



# MAGAZINE

No. 106

July, 1963



GORAU ARF



ARF DYSG

# Dynevor Secondary School Magazine

No. 106 No. 33 (New Series)

JULY, 1963

## EDITORIAL BOARD.

*Editor:* GARETH BEVAN.

*Sub-Editors:* JOHN ISAAC, DAVID JASPER. ROGER WILLIAMS.

## EDITORIAL.

The time has come, the Walrus said,  
To talk of many things.  
Of shoes, and ships, and sealing-wax,  
Of cabbages and kings.

The subjects of this issue's articles, though not as varied as this, range from "The Great Biological Mystery" to Dynevor at The Century's End"; from letters from Old Boys in Swansea, London and Cambridge Universities and one at sea, to accounts of trips to Italy and Stratford, as well as reports on almost every school activity. Yn y Gymraeg mae erthygl ar "Ddyn Rhyfedd Iawn". Pwy oedd ef? Os ydych am wybod hynny, gwell ichwi ddarllen yr erthygl! Mae gennym dair cerdd wahanol iawn hefyd.

The editorial committee take this opportunity of paying tribute to Mr. Bryn Cox, who is retiring after a long period of service to the school, which commenced in 1941. He has been in constant attendance at many a difficult birth of a school magazine and has experienced oft times the joy of the anxious parent in presenting the new arrival for the anticipated approval and delectation of the School. We would like to thank him.

both on our own behalf, as an editorial committee, and on behalf of the school as a whole, for this devoted service, rendered over so many years.

Those of us for whom this is their last term here want to say, "Thank you Dynevor, for all you have done to and for us", and all of us wish you well for the future, and hope you enjoy your summer holidays after term-time tortures and exams.

### SCHOOL NOTES.

Last term we held our school eisteddfod, which has by now become an established feature of school life. The spirit of competition was as keen as ever, and was fostered by the penetrating comments of our adjudicators—Rev. H. W. Griffiths, B.A., B.D., and Mr. C. Gammon, M.A., for Recitation, and Mr. H. E. Hughson, A.R.C.O., for Music.

The final points in the eisteddfod were as follows:—  
ROBERTS  $81\frac{1}{2}$ ; GROVE,  $96\frac{1}{2}$ ; DILLWYN,  $98\frac{1}{2}$ ; LLEWELLYN,  $113\frac{1}{2}$ .

During the last two days of the Spring term many members of the sixth form attended a conference in the University, organized by the local branch of the Council for Education in World Citizenship, on a very topical subject—"The Future of Europe", where conflicting viewpoints were expressed in lectures by speakers from Poland and France. Varying attitudes for Britain were also explored, against a historical background, provided by the Professor of Modern History at Swansea, Professor Alun Davies.

On Goodwill Day, the message from the children of Wales was read out in assembly, not only in the usual languages, Welsh (read by Ieuan Rees); English (V. S. Batcup); French (G. Neave); German (L. Carver); and Spanish (D. Cozens); but also in two languages new to the school—Modern Hebrew (read by D. Pelta) and Russian (R. Williams).

The Annual Sports were held on one of the hottest days of the year, but despite this a very high standard was achieved. The Victor Ludorum was Michael Gange 2B, and the winning house, Dillwyn.

Dynevor School Choir took part in one of the two Schools concerts held at the Brangwyn Hall during Proclamation Week for the National Eisteddfod, to be held in Swansea next year. Wynford Evans of the Lower VI Arts pleased the large audience with his singing of "Bugail Aberdyfi" and "Y Ddau Farch."

We wish to congratulate Wynford on being awarded a D. H. I. Powell scholarship, which he proposes to use in visiting

the Edinburgh Festival in August next. Aled Thomas, too, of the L.VI Arts has been awarded a grant by the W.J.E.C. to enable him to visit the National Eisteddfod at Llandudno this year.

A Dynevor contingent was prominent in the colourful Gorsedd Procession to Singleton Park, three members of the sixth form carrying a huge banner with dignity and aplomb. Fortunately for them the sun shone and the wind withheld its wrath.

