alumni, perhaps not always getting proper recognition.

Your correspondent Roger Brown (on page 8) remarks that a photograph of the College library in the 1950s shows no balcony. That may be because it existed on one side only; a ladder gave hazardous access to high shelves on the other side. Like Mr. Brown, I was amazed that rare and valuable books were available. Since those days, great work has been done on cataloguing and conserving the collections.

Your correspondent John Morgan-Guy (on page 9) makes a good point about the relative importance of Bishop Burgess and John Scandrett Harford in the early years of the College. I believe

the benefactions of the Harford family continued and were acknowledged: certainly Sir Arthur Harford was a special guest at a dinner in 1961 celebrating the College's acceptance as a University institution.

I remember that evening for another reason. After the dinner, guests were invited to the Principal's spacious lodgings for more drinks and coffee. I was approached by a man I did not immediately recognise, who asked how I had enjoyed my first term as an Assistant Lecturer. This was Alfred Edwin Morris, the Archbishop of Wales! When I realised that, I asked if he regretted scandalising Nonconformists by saying alcohol was a gift of God – and he said he didn't.

Many thanks for your editorial note on my article (on page 27) about the value of cheap shirts from China. There is a mistake elsewhere in the article though: the late Don Jones referred not to the "James Ogden entente" but to the "Jones-Ogden entente", humorously seeing our friendship as a political alliance [*see Errata, p.3 – Ed.*]

REUNION DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

As our 2020 Summer Reunion has had to be cancelled, we're working on making the 2021 and 2022 reunions extra special!

2021 Reunion: Friday 23 – Sunday 25 July

- *Pub quiz
- *Comedian Andy White
- *Games afternoon
- *Q&A session with Local Luminary Hag Harries

**And lots more!*

2022 Reunion: Friday 22 – Monday 25 July

A special four-day event celebrating 200 years of the university and 85 years of the Lampeter Society!

More details and booking form in the Winter, 2020–21 edition of

The Link

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS OF THE COLLEGE BY THE LAMPETER SOCIETY – FINAL CALL

2022 will be the bicentennial of the Foundation of the College – and also the 85th anniversary of the establishment of the Lampeter Society! We have received many suggestions over a significant period of time about how best to commemorate these momentous occasions and the ones that have been approved by the Business Committee and which will be submitted to the University are listed below. **However, if you have any other ideas, now is the time to tell us as we shall not be asking again!**

Approved ideas are, in summary:

* Suggesting to the University that they invite to the main celebrations / the Reunion Dinner HRH The Prince of Wales and the descendants of the other original families who contributed to the Foundation (such as those of Harford and Burgess) – naturally, all Reunion costs should be paid for VIPs.

* A service in St. Davids Cathedral – this has been provisionally booked for Saturday, 26 February, 2022.

* The 2022 Reunion will be a four-day event (Friday, 22 – Monday, 25 July).

* A service of celebration and thanksgiving for both the Bicentennial of the College and the 85th Anniversary of the Lampeter Society during the 2022 Reunion – this will be the annual Lampeter Society Commemoration Service.

* A concert by some musicians under the auspices of the Lampeter Music Society (who would contribute towards the cost) should be held during the Reunion weekend – the music played should be that which was originally composed or played around 1822. The Lampeter Society would also make a contribution towards the costs.

* A carnival procession through the town during the 2022 Reunion.

* An exhibition of photographs, prints, pictures and artefacts illustrating the people, the buildings and the life at the University since 1822 and this should be on display, along with the History Boards, during the 2022 Summer Reunion at the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives.

* A permanent feature of **either** a plaque of Welsh granite to be placed somewhere externally on a wall with the date of the foundation of the University and that of the commemoration, **or** a similar bronze or brass plaque to be sited in the Chapel, with the foundation date of the College and possibly also the date of the first service held there.

* Writing to an international range of famous alumni to ask for a signed photo and some words about their achievements and the University to be included in *The Link* (for instance – in alphabetical order: Professor Burton; Steve Eaves; Huw Edwards; Julliette Foster; Lord Griffiths; Bishop Christopher Herbert; Dilwar Hussain; Prof Robert Jackson; Brian Lucas; Ian Marchant; Karl McCartney MP; Peter Paphides; Bruce Parker; Vice Admiral Rawlinson; Sulak Silvaraksa; Sue Slipman; Rebecca Wheatley; Andy White.)

* A revised version of the book published in 2000, 2008) about the history of the academical robes of Lampeter to mark the three 2022 anniversaries (200th of the College foundation; 170th of the BD degree; 85th of the Lampeter Society).

* A luxury ‘coffee-table’ photograph album with copies of the extensive photographic collection concerning the College, its life and its buildings in the Roderic Bowen Library and Archives.

* A range of memorabilia, all with an appropriate logo including ‘1822’ and ‘2022’, which should be available all year. Examples might include: a reissue of the ‘1822 cuff-links’ in black and gold; tea-towels; a black and yellow blazer; a hooded sweatshirt; ties; scarves; mugs; and commemorative boxes for presentation of items of memorabilia to eminent people.

* A fundraising appeal (*see Chair’s Update on p.3 – Ed.*) for the provision of two £1,000 bursaries for undergraduates.

* The Lampeter Society’s ‘200 Lampeter Voices’ and ‘200 Schools’ projects (though the latter is currently on hold owing to the coronavirus pandemic).

* A ‘glossy’ edition of *The Link*.

Editors

SPOTLIGHT ON THE LAMPETER CAMPUS

[The items below are based on press releases submitted by Arwel Lloyd, Principal PR and Communications Officer, UWTSO – Ed.]

League Tables

► UWTSO SHORTLISTED IN THE *WHATUNI* STUDENT CHOICE AWARDS FOR 'UNIVERSITY OF THE YEAR'

Once again, UWTSO has been shortlisted for an award in WUSCA's (*What Uni Student Choice Awards*) in the 'University of the Year' and 'Course and Lecturers' categories; the University won the latter in 2019. UWTSO received further nominations this year in the 'Accommodation' and 'Student Support' categories. Now in their seventh year, the WUSCAs recognise institutions for excellence in a wide variety of academic and social areas and offer prospective students a student-led alternative to traditional university ranking systems. The *Whatuni* student rankings are based on averages taken from tens of thousands of reviews submitted by students and published on Whatuni.com.

University News

► THE UNIVERSITY OF WALES TRINITY SAINT DAVID CELEBRATES FOUNDERS' DAY

On 18 November, there was the annual Founders' Day celebrations by the UWTSO, marking the establishment of the University in Lampeter. As the oldest degree-awarding institution in England and Wales after the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, UWTSO is immensely proud of its heritage and each year celebrates the birthday of its founder – Bishop Thomas Burgess, a significant figure in the cultural, religious and social history of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. His early career was concerned with advocating the emancipation of slaves and evangelistic work among the poor, although his major scholarly contribution was in the field of classical studies.

The UWTSO – or St David's College, Lampeter as it was originally known – was established by Bishop Burgess in 1822 to provide a liberal education to members of the clergy. The Foundation Stone of the College was laid in 1822 and its first students were admitted on Saint David's Day, 1827, but the College's Royal Charter of Incorporation was not completed until 1828 when it was sealed by King George IV on 6 February. Indeed, the King was regarded as 'The Royal Founder' with his Coat of Arms adorning the tower of the St David's Building. There was a long list of notable benefactors, including prominent landowners such as John Scandrett Harford, who donated the three-acre Castle Field site in Lampeter, but some of the most interesting figures were those connected with banking,

commerce, industry and agricultural improvement. Many leading humanitarian campaigners were also supporters of the University, including William Wilberforce and Henry Thornton, who both advocated the abolition of slavery.

John Burgess, the bishop's eldest brother and another benefactor, was typical of the new commercial entrepreneurs – he was the founder of the London firm, Burgess & Son, the pioneers of mail-order trade in sauces, oils and pickles. Others included wealthy and influential bankers such as Lord de Dunstanville, Lord Carrington, William Henry Hoare and Walter Wilkins. Innovative industrialists were also eager to contribute, including Thomas Mansel Talbot, Richard Crawshay, Benjamin Hall, and Lords Cawdor and Dynevor.

From the outset, St David's College was supported by the new 'middle class' – innovators, businessmen and industrialists. Their money underpinned it, and the breadth of their interests is reflected in the works which came to stock its library. The students were encouraged to think widely and globally – a necessity for the new generation of clergy, many of whom would serve in the burgeoning industrial towns of South Wales or in areas where new agricultural techniques were increasingly being employed. The college library was not just for them, but also intended to benefit local entrepreneurs, and it attracted the notice of scholars from further afield – even Prince Lucien Bonaparte, nephew of the Emperor Napoleon I.

► STAY FIT, BRIGHT AND HEALTHY WITH NEW ONLINE COURSES FROM UWTSO CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

The UWTSO Confucius Institute is launching a new series of free, live streamed courses in 'Qigong for Health and Wellbeing', 'Chinese Language', and 'Chinese Art and Crafts'. During these challenging days of home-working and, in many instances, self-isolation, the new courses offer everyone the opportunity to explore new areas of learning, take personal health into their own hands, and get some light relief from the daily news.