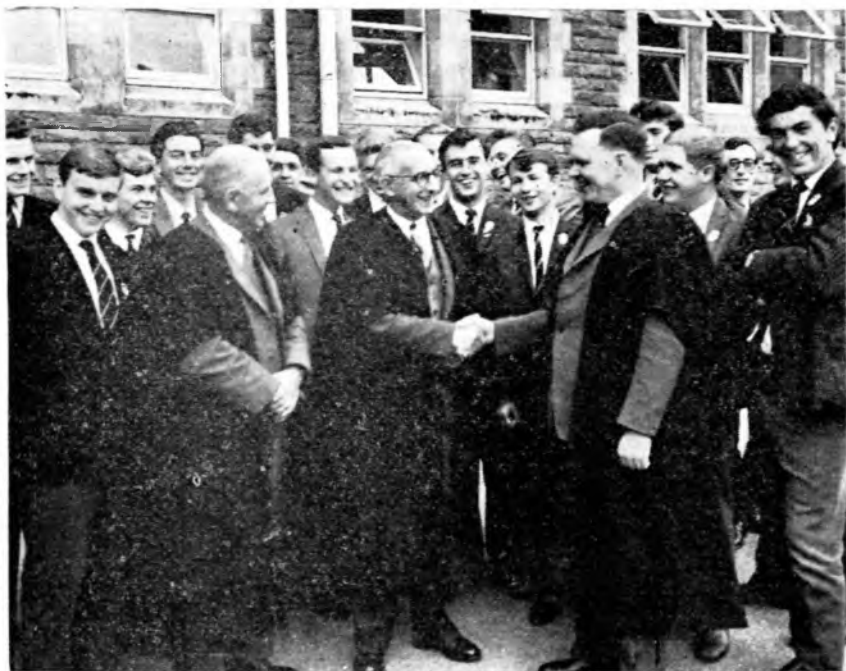
It is rare that Dynevor figures in the Queen's Birthday Honours, and few schools can have had the distinction of having had two old boys in the same list. We are gratified, therefore, that this was our experience a few months ago when the award of the C.B.E. was conferred upon two old boys distinguished in different fields—Ald. Percy Morris and Mr. Harry Secombe. We congratulate them both on this honour which reflects so happily upon their old School.

Good news reaches us from Cambridge where our youngest old Dyvorians are pursuing their studies. J. C. H. Davies has been elected to a Senior Scholarship at Emmanuel College, following a "first" in economics, and John McGivan has been awarded a "first" in natural science (prelim.) at Gonville and Caius. We understand that J. C. H. Davies is making a name for himself in the Union Society, and that it was only by a few votes that he missed becoming vice-president of the Union. Better luck next year!

We were equally pleased to learn that Lyn Davies has gained first class honours in Welsh at Cardiff. Llongyfarchiadau i chwi.

We congratulate, too, the following on successfully completing their University courses—Richard Arnold (Pass, Cardiff); Roger Brown (2A, History, Lampeter); G. A. Cross (2A, Chemical Engineering, Swansea); Barrie Harding (2B, German, Swansea); J. Lee (Pass, Swansea); T. D. B. Morgan (2A, Chemistry, Swansea); John Morris (2B, History, Bristol); Anthony Pearce (2A History, Swansea); John Pepper (Pass, Swansea); D. A. Powell, (2A, History, Manchester); D. H. Stokes (2A, Chemistry, Swansea); and B. A. Watts (2A, Chemical Engineering, Swansea).

Returning to Dynevor itself, we congratulate A. M. P. Davies (UVIA), on winning a Swansea Cymmrodorion Society Welsh Language Scholarship to University College, Swansea. Each year for several years someone from Dynevor has won a scholarship there. Let us hope that this trend will continue.



Mr. Bryn Cox receiving the good wishes of the Headmaster and Boys' on the occasion of his retirement.

We wish a long and happy retirement to Mr. Bryn Cox, who, as mentioned in the Editorial, has been a member of our Staff since 1941, and has thus served under four headmasters, —Mr. Llewelyn John, Mr. Bryn Thomas, Mr. Glan Powell, and our present headmaster, Mr. Hughes. Though their stay in Dynevor has been far shorter, we say farewell with no less regret to Mr. Crofts, who is leaving us for a post in The Municipal College, Southend, and to Dr. Protheroe, who has been appointed head of the Chemistry department at the Sweyn School, Rayleigh, Essex.

A week before the end of term, after we shall have gone to press, some of our fourth formers are to attend a conference on Latin America to be held at Mynyddbach School. Mr. Crofts is to be among the lecturers.

In the civic procession to St. Mary's Church on Mayor's Sunday, the school was represented by the Headmaster and the Deputy Headmaster, the school captain and some prefects.

Stop a moment! It is well past four o'clock, but suddenly the sound of French, spoken swiftly and impeccably, echoes through the empty corridors—"Bonjour, mes amis de Swansea. Je m'appelle Christian Courchay; j'ai 16 ans et j'habite à Grandvilliers, petite ville de Picardie. Je suis un élève externe du Collège de cette ville.

Vous me voyez dans ma classe; je tiens dans ma main droite un micro, et derrière moi, sur le bureau, se trouve le magnétophone à l'aide duquel, si vous le voulez bien, nous correspondrons ensemble.