Qigong is an ancient branch of Chinese Traditional Medicine that works on the body's energetic system to maintain and enhance health. The new online course starts with the 'Lung Benefiting Qigong Exercise' and is offered twice weekly in English and Chinese. The exercise has been developed by UWTSO's partner, Jiangxi University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (JUTCM), in conjunction with staff from UWTSO's Chinese Studies. It is designed specifically to help people build up their immune system

and to enhance physical and mental resilience. Regular practice of the Lung Benefitting Qigong exercise helps to unblock meridians, tendons and vessels, and especially strengthens the Lung meridian.

For families looking for engaging activities for school children at home, the Chinese Culture courses include the 'Legends of China' – fantastic stories mixed with real history and facts, and everything you have ever wanted to know about Chinese dragons. 'Festivals in Chinese Art and Crafts' introduces Chinese paper cutting and 3D models, starting with the Easter Bunny, Easter eggs and cards, Spring animals and flowers, and later, explores other fun topics such as giant pandas and lanterns.

► LAMPETER FIRM RENOVATES THE OLDEST UNIVERSITY BUILDING IN WALES

Last autumn, Lampeter-based building company, J&E Woodworks Ltd., started working on the renovation of the UWTSO's iconic St David's Building on the University's Lampeter campus. Since being awarded the contract, J&E has extended its workforce by employing additional staff – three of whom were previously unemployed, and another five regular sub-contractors who have been awarded six-month contracts. Two new apprentices have also been taken on by the company resulting in a total of four working on the project, with an additional apprentice starting with the team via the Cyfle Building Skills shared apprenticeship scheme. Most of the materials are sourced locally and all the bespoke joinery required for this refurbishment is manufactured in the company's workshop in Lampeter. The renovation will include upgrading the current Old Building facilities, incorporating en-suite accommodation as well as an enhanced Founders' library and multi-purpose spaces.

Built between 1822 and 1827 to the designs of English architect and antiquary C R Cockerell, the Grade II listed St David's Building is being given a £2m refurbishment and modernisation plan in partnership with the Chin Kung Multi-Cultural Educational Foundation. This partnership has already seen the development of new provision delivered at Lampeter via the Academy of Sinology, including professional doctorate programmes and conferences as well as investment into the campus infrastructure.

► LAMPETER BASED STUDENTS ATTEND HUB CYMRU AFRICA 'INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT' TRAINING EVENT

During the academic year, five undergraduates studying BA International Development and Global Politics and BA Anthropology and International Development at UWTSO Lampeter took part in a training course organised by Hub Cymru Africa. This is a partnership supporting the Wales Africa Community, bringing together the work of the Wales for Africa Health Links Network, the Sub Saharan Advisory Panel and Fair Trade Wales. It is supported by the Welsh Government and is hosted by the Welsh Centre for International Affairs at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff.

Held in Carmarthen, the course title was 'International Development Projects – Good Practice Principles'. During the day, the students engaged in activities to underpin their knowledge and understanding of international development globally, partnership, cultural differences, codes of conduct in the development field, communicating to donors and supporters, assessing intentions and managing expectations, and principles of good project/activity planning. Taking part in this event gave the Lampeter students a chance to network with Hub Cymru Africa and representatives of development NGOs such as the Community Carbon Link (Lampeter-Kenya).

Recent Publications

► UWTSO LAMPETER ACADEMICS RELEASE NEW PUBLICATIONS ON 'SPIRITUALITY AND WELLBEING'

Spirituality and Wellbeing, published by Equinox, presents new and recent research focusing on various interdisciplinary approaches to the study of religious experience and health, and includes scholarly contributions from a number of prominent academics. UWTSO colleagues, Professor Bettina Schmidt and Dr Jeff Leonardi, are the co-editors responsible for this new volume.

It is divided into four sections in which the editors introduce the debate on spirituality and wellbeing; give a broad definition of spirituality; show the multifaceted nature of wellbeing; and show how the concepts are linked. The authors represent a rich breadth of disciplines and bring in a range of perspectives. The chapters also link the debate to various traditions including Christianity, Buddhism, Afro-Brazilian religion, Spiritism and even paranormal experiences, all of which further the reflection on the link between spirituality and wellbeing.

Conferences

'2019 International Medieval Congress'

As delegates have come to expect, Medieval Studies at the Lampeter campus of UWTSO was well-represented at the annual International Medieval Congress in Leeds. As its name suggests, this event is attended by delegates from all over the globe, and numbers this year topped 2000. It is hard to imagine all those medievalists (historians, archaeologists, literary scholars, art historians, manuscript specialists etc.) in one place! What was remarkable – and indeed was remarked upon at the congress – was the amount of our multi-level student participation in the conference, which is normally attended just by academic staff and postgraduate students.

This year (as last) 'Team Lampeter', led by Janet Burton and Harriett Webster [*Prof. Janet Burton is Professor of Medieval History and Dr. Harriett Webster is Lecturer in Medieval History, both at UWTSO, Lampeter – Ed.*], comprised not only our doctoral students (one of whom, Heather Para from Oklahoma City, gave her first Leeds

paper), but also several recent graduates (now at MA level) and a number of our undergraduates. No wonder that colleagues from other universities commented on this phenomenon! Our students all distinguished themselves by their ability to engage in debate and discussion, and to be at ease with distinguished professors from overseas. We are proud of you!

For Janet and Harriett it was a whirlwind of activity, chiring sessions organised by the *Journal of Medieval Monastic Studies*, of which Janet is one of two general editors, and by our 'Monastic Wales Project' and its "daughter", 'Monastic Ireland'. Perhaps the highlight was the session Harriett organised on 'Materialities', at which she and Janet gave papers, and which was chaired by our own Louise Steel (as you may know, she is a Bronze-Age archaeologist but she put on a medieval hat for the day). Louise was able to promote *Body Matters: exploring the materiality of the human body*, edited by her and Dr. Luci Attala (Anthropology, UWTSU) which was published by University of Wales Press earlier this year. We are grateful to UWP for throwing a wine reception to mark its publication and a further reception to launch a book – Karen Stober, Julie Kerr and Emilia Jamrozik (eds.) (2018): *Monastic Life in the Medieval British Isles: Essays in Honour of Janet Burton* (University of Wales Press, Cardiff).

Matthew Cobb, Lecturer in Ancient History, UWTSU

Travels to Samarkand – 'Ancient Spice Conference'

In early February, Dr Matthew Cobb, Lecturer in Ancient History on the Lampeter Campus, travelled to the ancient city of Samarkand on the historic Silk Road (in modern-day Uzbekistan). It was a location full of amazing monuments, such as the three giant madrasas [*colleges for Islamic instruction – Ed.*] located in the Registan [*the heart of the ancient city – Ed.*] and the mausoleum of Tamerlane (the 'Genghis Khan' of Central Asia) [*sometimes called*



Dr. Matthew Cobb in Samarkand (by Jane Draycott)

Timur, he was a Turko-Mongol conqueror who founded the Timurid Empire in and around what is now Afghanistan – Ed.]. Dr Cobb was there to take part in a conference on 'Ancient Spice' which was organised by the Institute for Digital Archaeology – a weeklong event, with a mixture of in-depth talks and discussions, as well as some cultural excursions. He delivered a paper entitled *Black pepper: a status marker for the middling in the Roman world?*

Matthew Cobb, Lecturer in Ancient History, UWTSU

Update: Students' Union (May, 2020)

In these unsettling times, student life has taken quite a turn. We are all getting used to new ways of learning and working, with lectures being delivered online and assessments being adapted to work with the new system. Students seem to be acclimatising well to this and thankfully the University has put policies in place to protect students' grades to ensure that the current situation cannot negatively impact them. This is something on which myself and the other sabbatical officers worked very closely with the University and we are very happy with the outcome and believe it is great support for our students through this difficult time.

The Students' Union, much like the University, continues to operate and support students but now digitally. We have scheduled events online and also dedicated a whole section of our website to resources and tips for students while they 'Stay at Home': www.tdsu.co.uk/stayathome

Before lockdown changed our way of life, we had been very busy on campus since my last update. Below I have listed but a few of our successes:

- * Wellbeing trips for students to get them out of the small town for a day (for free).
- * *Wear It Pink* – we managed to raise £200 for the *Breast Cancer Now* charity.
- * *Bloody Big Brunch* – an annual event where we sell red cakes in exchange for sanitary products which are then dispersed amongst the toilets on campus.
- * *Movember*, which raises money and awareness around men's mental health as well as testicular cancer.
- * *The Christmas Concert* was a great success and we saw performances from many different groups of students, as well as by some locals, and managed to raise £100 for the 'Lumos' children's charity set up by *Harry Potter* author, J.K Rowling.
- * In response to the Australian bushfires we hosted a fundraiser from which we raised £193 to be split equally between the Australia Zoo in Queensland and the NSW Remote Fire Rescue Service.
- * *Unique Week* (to celebrate diversity) went well, and the exhibition received great reviews.
- * *Green Week* also went down very well and the plant stall was a brilliant success.