Dans ce premier reportage je vais, au nom de mes camarades, vous présenter quelques aspects de notre école et de notre vie scolaire."

Yes, it is the beginning of an exchange of correspondence, but an exchange with this difference, that it is by tape recordings and photo-transparencies, to bring the Collège D'Enseignement Generale de Grandvilliers to life in voice and picture for the boys of Dynevor.

"Old ways must perforce give place to new".

This term the school has inaugurated a weekly collection for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. The aim is to get boys in the school to contribute 3d. a week over a prolonged period rather than to make a special collection and then forget about it. We intend to integrate our contributions with the rest of the schools in Wales, who are hoping to collect at least £10,000 to assist a U.N.I.C.E.F. project in the Uttar Pradesh state of India. By this project, it is hoped to teach the people of this area to feed themselves by such schemes as crop rotation, more economic use of land, stocking the rivers and lakes with fish, etc.

So far, the Welsh schools have contributed over £3,000. which includes a first contribution of £80 following our Christmas Carol Service. This term we have already collected over £100 in nine weeks, and we hope to maintain an average of over £10 a week for at least another year.

The year has seen the sudden and tragic death of Mr. Llewellyn John, the groundsman at the School Playing Fields. He had been groundsman there since 1953, and many boys and members of staff will remember his diligence, patience and many kindnesses during these years. The school offers Mrs. John and her family their deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement.

The annual Rugby match between the School and the Old Boys resulted this year in a narrow win for the latter by 10 points to 9. It is only fair to mention in mitigation that the Old Boys fielded a team of amazingly fit and youthful players, two of whom, Billy Hullin, and Jeff Thomas are members of first class Welsh Rugby teams.

The School would like to take this opportunity of expressing its gratitude to the Old Boys' Association for making it possible to play the match as usual at St. Helen's despite increasing financial obstacles.

Old Dyvorian N. Hullin of Aberavon R.F.C., was selected to play for Glamorgan County R.F.C. against Monmouthshire in the Final of the Welsh County Championship. Another Old Boy, Roy Evans, Swansea Town A.F.C., brought great honour to the school when he was selected to play for Wales Under 23 XI against Ireland Under 23 XI at Swansea, a game which the Welsh team won 4-1. Our hope is that he will go on to gain his full cap.

The outstanding rugby highlight of the season was the performance of Peter Hiley in winning two Schoolboy Rugby caps against England. He was one of the few successes in the Welsh team when they lost narrowly, but surprisingly, at Twickenham; and in the return game at Cardiff Arms Park, he had another fine game in a really first class match, and was directly involved in two Welsh scores. We sincerely hope that he will bring further honours to the School and that many more boys will emerge to emulate his efforts.

D. Steele narrowly missed his Welsh Secondary Schools Rugby Cap, after playing some sterling games in trial matches. He had some recompense, however, when he was selected for the Glamorgan Schools team to play Munster Schools at Cork. The match, played in appalling conditions, was won by the Welsh boys by 27 points to nil, and in a manner which was a credit to Welsh Schoolboy Rugby. Steele was elected to lead the Glamorgan forwards, and in a typically vigorous display was the outstanding forward on the field.

Next term, Speech Day will be held at the Brangwyn Hall, at 6.30 p.m., on Friday, 27th September, when the speaker will be Mr. Alun Oldfield-Davies, controller of the B.B.C. in Wales. The Mayor and Mayoress have kindly agreed to be present, and the chair will be taken by Alderman Mrs. Rose Cross. All school-leavers eligible to receive certificates who intend to be present at the ceremony should inform the school by the first week of September.



From all over the world, requests have come in for copies of Dr. Brian Flowers' lecture on "Science, State and Society", following a very complimentary review of the lecture in a March issue of "Nature".

Everyone knows what is implied by research in a science subject, but "Research in an Arts subject?" That is the question to be posed and answered by Old Dyvorian Cecil Price, Professor of English at Swansea, in the second Old Dyvorians' Lecture which will be given in the School Hall, at 7.0 p.m., on Thursday, 17th October. If the high standard of the first lecture is maintained, the series promises to make a very significant contribution to the intellectual life of the school.

Prospects of success against a powerful Old Boys eleven in the annual cricket-match were not too bright in view of the School Team's poor record this season. However, the School Eleven rose nobly to the occasion and brought off a resounding victory. The Old Boys took first knock and scored 90 runs by the Tea Interval, when they declared. In reply, the School, after a shaky start, knocked off the runs for the loss of only one wicket and so achieved what must be the most outstanding victory in the long series of Old Boys matches.