- * *Reclaim the Night* and International Women's Day.
- * Creating a new Sports and Societies' room in the SU building.
- * Planning for refurbishment of the *Old Bar* and *Xtension*.

Thankfully, we were still able to run our elections this year, although with just a day's notice we had to switch all of our activities to take place online. It so happened that this week fell just as the University had asked students to vacate campus if possible, ahead of the UK-wide lockdown. However, our elections were still very successful, and candidates ran excellent campaigns and thus our new set of officers were elected.

I know that these new Presidents will make an excellent team and lead the organisation in a promising direction. I am excited to announce that our new Lampeter Campus President will be Tammy Bowie, a Masters student and previous President and Captain of the Women's Rugby Team. Our incoming Group President this year is also a Lampeter student, James Mills, who has previously been the Football Team's Captain and has been a Student Trustee for the past two years. They, along with the rest of the team, will take up office at the end of June after a handover period.

My main campaigns this year focused around Health and Wellbeing, in the cause of which we have not only hosted free trips for students, but also carried out an extended induction; arranged mini workshops on drinking, sexual health and other important topics; provided top tips that cover different aspects of life; and created a new *Stay At Home* section on our website.

The *Lampeter Student Magazine* is having a facelift this month, after lying dormant since lockdown began. While it would normally have a timetable of SU, local and society events, now we are including our online activities, as well as tips for wellbeing. While this is a newsletter aimed at our students, if you would like to sign up please contact Laura-Cait on laura-cait.driscoll@uwtsd.ac.uk and she will add you to our database.

As well as the usual committees that presidents sit on, this year I have also been fortunate to be involved in discussion with our new Provost around campus development. Students and staff were also given early involvement in these conversations. Additionally, planning has started for the Bicentenary in 2022, which is an extremely exciting time for us all, and the Vice Chancellor is very keen on taking student opinions about how they can best be involved in this.

Martha Warren (Lampeter President)

[The Editors of The Link and the Lampeter Society would like to congratulate Martha on what was clearly a most successful – albeit challenging – year. She achieved a great deal in adverse circumstances. The Editors would also like to thank her very much indeed for the excellent reports she has contributed to the magazine during her time in office.]

BOOK REVIEW

Pete Paphides (2020): *Broken Greek: a story of chip shops and pop songs* (Quercus, London)

Pete Paphides, well-known music journalist and former rock critic of *The Times* who is married to Caitlin Moran, the ubiquitous columnist for that same newspaper, read philosophy at Lampeter and graduated in 1992. His childhood memoir entitled *Broken Greek* came out earlier this year. In the book, Pete describes the formative struggle between his Greek and Brummie identities and his life-changing discovery of and passion for British pop music. It is a 592-page read and costs £20 to buy.

Paphides grew up above a chip shop in Birmingham, the son of Greek Cypriot immigrants by the name of Takis. By the age of 20 he had managed to acquire four 'A'-levels but at lower grades than he needed to study philosophy at the University of Wales, Lampeter, so he rang the professor and persuaded him to admit him anyway.

Once there, he discovered Hag's record shop and reconnected with the London band, Furniture – a group whom he had previously met at a gig in Birmingham when he was 16 and who were performing on the Lampeter campus in the Autumn of 1989.

During his time at Lampeter, Paphides was friendly with Andy Lewis, who graduated from there in 1991 and later became a record producer, musician and bassist in Paul Weller's Live Band. He also helped to set up the well-known Britpop club *Blow Up* in London in October, 1993.

Paphides has become a successful music journalist, on account of his good ear for superb quality pop music and his skill and honesty as a music critic, which is amply demonstrated in his memoir. He has amassed a collection of 50,000 records. Of these, his top 21 albums of all time (revealed in an interview with award-winning journalist Robert Crampton and published in *The Times Magazine* on 29 February, 2020) include *A Collection of Oldies* by The Beatles (listed as No. 1); Dexys Midnight Runners' *Too-Rye-Ay* (No. 2); Bee Gees' *Spirits Having Flown* (No. 6); The Jam – *Setting Sons* (No. 7); Abba's *Voulez-Vous* (No. 13); *Live at the Counter Eurovision 79* by Misty in Roots (No. 18); and Nick Drake's *Bryter Layter* (No.18). These pop classics had a profound effect on his childhood and are all brilliantly described in lyrical detail in the book. Pete and Caitlin have two daughters, Dora and Evie.

The book title *Broken Greek* refers to the author's limited command of his mother tongue that his mother Victoria described as *spasta* (broken), a result of having been born in Britain. *Broken Greek* isn't just about the delight of discovering new pop bands though but also about growing up in a tight-knit and very hard-working Greek-Cypriot family against a backdrop of Brummie fish and chip shops; British class and racial history; school bullying; and the

arrival of Pot Noodles, Channel 4 and VHS. One of the reasons for writing *Broken Greek*, admits Paphides, was to honour the sacrifice of his mother and father, Victoria and Chris, who spent much of the time being miserable on account of working around the clock in their fish and chip shop, and of missing terribly their native Greece and Cyprus, where their respective extended families lived.

Broken Greek charts Paphides' childhood over a ten-year period, from the age of four (in the summer of 1973) to the age of 13 (in early 1983), covering momentous personal events and major *Top of the Pops* releases, punctuated by fast-forward references to interviews he later conducted as a music journalist with some of the top musicians of the day, such as Billy Joel of *Movin' On* fame, and Cher and Bjorn Ulvaeus of Abba. It makes for a great story, written as it is in an eloquent, intimate and humorous style. It relates some amazing incidents, such as the time when he stopped speaking outside the circle of his family and friends from the age of four to seven, following the cultural shock of leaving the family home in sun-drenched Cyprus; his mother's dramatic hospitalisation; his teenage comic and pop chart review writing (*5-Star Fun* and *Pop Scene*); an almighty Christmas Day parental row; a musical Birmingham Bus No. 11's twenty-seven mile ride one Winter evening; the reading out of his cheeky postcard from Athens by history teacher Mr Newton in class; and his receiving a savage beating from a sociopathic school mate at the age of 13.

There is no doubt that his discovery of and love for British pop music provided Paphides with the means of emotional support and identity he needed to protect him from the tensions of home life generated by his father's homesick blues for his home town, Kyrenia. As the author commented at the end of the book, such chart hits as *Sugar Baby Love*, *Don't Go Breaking My Heart*, *Tragedy*, *That's Entertainment* and *Come On Eileen* "not only sound-tracked the story: they effectively translated it into a language (he) could understand."

Ironically, it was his experience at Lampeter years later that reconciled him to his Greek background and music. He recounts the instance of when he found a copy of his

father's favourite Greek song, *Cloudy Sunday* (Sinefiasmeni Kiriaki), written by Vassilis Tsitsanis and sung by Stelios Kazantzidis, in Hag's second-hand record shop on Lampeter High Street. The following morning, he opened the window in his college room (maybe in Lloyd Thomas) to a most rural view and waited for *Cloudy Sunday* to play on the record turntable. Its beauty almost floored him. All he could remember about hearing it in his early youth in the room above his parents' Great Western Fish & Chip Shop in Acocks Green, Birmingham "was a sense that it was sucking all the air out of the room, and me with it."

There are some weak points to the book though. Given that it is long, it would have been good to have livened it up with some dynamic screen shots of music groups in session or in testy interviews before break up, as with Abba's last interview on British TV with Noel Edmunds (described so vividly in Chapter 32) or even some family photos. It would also have been useful for record collectors if a discography of some of the decade's outstanding hits had been appended. However, these are minor criticisms more than outweighed by Paphides' vivid prose. For example, when he describes Mark Gane's guitar playing in Martha and the Muffins' *Echo Beach performance*: "Each note of (his) pensive guitar intro sounded like a single raindrop bouncing on to cold corrugated iron."

Broken Greek is a beautiful and eye-opening story of growing up in Birmingham's urban Greek community to the sound of British pop classics from Rhythm & Blues, through Punk Rock to New Wave and 2-Tone. I for one learned a great deal. I fully recommend this book.

Brendan McSharry (1971)

REQUEST

In the next issue of *The Link* (Winter, 2020–21), we intend to publish a selection of members' experiences from around the world of being 'locked down' owing to the Coronavirus / Covid-19 around the world. Please submit contributions to Brendan McSharry by the copy deadline, Friday, 20 November, 2020.



REPORTS – YEAR GROUP REUNIONS AND OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS, 2019–2020

REFLECTIONS – LAMPETER SOCIETY REUNION, 2019

Towards the end of 2018, a widely scattered group of friends who entered Lampeter in 1979 began to discuss the idea of a reunion at the college to mark our fortieth anniversary. At first this was to be an entirely self-organised affair, but it gradually came to be accepted that signing up to the official annual event was the more practical option – the freedom to pick and choose from the programme of activities on offer was a particular plus point.

So it was that, in mid-July, 2019, I made the journey back to Lampeter in the company of two other alumni, Tony Andrews and Lorraine Carpenter. Not having visited Lampeter in over twenty years, I felt increasing pleasure and anticipation as we drove deeper into the beautiful, if nostalgically wet, Welsh countryside. And then – to see the town and college again after our long drive was an emotional moment for me. Although it was immediately clear that there had been changes in both, there was also a sense of homecoming. Having lived and worked in much bigger and more densely populated places since graduating, it felt good to be reminded of Lampeter's human scale.

After we had settled in, for the remainder of the Friday, with the exception of the 'Reminiscing' session (we had plenty of that to do ourselves!), we all chose the standard activities on offer – the barbecue and the excellent pub quiz (which, to our collective surprise, our team won!).

On the Saturday, apart from making a pilgrimage to Conti's on my own and spending some time walking around the town and its environs, we spent a fun time as a group leafing through photograph albums before joining many others for the strawberry tea, and then a walk to the old Union building. Thereafter, as an alternative to the formal Reunion dinner, two longstanding friends (Len Wyatt and Stephen Essex) and myself repaired for our evening repast to what had once been a fish and chip shop but was now expanded into a restaurant as well.

Afterwards, we attended a concert in the Arts Hall. The renowned Welsh harpist Catrin Finch and the Senegalese kora player Seckou Keita performed an excellent set, which showed how well the music of different cultures can blend and complement each other. The hall was packed and the audience, who must have come from miles around, thoroughly appreciative. It was an event which also demonstrated what a community asset the university can be on a cultural level. One touching moment which crystallised this was when Catrin took a few moments to

explain that her own musical career had been inspired by a recital she had attended staged by the Lampeter Music Club many years before.

From there it was just a short walk, but a far greater step back in time, for the nostalgic sounds resonating in the disco at the Students' Union. A group dance to Gloria Gaynor's *I Will Survive*, now more meaningful than ever, was just one highlight of a weekend of many.

The Sunday morning was the chance for a further breakfast together, before a final reflection on all the changes there had been in the years since our graduation, not least the poignant loss of departments in which several of us had studied. We were conscious, too, of the worrying stories of declining student numbers and the potential effects on the town. But Lampeter has had other times when its future has been in serious doubt, and yet it has survived.

That fact should give us hope, for there is no doubt that our love and gratitude for the place have survived.

Adrian Janes (1982)

LAMPETER SOCIETY-FUNDED LECTURE, 3 MARCH

On 3 March, 2020, the Lampeter Campus hosted the annual Lampeter Society Lecture for 2020. In a nod to the upcoming 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War and to reflect Lampeter's location in the 'Heart of Wales,' Professor Tony Curtis (Emeritus Professor of Poetry at the University of South Wales) gave a talk entitled: 'Wales and Second World War: poets, painters, pacifists and my parents.'



Image courtesy of Gemma Russell (former Alumni Officer, UWTSO)

Professor Curtis is a renowned writer and poet, who has received a number of awards and accolades over the course of his career, including the Gregory Award (1972), the National Poetry Competition prize (1984) and the Dylan Thomas Award (1993). He was also elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2001.

As a poet and someone interested in the local history of Wales, the talk offered a pleasant blend of interesting historical information and satisfying poetry. The event was attended by a goodly mixture of alumni, staff, students and local townspeople and was very well received. We would like to again express our gratitude to Professor Curtis for having taken the time to come and speak to us on the Lampeter Campus.

**Dr Matthew Cobb, Lecturer in Ancient History,
UWTSD**

SWANSEA MEETING AND LUNCH

We had the Swansea Branch of the Lampeter Society St David's Day lunch just in time. Before lockdown. Before we all thought about taking the Corona virus really seriously.

We met on Monday, 1 March, 2020, and sat shoulder to shoulder (unimaginable now!) during our branch meeting. We managed all our business, listened to some speeches and elected Neville Williams (Lampeter alumnus) to be our new Chairman. Afterwards, we walked together along the Quay, past the National Waterfront Museum, to the Anchor restaurant.

Enjoying the lovely sunny view of the River Tawe out of the window, we sat again, shoulder to shoulder, to enjoy our meal. We ate well and had a most interesting talk from Rod Ashley, another Lampeter alumnus. There were twenty of us and we restrained from kissing and hugging, in most cases just shaking hands, before we set off across Wales to return to our homes. It would seem St. David was looking after us, as, fortunately, we have all remained coronavirus free.

Margaret McCloy

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 – POSTPONED 5th “OLD CODGERS” RUGBY MATCH

This now annual shindig when the classy old hands play the upstarts from the College will now take place on Saturday, 24 October, 2020, at the town RFC. The kick-off will be at 2.30 pm. Each year's match supports a charitable cause and this time it will be Lexi, the daughter of former SDUC student Anthony Colcombe; she suffers from a rare condition which can cause multiple seizures on a daily basis. Please come along and shout your support!

Ieuan Davies (1985)

NOTICE – CARDIFF REUNION, 2021

A September, 2021 date has been requested from The Park Plaza Hotel for the next SDUC Cardiff 'mega' reunion. This event is very informal and is not affiliated in any way 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 [*though hopefully they will also attend the official Lampeter Society Reunions in July, 2021 and 2022! – Ed.*]

Susan Gandy (née Kearney) (1979)



FEATURES

THE LAMPETER EXPERIENCE – THE 1960s

Editors' introduction. Over the course of the next few issues, under this heading we shall be publishing a selection of unexpurgated (to the extent the law will allow!) alumni reminiscences of student life on the Lampeter campus in decades long past. This time, we feature the experiences of the current editorial team in the 1960s. We would be particularly interested in hearing from anyone able to write some reminiscences from the 1940s or 1950s.

Peter Bosley's experience in the mid-60s: 1963–1967

When I applied to SDC in 1962, I did so direct – the College was not included in the UCCA system. I was invited for interview, which involved an interesting journey by rail from Gloucestershire as heavy snow had fallen. I'm sure I saw ice floes on the Towy as we steamed into Carmarthen before the last part of my travels, up to Lampeter on the old Manchester and Milford railway. I have only vague recollections of the interview – by Prinny [*Revd. John Roland Lloyd Thomas, Principal of St David's College from 1953 to 1971 and of St. David's University College until 1975 – Ed.*] in his rooms in College. I had already taken my 'A'-levels so was qualified to go to Lampeter but he urged me to retake my 'O'-level Latin. I was in my 3rd year in the Sixth form, not unusual in my Grammar School, and Prinny's requirement kept me there until the summer of 1963 to take that exam. I failed it, but that appeared no barrier to starting at Lampeter.

The train journey to Lampeter in October, 1963, was very different to my previous journey. The sun shone and at Carmarthen station the platform was thronged with SDC students, the second and third years mostly wearing College scarves and ties. The 'freshers' were marked out by their lack of such brightness. The final event that day, having found my room (in the Terrapins) was to get a share of a station trolley to bring my trunk down Station Terrace and thence to the Terrapins.

The Terrapins: I believe they were newly built that year to accommodate the increasing numbers of undergraduates the College recruited.

I was in Terrapin 1, the students being a mix of 'freshers' and 2nd years. I think my neighbours included John Morrison-Wells, Ian Birtwhistle, Cyril Levicki, Stuart Chamberlain, Martin Rapkin, Mike Rees, John Pascoe, Hyacinth Oham – and others whose names escape me. Those Terrapins were new and clean but seriously lacking in soundproofing. John Morrison-Wells and I became close friends and still are. He looked towards a higher standard of living: bone china for tea and cakes, and he had a record player, introducing me to classical music. He also had a car, a virtually new Hillman Super Minx, described by Simon Parkinson as a "very swish barouche". From then on John was in great demand for trips out, notably Dinner at the Dolaucothi Arms. John said he was invited simply because of the car. I can assure him he was there because of his knowledge of fine wine – and of course, his personality.

In my second year, John and I shared rooms in Y Wern in New Street. Mrs Evans told us we were the first of her "boys" who didn't speak Welsh. We were also the last students she took in. Was there a connection? We never knew.

My next year was spent in Old Building – in a downstairs room facing outwards: not infrequently I was woken up to let some revellers into OB through my window and over the wash basin as the doors by the Porters' Lodge, under the Tower, were locked at 11.00pm. My memories of OB are many, but I will mention only two. First there was the trek across the Quad to the bathroom adjacent to the Dining Hall in the Cloisters, often in the rain, sometimes battling ice or snow. A second memory was of Kit Windle (again, a lifelong

friend) throwing an orange over the tower with the aim of getting it into the fountain. He succeeded. A good fast bowler and a violent Hockey player, Kit had a strong arm. He was especially lethal in snowball fights.

I must mention Danny Davies: Danny ran a Gentlemen's Outfitters in the High Street. From his shop came the College ties and scarves that most of us bought. He also sold more exotic clothing such as College blazers – and he sold umbrellas. I was told early on that an umbrella was an essential piece of kit as it was known to rain in Lampeter. In those days we gentlemen were obliged to wear gowns to lectures and to Dinner. The gown had its uses as protection against rain walking to and from lectures; a student wearing his gown was an unexpected sight in a Welsh market town but in Lampeter it was commonplace. Tourists stopped to take photographs of us! The gown was also useful as a (flimsy) barrier against rain and cold as we queued in the cloisters for Dinner. Do not forget that in those days there was no glass in the cloisters, and we queued to go up into the dining hall where the Wolfson Room now is.