We congratulate Robert Barnes on being awarded the prize for the best History student of the year in University College, Swansea.

### SINGLETON LETTER.

Dear Sir,

I agreed to contribute this letter with considerable apprehension for not only was I well aware that in recent years there had been a series of such 'Singleton' letters (usually unread by successive generations of Dy'vorians), but I also felt that any original ideas on life in the University had been exhausted by my predecessors. They have all sufficiently emphasised the differences between school and university life, and so I shall attempt to describe my own reaction to University and the difficulties which are encountered.

The general vastness of the University site and buildings produce an initial feeling of awe and trepidation in the Swansea 'fresher'. The feeling that everyone else knows all about life in 'Coll.' and all the ramifications of such mysterious bodies as the "Union", "Crefft", and "Dawn" (the two main College

magazines recognised by the Union) produces an acute inferiority complex which is only dispelled when he realises that at least one third of the student population is in the same position. From here, it is a relatively easy step to begin to join such societies as appeal to one's own tastes and to take part generally in that amorphous existence known as 'university life'. Two questions immediately arise. What balance is to be adopted between work and recreation, and, more pertinent to Swansea, how are student activities affected by living at home? The first has been dealt with many times before but some facts must be re-emphasised. It has been known for one student to be a member of nine committees, take part in the machinations of Union politics, represent the University in his particular sport and still attempt to pass his First-year examinations. This may appear to be an admirable example of 'all round development', but it is essential to curb excessive enthusiasm and to realise at the outset that the prime purpose of the University is to obtain a degree. In my own case I have found that the unlimited opportunities to sit in the coffee-bar of College House and talk and argue with my friends must be counter-balanced by attendance at lectures and tutorials and supplementary reading of the work covered. It must always be remembered that in university you are very much on your own, and that no pressure will be brought to bear to ensure that you work, until all that remains is your departure from the University.

On a more cheerful note, although work is intended to be the prime object of university life, Swansea offers unrivalled opportunities for recreation. Societies range from the various departmental societies (in my own case the History Society of which successive treasurers have been Old Dy'vorians—Mr. Pierce and myself) to the ubiquitous (or iniquitous) "Stirrers' Union" in the field of Union politics, and also such mysterious organisations as U.N.S.A., W.U.S., and "GYM GYM", while sporting facilities cater for all, ranging from yachting, via the playing fields, to table tennis. In this field I found, that school and Junior athletics were far removed from the standard of Senior competition encountered when representing the University, though Swansea has proved particularly strong this year, winning all their matches including those against the other Welsh Universities, Bristol, and Southampton. But the most important aspect of life in Swansea which I have found is the opportunity to discuss and argue, often heatedly, problems ranging from the "male-female ratio in the Faculty of Arts" (at least three times as good as on the science side though still somewhat limiting at 2-1), to the fate deserved by the English (or Welsh) selectors (any sport), or, on a different level, the Cuban crisis or Miss Christine Keeler. In this respect the

views put forward are sufficiently varied and stimulating to preclude any allegations of parochialism being levelled at someone attending university in his home town.

But the question of how life in U.C.S. is affected by living at home depends very much on the individual. Parochialism is a state of mind, not dependent on living in a particular place, and the fact that I am living at home is more than offset by the fact that I have come to spend almost my entire time on the campus. My home life has almost become one of 'Bed and Breakfast', and I have begun to consider myself as a student of the University College of Swansea rather than an inhabitant of Swansea itself. This may seem a trivial distinction but in Swansea, 'town and gown' relations are not as good as they might be and there appears to be a lack of sympathy between the 'locals' and the students. In my own case I have probably been influenced by the fact that the majority of my friends in University are English, but it still comes as a surprise to hear myself described as a 'foreigner' in my own town! As for the question of whether living at home leads to the College being regarded merely as an extension of Dynevor, this too depends upon the individual. As the Principal, Dr. Parry, said during his address to the 'freshers' last October, whether Swansea is to be a 'nine to five' University is governed by the approach and ideas of its students. Provided that you realise that University has more to offer than twelve hours of lectures per week, two tutorials in each of three subjects per term, and about a dozen essays per year, then the obvious danger is avoided.

Finally, having already taken up far more time and space than I anticipated, may I reiterate this claim that living at home is not the disadvantage which it is sometimes claimed to be, and that the fact that Swansea University is indeed 'on our doorstep' should certainly not be held against what I believe (albeit prejudiced) to be one of the finest universities in the country. I understand that yet another member of the editorial board is to be joining us next year (this, I believe, makes four ex-editors of the magazine in the University—I hope that there is no significance to be attached to this) and while congratulating him, may I also say how much another infusion of Dy'vorian blood will be welcomed in the University. I look forward to seeing many of you in Singleton next year.

Yours sincerely,

EDWARD DAVID.

## LONDON LETTER.

KING'S COLLEGE UNION,  
THE CHESHAM,  
SURREY STREET,  
LONDON W.C.2.

*June, 1963.*

TO THE EDITOR—

Dear Sir,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity of writing a 'London letter' this year.

London University is constituted in a highly peculiar manner—although it consists of a number of individual colleges, it is neither comparable with Oxford and Cambridge nor to the University of Wales, the main difference being that students cannot reside at or near their respective colleges. It, in fact, combines some of the aspects of a one-college university with those of one consisting of many colleges, since, although each college has a separate Union and life of its own, there is also a London University Union, a fine modern building with many facilities, where students from all colleges can meet and take part in the usual activities (societies, sports, debates, etc.). This is perhaps not of so much importance to colleges like King's, who have a large and active Union of their own, but is of distinct advantage to the smaller colleges. The great disadvantage of a London college is the "office hours" (ten o'clock to five) aspect of its life—activities held in the evening at the college may be poorly attended, as most students live a fair way from the centre of London (for example, I am at Tooting, about a half-hour journey away) and may often feel disinclined to bother to come in unless there is some special attraction. The result is that many meetings are crammed into the lunch hour, also an awkward time. The Mathematical Society (of which I am Secretary), is fortunate in that it can hold its (often mammoth) meetings in the afternoon, as there are few maths lectures at that time. I do not wish to give the impression that there is general apathy (although, admittedly, some exists), and anyone coming to King's may be assured that there are many active societies, covering a wide range of interests, which he can join and in which he can play a part.

Of course, the supreme advantage of a London college is that it is in London, with its shows, concerts, strip-clubs, "Private Eye" on every newstand (except Wymans and W. H.

Smith's of course), and so on. Whatever—(yes, whatever) you want to do, you have the opportunity of doing it here. It might be thought that with so many temptations on his doorstep, the London Student would lead a life of constant indulgence in various forms of debauchery and get no work done at all, but it is surprising how untrue this is. Although not claiming to be in any way a "typical student" (is there such an animal? Yes, I rather fear there is), I find that the very fact that the many distractions are so close at hand makes one lose the desire to sample them all continuously, just as a resident of a seaside town is unlikely to spend every day on the beach. Their continuous presence causes them to lose their novelty and attraction. In addition there is the important question of money—by the time the rent for the digs or hall has been paid, season tickets, books and binders bought, etc., there is little enough left of one's grant to be able to go to shows or clubs a few times a week. This is not to say that one cannot have a good time if one wants, but rather that the incentives to work or not to work are properly balanced.

I have said little about King's itself as yet, and I do not intend to say much more—an excellent general description of the College was given by Seynour Phillips in his letter published in the July, 1960 issue of the Magazine (No. 100). The question of similarities and/or differences between school life and university life has also been well flogged in previous letters—there are, obviously, many of both, and I can only say that I did not find a striking preponderance of either; such as there were were not unexpected. One topic that may be considered, however, is the question of staying on an extra year at school, as a so-called "third-year sixth." In my case the primary purpose of this period was to try to obtain a place at Cambridge, or failing that, at Oxford. Unfortunately, I failed *that* as well, and it must be admitted that for a time I felt as if a year of my life had been wasted—my only clear achievement appeared to be the reading of the complete Father Brown stories during free afternoons in the school library. Yet once I had started at University I found myself very glad that I had not gone there straight after taking A level—the wasted year seemed really to have been a much-needed respite from the eternal pressure of 'vital' examinations, during which I had time to 'stretch my mind' and thus gain some maturity of outlook very beneficial to University life. I am not arguing that all sixth-formers should spend an extra year at school after A level in which to do nothing; indeed, the above is not an 'argument' at all, but merely an account of my personal reactions to the third-year sixth. It is the case of one man's meat as well as of the ill wind.

I would like to end by sending my best wishes to the boys and staff of the school, and especially to Mr. Cox (who I hear, is retiring at the end of this term) with whom I had the pleasure of editing four previous issues of the Magazine—I am sure his enthusiasm and interest in many activities of the school will be greatly missed. Perhaps I can also say a few words to those sixth-formers who will be going to university this year or next year—King's College is an excellent choice for many subjects on both the arts and science sides, and, as I have tried to indicate, has many advantages, particularly in virtue of its location, which are not possessed by provincial colleges. I shall look forward to seeing any familiar faces when I return in October.

Yours sincerely,

ANTHONY HICKS.