Then there was chess. At the Freshers' Fair, not being inclined towards Drama like my old friend Adrian Gaunt, or the rougher, more dangerous sports like climbing and canoeing preferred by another long-standing friend, Bill Kenwright, I joined the Chess Club. We were a select band. The College team played in the Mid Wales League which included clubs from Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth Town, Lampeter Town, Llanidloes, Newtown, Builth Wells, and, I think, Brecon. I was surprised to be included in the team as I had never been chosen to play for my school.

As I said, we were a select band: six strong with six needed for a team. In my first year I recall it comprised Dane Young and Martin Thomas, Kit Windle and me. The other two, with apologies, I cannot remember. In subsequent years Kit and I exchanged roles of Captain and Secretary and we were joined by Geoff Davies, Martin Johnson (?), Cyril Starling, Howard Jones (a philosophy lecturer) and Dr Josifovski, a refugee from a Yugoslavian University following the Skopje earthquake. He was a fine player but in addition to the normal restrictions imposed by match rules and chess clocks, he also had the extra limitation of having to communicate with his opponents using his somewhat limited English.

I may well have lost some games but I do not recall the team losing a match in those two years, thus winning the League on both occasions. We had appropriate sets and clocks but no refreshment facilities. Consequently, we preferred to travel, whilst our opponents much preferred to stay in their towns, the matches being played in quite exclusive hostels. Thus it was that many a good pint was bought for us by our opponents in various Country House hotels and old Taverns throughout Mid Wales.....

Yes, fine days indeed – and ones never to be forgotten.

Peter Bosley (1967, 1977)

Adrian Gaunt's experience in the mid-60s: 1963–1966

Spoiler alert – I was one of those rare people who did not value their Lampeter experience (with the exception of the friends I made) and could not wait to get away: sorry!

I was brought up in Maidstone in Kent, a large place with lots going on, and throughout my early years I made frequent trips to London (which I loved) with my parents; I suppose you could call me a 'townie'. Mainly as the result of a long-term childhood illness, my educational background was not of the best – though I did end up at

the age of 13 at Maidstone Grammar School. However, being a late entrant, I was told that I would not be going to university and hence did not need to learn Latin – the final result of which saw me applying to Lampeter as one of the only places at which I could study English without that language, since I was determined to have a university education.

And so it was, I remember, that on Saturday, 5 October, 1963, I took a train to Carmarthen and then another hauled by Thomas The Tank Engine at about 5 mph to Lampeter station, where (goodness gracious!) it was raining stair rods. I was allocated digs in New Street (where I remained for two years) with a most inhospitable family who must remain anonymous to protect the guilty. It was a dark, dreary, dismal, depressing house, devoid of any sense of life, and was also unbelievably cold – though my housemate and I were allowed a piece of coal in the grate in the depths of Winter if we were good boys.

Needless to say, I felt as though I didn't belong in that rural setting – and so it remained until the day I left. In the meantime, I must admit that I went home to Kent as often as possible (many times in David Holding's car), and I shall always remember the feeling of dread when reaching Llanwrda on the return journey and making the right-hand turn down the A482 to Lampeter; some distant echo of those feelings still comes across me to this day when I travel to Reunions.

I studied English, French, and Biblical Studies in my first year with a group of lecturers whom I found strange to say the least. I did enjoy some of my studies – but I was lucky to get my General Degree in English and Biblical Studies after three years on account of my dreadful Hebrew (typical of my lack of ability in that subject was the comment of one lecturer, who wrote at the bottom of a painful piece of translation – "They're spherical and they bounce!") – but I shall always be grateful to Professor Stanley Boorman who argued (successfully) for my being awarded a degree.

My last year at Lampeter was by far the best – I was in OB which seemed more convivial and I had by then a fantastic group of friends. We have remained in touch after 50+ years and still meet up regularly for a pie or some *cawl* at a conveniently-located hostelry. Those mates made my time at Lampeter – without them, I do not know how I would have survived; thank you Peter Bosley, Kit Windle, Bill Kenwright, Richard Fenwick and many others.

But, I bear no ill will to the place at all – it was just that Lampeter and I were not soulmates, and I envy those many alumni for whom it was a relationship exactly like that. So, as E.M. Forster might have said, I will have to give just "Two Cheers for Lampeter".

Adrian Gaunt (1963–1966)

Brendan McSharry's experience in the late 60s: 1968–1971

I have often wondered what makes Lampeter such a unique place to study and why so many alumni have enthused about the place and keep coming back to annual reunions there. When I think back to my time at Lampeter, I begin to understand its enduring influence on me in terms of the attractive setting, first class teaching, strong student support and very engaging extra-curricular activities.

Before I went there to study for a BA degree, I was living in Hendon, North West London and working as a municipal 'parks & gardens' assistant during my gap year. I remember choosing Lampeter in order to get away from the 'Big Smoke' – London, as did my school mate, Frank Murphy (who graduated as I did from Lampeter in 1971, though sadly he passed away at the end of 2012). Both of us had grown up in North-West London, in a Roman Catholic community. When it was time to go to university, we both consciously chose Lampeter as a location far away from big city life and as a higher educational institute noted for its theological studies and cosy-sized community.

We were both invited to attend an interview at the then St David's College, Lampeter, University of Wales (Coleg Prifysgol Dewi Sant, Llanbedr Pont Steffan), and I remember taking the long train journey from Paddington to Carmarthen, then the bus to Lampeter (the Carmarthen to Aberystwyth railway line had closed three years before, in 1965), and being stunned by how rural a setting it was and how Gothic the Old Building looked. Even more astounding was the fact that all the local people spoke Welsh, a completely foreign tongue to me, though I could speak a few phrases of Irish Gaelic picked up from my father.

My strongest memories from my time at Lampeter some 52 years ago are of the idyllic, rural, Welsh-speaking environment in Ceredigion; an intimate place of learning and community living; hitching lifts; and an attractive and historic campus. In particular:

- * Cross-country running in the surrounding hills of Lampeter and in away races against other University College and institutional teams in Wales, such as Aberystwyth; Swansea; Cardiff; Trinity College, Carmarthen; and against the Royal Naval Air Station Harriers team at Brawdy, near St Davids. I was captain of the Harriers Club for three years, from 1968 to 1971. The college Harrier route was some ten miles in length and began opposite the old railway station yard. We built up quite a credible team and esprit de corps.
- * Late night discussions with ordinands and theological/biblical study students in Bishop Burgess Hall. This was my first encounter with religious and philosophical debate and within a protestant

context too, which was quite a shock to my system having come from a very traditional Irish Roman Catholic community.

- * Hitching lifts from London to Lampeter at the start of term along the A40 route, via Oxford, Gloucester, Monmouth, Abergavenny, Brecon, Llandovery, Llanwrda, and Pumsaint. I always got lifts and never experienced any difficulties. I remember getting one lift in central Wales from a lorry driver who spoke no English but only Welsh! These days of course, hitching is a rare activity, being deemed too risky a venture.
- * Amazing lectures from historian Don Jones, who whetted my appetite for medieval history, and from philosopher Bob Sharpe, who encouraged us to think critically and logically; the inspiring sermons of the Reverends D T W Price and Professor Renowden; and engaging, and at times amusing, tutorials with Professor Boorman (English) and Dr. A J Ryder (History). I remember some amusing exchanges in which one fellow student compared John Keats's *Ode to a Nightingale* to 'clanging dustbins', much to the bewilderment of Prof. Boorman, and another who expressed resentment at having been educated at a secondary modern school in contrast to John Ryder, himself a very obvious public school product.
- * A History 'awayday' and conference at Betws-y-Coed in Snowdonia with international scholars, arranged by John Ryder. At the end of the first day, I remember a visiting Australian professor suggesting we all go out for a drink and head off for the bright lights of Betws!
- * A wonderful time in my final year (1970/71) staying at Garth House with the entertaining classicist, the late Tony Brothers, as warden.

- * A very attractive campus, with the historic Old Building, Founders' Library & St David's Chapel at its heart and the Afon Dulas running through the grounds.
- * The then Principal of St David's University College, the Reverend Lloyd Thomas – a strong, down-to-earth character and saviour of the college. I remember him for his firm handling and disciplining of rowdy left-wing students who flooded the rooms of quiet, studious fellows deemed too conservative and reactionary in 1968/69.

These are my endearing memories of Lampeter, which quite simply made me. My time there, ending with a BA in English & History, was formative, with the university getting me to open my mind; think critically; enjoy reading and learning; value diversity, the past, and the countryside; and above all, to appreciate friendship. St David's University College (SDUC) inspired me to eventually take up an overseas career with the British Council.

My time at Lampeter also kept me fit through cross-country running with the SDUC Harriers Club, an activity which I continued later through marathon running in Milan, Rome, Jakarta and Singapore, to name but a few locations.

I got to love Lampeter – the campus, the town and the surrounding hills and valleys. It was, and still is, an intimate place of learning and community living where you make lifelong friends. That is why I have been coming to the Lampeter Society Reunions for the past 25 years or so, to revisit those formative times.

Brendan McSharry (1971)

THE LONG ARM OF LAMPETER ACADEMICALS

[All images are courtesy of Niall Washington-Jones, who photographed them from his family albums – Ed.]



John Washington-Jones is third from the left in the middle row

The photo above is of my grandfather, John Washington-Jones, graduating in 1912 from St David's College, Lampeter. My father Richard wore the same hood in 1939 and I wore it too in 1969. Now to my shame, I have no idea where it is ... 54 homes and 4 wives later ...

My grandfather was at SDC from 1909–1912. To help with finances, he worked as a dental assistant in Lampeter – a skill he found very useful when, in 1929, he became Vicar to the Welsh Colonists in Patagonia! He was based in Trelew, where he opened a school for the settlers, named – but of course – “St David's”. Later he settled as Rector of Eglwsilan Church near Abertridwr, where he remained for the rest of his working days.

My father, Richard, captained both First XI cricket and First XV rugby at St David's and graduated from there in 1939 – though he was better known for his sporting than his academic prowess. His father was reluctant to let him enlist, so he sailed, three times, from Cardiff to Gibraltar as a deck-hand on the SS Lapwing. It was torpedoed on its fourth journey, by which time he was fortunately in the RAF. After the war he became a teacher at Emmanuel School and at the HMS Worcester training establishment (Thames Nautical Training College), eventually becoming Head of Education for Shell in Venezuela. He retired as Headmaster of a Prep School in Sussex. He was a convivial man, who liked a drink and a laugh, and always had an eye for a pretty face.



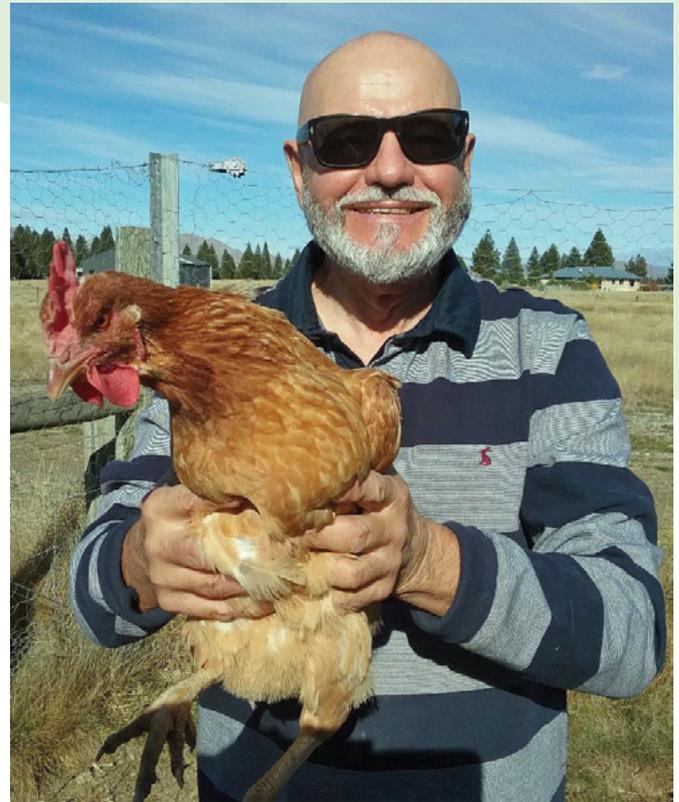
Niall's father, Richard, in SDC Colours blazer



Niall – “in desert boots of course, as a pseudo-intellectual”; 1968

I was at St David’s College from 1966 till 1969, where I emulated my father socially but sadly not sportingly, or, indeed, in any other way, spending long hours mooning Byronically along the railway lines. Whilst at Lampeter, I resided with the Evans family in New Street. One day an elderly lady stopped me and asked if I was a Washington-Jones. I asked how she knew. She replied: “By the way you walk.” I asked if she had known my father, Richard. She replied, “No, your grandfather, John; I knew him well.” And with a private smile, she whisked off down the road....

Sometime after leaving Lampeter, I became owner/ Headmaster of Spring Grove Preparatory in Kent, then I



Niall today in New Zealand

retired and later became headmaster of Westbrook House Preparatory in Folkestone, then headmaster of CAMS International School in Tanzania. Along the way, I had four wives and climbed four of the Seven Summits of the World, before emigrating to rural South Island New Zealand, where I became a horseback musterer, a shooting guide, and the owner of an up-market Airbnb.

I shall be eternally grateful to St David’s College for the BA that opened doors to a wonderfully happy career and for the friends made there 50 years ago: Bob Bannister, Pat Jones, Anne Henry, Mike Senior and Ruth Milburn.

Niall Washington-Jones (1969)



NO MORE BEAUTIFUL GAME...?

A summary of the participation of SDUC FC in the Ceredigion League, 1952–2018

Author’s notes:

- a) *Throughout this article, the Competition is referred to as the Ceredigion League but up to the mid-1990s, it was known as the Cardiganshire League.*
- b) *All data taken from www.cerdigionleague.co.uk*

Nothing lasts forever and so it was to prove with SDUC FC’s involvement with the Ceredigion League. In 2018, after nearly 70 years of intermittent competition, the College’s football team finally withdrew completely from

the League. Falling student numbers in the 2010s had made it increasingly difficult to field two competitive sides regularly and by 2018 it was felt to be impossible to compete at all. And so it was that SDUC FC’s time in the Ceredigion League came to a very sad end.

It had all started so gloriously though. The first recorded involvement came in 1952/53 when SDC (as it was then) entered the League. Not only did they compete in Division One, the team went on to finish as Runners-Up to Champions, Aberaeron. The rivalry was continued through into the League Cup where the College extracted a degree

of revenge by beating Aberaeron in the final for the Club's first honour as part of the League.

For the next seven years, SDC FC continued to play in Division One before withdrawing at the end of the 1959/60 season. After a three-year hiatus though, SDC returned in 1963/64 and once again emerged triumphant, winning the Division One title, for the first and only time in the Club's history. One more season was completed before yet another break, this time of six years.

By the time the Club returned in 1971/72, it was renamed the SDUC FC, a name it would retain throughout its membership despite the changes in the name of the College itself. The 1970s were a period of consistent, if unspectacular, results, with the highest league position of third being achieved in 1974/75 and 1975/76. The 1970s ended with the League forming a Second Division, and the growing strength of the College as an institution was reflected with a Reserve team competing in that Division in 1978/79.

If there was optimism at the end of the 1970s, with the First team reaching the Bay Cup final in 1978, this had very quickly disappeared by the start of the 1980s. In 1982/83 the sides began their campaigns in Division 2 and the newly formed Division 3 respectively, following a double relegation from the season before. This was to prove the start of something special though as the 1980s were the "golden age" for the Club. Arguably it reflected the strength of the College throughout this time. With a vibrant campus under the leadership of Principal Brian Morris, for many the 1980s at Lampeter were the best of times.

That was certainly true on the pitch, with the First team sweeping all of Division Two before them to win the Championship without losing a game. There was cup success too as the side reached the final of the Ceredigion Cup, although losing to New Quay Reserves. The following year was to see even more success: this time the First team reached the League Cup final, for the first-time since 1952/53, although that triumph could not be equalled, losing to Newcastle Emlyn.

1984/85 saw the First team back to Earth with a bump as they were relegated to Division 2; this though would set up what was undoubtedly the most successful season in the Club's history. 1985/86 for the First team opened brightly with an encouraging win over Cardigan Town. Coached by Rob Page and boosted by the goal-scoring prowess of Paul Goodall, surely one of the finest strikers to pull on the yellow shirt, by the end of the Spring term, SDUC sat comfortably poised for a late season title challenge.

Before that though was the small matter of the Ceredigion Cup – a hard fought semi-final win over Crannog was followed four days later by a comprehensive thrashing of Llanboidy to see the Club earn its first cup triumph since 1952/53. There then came an unbeaten run of six league games in 16 days – culminating in the Division Two title being sealed at New Quay Reserves with an 8-1 win.

If the First team had had their triumph, it was the turn of the Reserves over next few seasons. 1986/87 saw them finish runners-up and get promoted from Division Three, whilst in 1988/89 they themselves clinched the Ceredigion Cup, beating Llandysul Reserves in the final. The 1980s ended with a combined total of two league titles, one second place, two cup final wins and two appearances as losing finalists – a golden age indeed.

After such excitement, the first years of the 1990s were relatively calm with mid-table finishes for both sides up until 1993/94 when the First team came second in Division 2 and were promoted to the top flight. The following year the Reserves repeated the trick and they too were promoted from Division 3. Sadly, they were to finish bottom in 1995/96 and came back down again whilst the Firsts replaced them in Division 2, being relegated in 1997/98.

There was to be one last hurrah though, and what would prove to be the final honour for the Club, as the Division 2 title was clinched in 2000/2001 – although the stay in Division One was to last but one campaign.