### CAMBRIDGE LETTER.

Dear Sir,

I received the request to contribute this letter just at the end of the academic year, and I would say at once that it is very difficult for me to give a balanced impression of Cambridge at such a time. The post-examination celebrations are still fresh in my mind, and these tend to obscure the memories of the more mundane aspects of university life.

In Cambridge, the standard of work required seems to be pretty high, and the pace is very fast. The fact that each university term is only eight weeks long means that a large volume of work must be done in a short time. Although the amount of supervised work here is greater than at some universities, it is necessary to do a great deal of work on one's own initiative—far more so than in school, even in the 3rd year VIth. The standard of individual tuition seems quite good, but the lecturers range from very good to very poor. Also, lecture classes tend to be large (up to 250 in some subjects). However, lecture-rooms and laboratory facilities are on the whole, excellent.

Outside the lecture-room, there exist literally scores of societies which cater for every possible interest. These include rational, religious, music, faculty, and many other societies. Opportunities for sport are excellent, especially at college level. Each college has flourishing soccer, rugby, hockey, badminton, tennis, squash and rowing teams among others, and this gives an opportunity to try sports which one does not have at school.

I have found that squash is an excellent game, but it does not seem to be played at all in Swansea. Novices are also welcomed, at least for the first term.

My particular interest is music, and I have had many opportunities to play in orchestras. The two University Orchestras are of a very high standard, and I believe that the standard of the first orchestra is higher than that of the National Youth Orchestra of Wales. I have also played in string quartets and chamber concerts, so I have certainly gained much benefit from the several years spent in the school orchestra.

There are so many activities other than work in Cambridge that two dangers seem to exist. First, there is a great temptation to neglect work altogether and make the fullest possible use of opportunities in other directions. This is fine if you can also win a Blue, otherwise it is disastrous. A second danger is that you can spend too much time working and hence miss a great deal of what Cambridge has to offer. It is by no means easy to find the happy medium.

The writer of last year's Cambridge letter spoke of the "absurd anachronisms and archaic regulations" prevalent in Cambridge. These undeniably exist, but they are not so bad as they have been painted. Gown wearing (or, in practice, carrying) after dark soon ceases to be troublesome. True, the Colleges are "fenced in like gaols", but you are soon informed of the best places to climb in after midnight. The only really annoying tradition is that of Hall dinner. This is compulsory five days a week: gowns must be worn, and a long grace is said in Latin. Unfortunately, the food is also rather poor.

Perhaps the most valuable part of a Cambridge education is the chance to meet other people of different backgrounds, opinions and attitudes. Heated discussions frequently go on into the small hours, and coffee is drunk by the gallon. I must admit that many of my opinions have been drastically revised as a result of meeting people of so many different types.

Looking back over the past academic year, I would say that the most important ingredients for a successful career at Cambridge are not plenty of money or public-school background as has been suggested to me in the past. Things that count far more are the ability to work without supervision, the ability to "get on" with many different types of people, and a fair proportion of broadmindedness. It also helps to have at least one well-developed interest outside work, and to have definite

opinions about things, even if these are later modified. My time in Dynevor certainly helped me in all these respects, and I would like to thank the School and Staff for the many opportunities which they gave me while I was in Dynevor.

Finally, I would like to wholeheartedly recommend Cambridge to any member of the school who is considering coming here, and I very much hope that the number of old Dyvorians in Cambridge will increase in the years to come.

J. A. McGIVAN.

### DYNEVOR AT THE CENTURY'S END

When your English master, Mr. Cox, called at my stores a week or so ago, I casually mentioned that I attended Dynevor School from 1896-1900. During the course of our conversation, a few reminiscences were mentioned, so he suggested that a few memories of 60 years ago would make interesting reading for the school magazine.

Many incidents come readily to my mind. One in particular was during the war in South Africa, when the town of Ladysmith was relieved after a long siege. The English garrison under the command of Sir George White was relieved by Sir Redvers Butler in 1900. When the welcome news reached England there was great national rejoicing, but at no place was the news received with greater joy than at Swansea. During the morning recess some of the boys noticed a board outside the newspaper shop of Miss Pengelly situated at the bottom of Dynevor Place, with the words in large print "Relief of Ladysmith". Two boys, Brinley Jones, known as Dimps Jones, and his friend Jack Hawes, commandeered the board and brought it up to the school yard. A procession was formed by the 400 boys of the school led by Messrs. Jones and Hawes, when we all paraded through the principal streets of the town, the two lads holding the board above their heads to the great joy and pleasure of the crowds who witnessed our progress through the streets.