From that date the sides occupied the middle to lower reaches of their respective divisions consistently until at the end of 2014/15, the Reserves were withdrawn from the League. The First team limped on for three more years until the inevitable happened and they too resigned from the competition at the end of 2017/18.

Changing circumstances at the College, falling numbers, and perhaps even a change in the students themselves, had brought SDUC's involvement in the Ceredigion League to an end.

And the future? Well unless there is a significant increase in student numbers there seems little prospect of a return to regular Saturday afternoon league football. More ominously perhaps is the declining state of the North Road playing field (almost abandoned by the College), and the dressing rooms there. Despite a vocal campaign by many ex-students, the building has been left to fall into disrepair and although some remedial work has now been undertaken, whether it will ever resound again to the sound of young sporting students, fresh off the sports field, in victory or defeat, remains very doubtful.

Honours Board:

Division One Winners: 1963/64
Division One Runners-Up: 1952/53

Division Two Winners: 1982/83, 1985/86, 2000/01
Division Two Runners-Up: 1993/94

Division Three Runners-Up: 1986/87, 1993/94, 1994/95

League Cup Winners: 1952/53
League Cup Losing Finalists: 1983/4

Ceredigion Cup Winners: 1985/86, 1988/89
Ceredigion Cup Losing Finalists: 1982/83

Bay Cup Losing Finalists: 1977/78



SDUC First Team 1985/86 – Division 2 and Ceredigion Cup Winners

Back (L-R): Paul Goodall, Richard Munday, Ceri Owens, Jon Dartnell, Andy Metcalf, Mark Williams, Rob Page
 Front (L-R): Craig Gordon, Jon Beaverstock, Ian Yapp, Jimmy Taberner, Helena Thomas, Gary Snailham

Helena Thomas (1986)



Submitted by David Clare (1972) – Harford Square, Lampeter, c.1919

OBITUARIES

Two obituaries by Susan Gandy (née Kearney) (1979)

JANET BALL

It is with a deep sadness that I have to announce the death of our dear friend, Janet Ball, in France, on 5 April, 2020; she read Geography at SDUC from 1975 till 1978. The cremation was in France on Thursday, 9 April, 2020.

I have written an extended piece on the *SDUC 1975...and all that* Facebook page as that was created largely, but by no means exclusively, for the friends who regularly join us in Cardiff for the 'Mega SDUC' independent reunion weekends. These are centred around The Park Plaza Hotel and Henry's Bar, both venues having been greatly enjoyed by Janet, no more so than this past July, alas. In fact, Janet was the first person to respond to my invitation to the initial reunion in Cardiff in 2013. This support served as a great impetus to me and her help was unstinting in establishing the Cardiff event from then onwards. (Incidentally, another Cardiff SDUC 'Mega reunion' weekend is scheduled to take place in 2021 at which we will also celebrate Janet's life [see *Notice – Cardiff Reunion, 2021 on p.13 – Ed.*]

Janet always wanted to track down her old pal, Angela Bannell, but had no success. Angela's last known place of employment was at RHS Wisley – does anyone know her whereabouts or have any leads?

I should like to share with you a request that Janet's husband, Ulli, sent me :

"If you all want to think of Janet, her life and her achievements, may I propose that you all light a candle – or better, have a glass of red wine in hand (I think she would very much like that) to toast her life. Thanks for all your kind help and support. Ulli."

He has hinted at a possible memorial for Janet in France once we are back in the real world.

Finally, do please share the very sad news of Janet's death with your own circle of Lampeter friends and I will attempt to contact those of our group who do not use social media and for whom I have contact details.

Rest in peace, dear Janet.

GAYNOR JENKINS (NÉE GRIFFITHS)

It is with very great sorrow that I share with you the news of Gaynor's death at home in Eglwysrwr on 12 May, 2020. Her illness was short-lived yet the news of her terminal and untreatable illness, which reached me on 12 March, 2020, came as a terrific shock. The private funeral took place on 19 May, 2020, at Narberth. It was streamed live on the internet.

Crowds gathered outside the family home, Cross House, to show their respect, and Gaynor's daughters reported that the Covid-19-restricted funeral party of just nine mourners was truly overwhelmed by the immense outpouring of support demonstrated by the good people of the little villages between Eglwysrwr and Narberth who lined the route of the cortège as it made its way through the Preseli Mountains – mountains which meant so very much to 'GG' on so many levels. It slowed down in Crymych where 'GG' had devoted such an enormous part of her professional life to the teaching of French at Ysgol y Preseli, from where she had retired a few years earlier.

Gaynor was born in 1957 and she and I read French at SDUC from 1975 till 1979 in a close-knit group of 13 students. She and I also spent our required year abroad in the same small town of Reze les Nantes, from which time our friendship went from

strength to strength, and we remained friends forever after.

Gaynor then studied for her PGCE at Bristol, which is where she met Dave. Some years later, Dave and Gaynor moved to Cross House in Eglwysrwr with Nerys and Nia: Gaynor was determined that her girls would speak Welsh...and speak Welsh they did – and still do!

She leaves her lovely husband, Dave, and her two beautiful daughters, Nerys and Nia, and is survived by her mother, Lon, now living in St Dogmael's.

May your god go with you, dear friend. RIP. x

Footnote: Do contact me at susangandy@hotmail.com if you would like further details of either of these wonderful people and / or if you would like to be kept in touch with developments regarding a possible memorial in France for Janet Ball.

ANTHONY BREEN

[*This is a follow-up to the note by John Loaring (1967) on page 29 in the Winter, 2019–20 issue (no. LXXV) – Ed.*]

On 24 June, 2019, Anthony (Tony) Breen (1979) sadly died near Abergavenny while on holiday from his home in Suffolk.

Like many others, I have fond memories of Tony and thought it appropriate to write something about him and to remember him as a person, for he was one of the great characters of my era.

I remember my first day at Lampeter, standing nervously outside the Terrapin block and Tony spoke to me (being the sort of person I was to find out that he was) and decided it would be a good idea for us to introduce ourselves to the other residents in our Terrapin. Hence, we went around

knocking on doors introducing ourselves and getting to know our neighbours. It did so much to help settle the first day nerves – I think we were all much less confident then.

I also discovered that Tony and I had lived no more than a mile or so apart when I was in London and that we knew some of the same people. That meeting with Tony was the start of what was to become my longest friendship. Once you were Tony's friend, he was very loyal and whenever we met up or chatted on the phone after our Lampeter days, it was as if we had last spoken the previous day and were following on from where we left off – a sign of a true friendship.

Tony was someone that you saw everywhere around the college and the town – he was a real presence and someone who stood out for all the right reasons. There were no half measures with Tony; he threw himself with energy and enthusiasm into whatever he took on. I particularly remember his organisation of a very successful Rag Week and I am sure that he was in the three-legged beer race – definitely something for which he had great enthusiasm!

He was only about 18 months or so older than most of our year but he had some gravitas about him; I think that was partly because he had had a real job in the outside world. When Tony spoke, you listened, even if you didn't agree with him – which I rarely did actually, though our differences of opinion never got in the way of our friendship.

Tony's style of dress could at times be described as unconventional. You would regularly see him in an Aran pullover and gown, though a black suit, college tie and gown were his standard apparel for Chapel. We did see him in an Irish kilt on a few occasions – he had one that was green and another which we referred to as "a peach colour skirt", much to his annoyance, but I have now discovered that it was properly termed "saffron".

After Lampeter, when Tony and I were living in Cardiff, we used to meet up every so often. I still remember one

evening when we were catching up over a pint or two and he told me that he had met Cathryn, who was to become his wife, and he was so happy. I think it was the happiest that I had ever seen him, matched only by the joy on his wedding day – that was a magnificent celebration, well remembered by those of us lucky enough to be there.

There were contradictory elements to Tony's character and that was one of the things that endeared him to all of us who were proud to call him our friend – but with regard to Cathryn, there was only ever love.

I would like to sum up Tony in a few words – 'a great bloke and a true friend' – and, of course, so sadly missed by all of us whose lives he touched.

Neil Butler (1979)

TONY HENRY

On the 16 March, 2020, *The Guardian* reported: "Tony Henry, who has died aged 71, was a college principal with a pony tail, an earring and an extraordinary gift for improving further education. Tony Henry led by empowering staff and, through them, students."

Sadly, Tony died at what is regarded these days as a relatively young age, on Friday, 21 February. He had not been well since the previous November, but it was still sudden and unexpected and a shock to all.

Tony (1948–2020) started at Lampeter in 1968, where he read English, graduating in 1971. Shortly after, he married fellow Lampeter graduate Anne Heath (1969) and they moved to Birmingham, where he started a long and successful career in further education, eventually becoming Principal of what is now South and City College, Birmingham. He retired in 2008 and spent his retirement travelling extensively, often with his sons Ben and Danny, staying for long periods of time in Vietnam and Cambodia in particular.

I was a contemporary of Tony's and remember him as a very active and boisterous student, full of energy and ideas. He was also very active in the Students' Union, college societies and college life generally. Another contemporary, Noel Hughes, recalls that "Tony was a very bright, ambitious student" with many interests and dreams for the future. A close college friend of his was David Folkes, a former editor of the Lampeter student newspaper *The Gownsmen* and its successor, 1822. He recounted an amusing anecdote about Tony which involved him and Derek Gosney, also in our year, which demonstrates just how enterprising and helpful a guy Tony was:

"Tony, Derek Gosney and myself had a memorable escapade in 1970 when Tony arranged for us to interview Pete Townsend at a gig The Who were performing at, in Exeter University, where Anne Heath was on a postgrad course. After twice failing to get through security, we did do the interview which we intended publishing in the College newspaper. Sadly though, it went bust and the interview never appeared. When Tony was arranging the meeting, he had to give our names to Pete Townsend's secretary. She misheard my surname and thought he had said Foot. To this day, as he has done for the last 50 years, Derek Gosney still calls me Foot!"

Many of our readers will no doubt remember a piece on Anne and Tony on page 15 in *The Link* of March, 2017 (issue LXX), in the *Love at Lampeter* item by John Loaring (1967), with a picture of them on their wedding day. They had three sons (Ben, Danny and Sam) and two grandchildren, Joseph and William. Anne organises a reunion lunch in Oxford in March/April every year.

Tony will be very much missed by his family and friends, and by his former college friends and colleagues. RIP Tony.

Brendan McSharry (1971)

EMERITUS PROFESSOR DOCTOR NICOLE CROSSLEY HOLLAND (1932–2018)

Nicole Crossley (née Marzac, as she was known to all), was an Honorary Fellow of the University of Wales (1987) where she taught medieval history. Born in Paris of French and Russian Orthodox parents, she followed her mother's footsteps to the Sorbonne, where she subsequently lectured. One of her favourite tales was of being baby-sat in a class conducted by a certain Albert Einstein, while her mother was lecturing elsewhere. He taught her not only to swim, but also some basic physics by throwing the terrified child into the water and telling her as he did so that it was impossible for her to sink.

She met and married Peter Crossley-Holland, Professor of Ethnomusicology (Los Angeles) in the early 1970s, and the pair lectured at the University of California. With two professors under the same roof, to avoid confusion, Nicole elected to be

known as Doctor while her husband was known as Professor. Her extensive and well-respected publications in English, French and Middle French include: *The Library of a French Bishop in the late 16th century* (1974), *Life on the Bridges of Paris in the 14th century* (1993) and *Living and Dining in Medieval Paris, the Household of a Fourteenth-Century Knight* (2000).

When she and Peter settled in north Carmarthenshire, they chose Plas Geler, Pentrecwrt, overlooking the River Teifi, a former manor house complete with chapel. Her enthusiasm for lifelong learning was boundless and infectious. To me, her neighbour, and a mature student at Lampeter (in the Welsh department), she was always ready to guide me in the right direction with suggestions on references and reading lists. In addition, she taught many outreach adult education classes, mainly in Russian history, as well as free private tuition in French to local children. Her teaching career spanned some 60 years.

Nicole loved, and was very proficient in, cooking, and she took great joy in entertaining in the traditional Ukrainian style. After Peter's sudden death, it would have been

most unusual to see this dynamic, diminutive woman wear anything other than traditional black.

Deeply religious, in 2003 she co-founded the *Wales, UK Mission Community of St. Celer of Dyfed*. Plas Geler stands in St. Celer's parish – Llangeler. Little is known about the 7th century hermit, but with Nicole's enthusiasm for research, she dug deeply. She loved the reputed healing well outside her own front door and the caves on the estate where Celer, a converted Roman soldier, was reputed to have lived and worked. The continuing legend of healing is documented as being a magnet for those seeking cures, travelling from all parts of Wales and leaving tokens of gratitude. The annual feast day of St Celer on 21 June was revived by the Russian Orthodox community.

Until her sudden death, she was still researching, writing, and exchanging information with colleagues around the world. It would have been her greatest wish to pass away at Plas Geler, surrounded by the woodlands and wildlife she and Peter so loved – and it was granted on 19 October, 2018.

Rosie Pearce (2015)

MAKING BEQUESTS TO THE LAMPETER SOCIETY

Bequests are always most welcome and members of the Committee of the Society 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.

Editors

MEMORABILIA

LAMPETER SCARVES AND TIES FOR SALE

As the Lampeter scarves and ties have proven so popular over the last few years, we have been trying to keep a supply to hand. Both are currently in stock and ready for dispatch!

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 costs £30.



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



Postage costs are £3 for a scarf or £1.50 for a tie. A joint scarf and tie order is £3 as the ties do not weigh much. Two scarves are £4.50.

Please contact Richard Haslam (rhaslam@hotmail.com) for details and availability as stock fluctuates. Once you are advised that your requirements are in stock, please pay as detailed below and email confirmation of your payment to Richard, who will then dispatch your order.

Payment can be made by bank transfer to – account name: Lampeter Society; sort code: 30-94-85; account number: 00072466; reference: [your surname] 'scarf / tie / scarf and tie' (as appropriate)

Richard Haslam (1994)

MISCELLANEOUS

THE LAMPETER SOCIETY

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 give their contact details to the Alumni Officer receive a hard copy of the Society's full-colour, bi-annual magazine – *The Link*, copies of which are on the UWTSD 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
- paid to have the Students' Union Officers' Honours Board updated each year
- 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
- supported an international conference on 'Globalism in the Ancient World', organised by the Department of Ancient History
- donated the History of the College – a sequence of large pictorial boards – which used to hang in the Cloisters, though its current whereabouts is unknown.

However, all of these activities rely on the Society having sufficient funds available. It is thus reliant on donations made to it. Some graduates make one annually (the minimum requested is £10 – but if you wish to be more generous 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 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.

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)

DATES FOR DIARIES, 2020–2022

2020

Saturday, 24 October

The postponed “Old Codgers” rugby match at the town RFC – kick off 2.30 pm.

2021

Friday 23 – Sunday 25 July

Lampeter Society Reunion, Lampeter

2022

(TBC) Saturday, 26 February

Commemoration Service for the 200th Anniversary of the University and the 85th Anniversary of the Lampeter Society – St Davids Cathedral.

Friday, 22 – Monday 25 July

Special four-day Lampeter Society Reunion, Lampeter

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.

* **Winter, 2020–21 – Friday, 20 November, 2020**

* **Summer, 2021 – Friday, 7 May, 2021**

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LAMPETER SOCIETY BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Chair / Reunion Co-ordinator: Esther Weller (1999)

Vice Chair: Chris Deacy (1994)

Treasurer: Andrew Leach (1977)

Secretary: Victoria Welsby (2004)

Editors of *The Link*: Adrian Gaunt (1966)

Brendan McSharry (1971)

Deputy Editor of *The Link* / Severn-Thames Convenor:

Peter Bosley (1967/1977)

UWTSD Liaison: Bill Fillery (1969)

London Convenor: Richard Haslam (1994)

Swansea Liaison: Steffan ap-Dafydd (1976/1991)

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rhaslam@hotmail.com

steffanap@msn.com



**LAMPETER SOCIETY
ANNUAL DONATION
STANDING ORDER
MANDATE**

To the Manager [<i>your bank</i>]	
Address of bank	
Postcode	
Sort code	
Account number	
Account name	
Please pay The Lampeter Society the sum of £ (The minimum recommended payment is £10, but if you wish to be more generous, this would be gratefully received.) Date of first payment: (Please allow four weeks from return of the form to the start date of your standing order.) Date of subsequent payments: 1 March annually Iban no. for payments from abroad: GB36 LOYD 3094 8500 0724 66	
Signed	
Date	

For Bank Use: The Lampeter Society, c/o Lloyds Bank, 9 High Street, Lampeter SA48 7BQ
 (Sort Code: 30-94-85; Account number: 00072466).

Reference: The Lampeter Society – [*your name*]

Additional information for Lampeter Society and UWTSD records	
Name	
Telephone	
email	
Graduation year	
Profession/ occupation	

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



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

UNIVERSITY OF WALES TRINITY SAINT DAVID

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

Rhodri Thomas,

University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter Campus
SA48 7ED

Phone: (01570) 422351; email: lampeteralumni@uwtsd.ac.uk

Name	
Year of graduation	
Old address	
New address	
Postcode	
Email	

LAMPETER SOCIETY 200 CLUB

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Lampeter Society 200 Club! We have decided to 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 subscription and each month three members will win a cash prize.
- * Membership costs £12.00 per year (£1 a month) or pro rata, in advance, renewable on 1 July each year. For example, if you sign up to the 200 Club in November, 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 percentages will remain the same: 50% of the money collected each month will be distributed as three cash prizes (as 25%, 15% and 10% of the Prize Fund respectively), 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 names of the winners will be published in all editions of *The Link*, unless you opt out.
- * The prize draw will take place on the last Friday of each month and will be drawn using the random number generator at random.org. The first draw will take place on 30 July, 2020.

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

LAMPETER SOCIETY 200 CLUB – APPLICATION FOR 2020/2021

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 _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT - AND GOOD LUCK!