On our caps in those days appeared the four letters S.H.G.S., standing for "Swansea Higher Grade School". The boys of the Grammar School, who wore red caps, used to shout at us "Somebody's Head's Gone Soft", and we used to retaliate by shouting "Fire on the brain", making reference to the aforesaid red caps. About twice a year rivalry was shewn to each other by the boys of the two schools, when it became



really dangerous for boys of the Grammar School, situated on Mount Pleasant Hill where the Technical College now stands, to walk down Dynevor Place. Sometimes very severe "battles" would break out, making it difficult for the masters to cool the hot tempers of the boys of both schools.

I entered the school at nine years of age (a special class was formed to receive about a dozen young boys) and attended the school for four years. Our Headmaster was the late Mr. Samuel Roberts, B.A., known to the boys as "Sammy". He was a man of small stature, being no more than 4ft. 6ins. in height. He came to Swansea from Bath and remained at the school for a period of 40 years. He was a man of strong character, highly respected by all the boys and a wonderful teacher of English Literature, for he could make a book, as it were, come to life.

He was a keen disciplinarian. When a boy transgressed, he was sent by his form master to stand in the lobby outside the Headmaster's door, where there was generally a queue of six or more boys waiting to be "interviewed". After a time, it might be as long as 15 minutes, a light voice would call out, "Next". When the first boy entered the usual question was—

"And what have you done?" And the usual answer was

"Nothing! Sir".

"Nonsense, your master would not have sent you to see me if you were attending to your studies. Hold out your hand."

Thereupon two, three, or perhaps more strokes with a cane would be administered to the boy's extended hand. "Do not come again" was the parting warning.

We used to pay a fee of 9d. per week, but each year the top three boys in a class were given a free scholarship. I am proud to say a free place was awarded me after three years. I am grateful for the good schooling which I obtained at the old Higher Grade School. I have two grandsons at the present time, and they are both proud of their school and are very happy there.

May the Good Old Higher Grade School, now known as the Dynevor Boys' School, have every success in the future.

JOHN S. RICHARDS.

## A LETTER FROM SEA.

H.M.S. Lincoln.

*24th April, 1963.*

Dear Dyvorians,

At this very moment H.M.S. Lincoln, the ship in which I am at present serving, is chasing pirates. Does this perhaps startle you and cause you to want to read my first sentence again to be sure that your eyes are not playing tricks? This is very understandable but this is actually happening at this very moment.

The ship has been in Borneo waters for some weeks and our primary role in this area is that of protecting people from these marauders who come by boat from the off-shore islands and make raids on small fishing and trading boats inside British territorial waters in Borneo. They have all the cunning and boldness of their predecessors of Captain Henry Morgan's days and they have frequently made raids on pearl culturing farms and small villages on the mainland. Their weapons are very modern and include machine guns and rifles of the very latest type. Their boats are small and are capable of speeds up to forty knots since they use three outboard engines of the most powerful type.

The pirates like to carry out their raids during the late evening so that they can make their escape under cover of darkness. The method we employ in catching them is to patrol an area at night where the police think they are likely to be operating. We completely darken the ship and the crew are not even allowed to smoke on the upper deck. We have our very powerful radar working all the time since in these waters even quite legitimate fishing boats do not show lights at night. When we get a ship contact on radar we get as close to it as we possibly can without being seen and then shine our search lights on it. If the intercepted ship is on legitimate business then it will immediately stop and allow a search of its cargo to be carried out. Ships which refuse to stop are immediately suspect and provided the interception had been made in British waters, a shot is fired across the bows of the fleeing ship from our small anti-aircraft bofor gun. This is usually sufficient to stop the ship and we then call the captain with our loud hailer and order him to bring his ship alongside to be searched.

As a result of the presence of British warships in Borneo waters piracy has most definitely decreased. Several pirate ships have been captured in the past weeks and their crews tried in civilian courts.

Whilst in Borneo, H.M.S. Lincoln uses Tawau as a base from which to operate. Tawau is situated on the east coast of British North Borneo quite near the Indonesian border. I am sorry if I disillusion anyone, but I'm afraid there are no wild men in Borneo. At least I have never seen one and I don't know anyone who has. In fact, the people of Borneo are not so different from us. They drive motor cars, play soccer and cricket, have their schools and hospitals and so on. There are still people in the jungle areas who live in tribes and use poisoned darts and blowpipes but there aren't many of these people left now and they normally only use their blowpipes for hunting these days.

Before I end this article I must write of an incident which happened to me only last week. While I was shopping in Tawau a little man dressed very poorly came up to me in the street holding a very cheap necklace of local manufacture. In broken English he asked me if I wanted to buy this necklace. When I told him that I did not want to buy it he insisted that I should take it back to the ship with me and inspect it and at five o'clock that evening he would meet me at the same place when I could give him back the necklace if I still did not wish to buy it. Since I was in a hurry I accepted his offer. At five o'clock I met the little man again and returned the necklace to him. I asked him if he had not been afraid that I would not bring his necklace back. His reply was one which I shall always remember.

"No sir, I not even little bit afraid. You are a British man."

We certainly have a responsibility to the world by being born British.

Soon our tour of duty in Borneo will be finished. We then go on to Manilla, Hong Kong and then Japan. I look forward to writing to you all again and describing our visit to that pearl of the orient, Japan when I hope to tell you of some unusual Japanese customs.

Sincerely,

DENNIS D. DAVIES.

Sub. Lieutenant (SD) (C)  
Royal Navy.  
Communications Officer.

## PREFECTS



*Front Row:* P. Quick, P. Wilson (Vice Captain), Mr. H. Griffiths, Mr. M. G. Hughes, R. Griffiths (School Captain), W. J. Isaac, R. Cooper.  
*2nd Row:* D. J. Jasper, M. Parkes, A. M. P. Davies, D. Parkes, G. Atherton, H. Atherton, M. Jones, C. Jones, R. Hillman, R. Tancock, R. Thomas, F. J. Ley, E. Fuller, D. Steele.  
*Back Row:* V. S. Batcup, G. Neave, G. Adams, O. Hinder, C. Sheppard.

## THE GREAT BIOLOGICAL MYSTERY.

You have probably read about them in science fiction, possibly you have even seen evidence of their existence. About 180 million years ago they began to rule the world. Suddenly—biologically speaking—very suddenly they disappeared, forever. At least one bright little biologist in 2E will have guessed that “they” were the Ruling reptiles of the Mesozoic era. Our present-day reptiles are a miserable remnant of what was once a mighty class of Vertebrates (or back-boned animals).

The great and terrible dinosaurs probably arose from stock which was physically quite small. Fossils of a possible

ancestor measure one yard long, of which at least a half was a stout tail. Its hind limbs were large, the fore limbs feeble. Progression on all fours was slow but when necessary it ran quickly on the hind limbs.

Flying reptiles slowly evolved as the fore limbs were used as wings. Pterosaurs and Pterodactyls are examples of this type of ruling Reptile.

Arising from the primitive reptiles, too, came the dinosaurs. Technically speaking these were in two well-defined groups:—

- (a) those with reptile-like pelvis.
- (b) those with bird-like pelvis (do *not* misunderstand this! !)

Tyrannosaurus, Brontosaurus and Diplodocus were all members of the first group. Although their ancestors were small, on average their weight must have been about twenty-six to thirty-two tons. Diplodocus measured eighty-seven feet yet was slimly built. As for that tyrant reptile Tyrannosaurus—it stood nineteen feet high and its skull was four feet long !

Those dinosaurs with a bird-like pelvis were largely herbivores (plant-eaters). Their movements were somewhat slow; but then they had no need to hunt and chase prey, or flee from enemies since they were protected by a bony covering. Other bird-like reptiles retained a bi-pedal gait e.g. the Duckbills who had webbed feet, two thousand teeth and lived in or near swamps.

In those ages the duels between flesh-eater and herbivore must have produced scenes beyond imagination. Triceratops (a herbivore) had a frill of bone over its vulnerable neck plus two sharp horns—but otherwise the body had no defensive cover. Stegosaurus had a double row of large plates along its back—but again the flanks were defenceless. Against types like these Tyrannosaurus fought.

Other less known types occupied almost every biological niche. Success was theirs—they ruled the world. But with mysterious swiftness they vanished, leaving only some fossil remains. Measured in years, their decline was prolonged but as biologists measure time their exit was singularly dramatic.

Why did they become extinct? Briefly and honestly we do not know, but some suggestions have been made. With the disappearance of inland seas the larger reptiles were robbed of the support the water gave them. Many, we believe, were so

large they just could not support their own weight for long on dry land—the legs had reached the maximum size. Changes in vegetation may have spelled starvation for herbivores and hence too, for the carnivores. Again increasing cold may well have hastened their passing. Whatever happened, lurking in the trees were warm-blooded nocturnal animals who for millions of years had been eclipsed by reptiles. As one set of characters walked off the stage, on came the Mammals, to rule where once they were too frightened to show themselves.

Finally a word of encouragement. Brains are not everything! At least so it was in the case of the extinct ruling reptiles. For in addition to the brain in the normal place the dinosaurs had another in the spine between the hips. It was much larger than the true brain and with it, presumably, they made head and tail of all problems. Should something slip his anxious brain it was remembered by the one behind. Yet despite this apparent advantage they have now been defunct these millions of years.

D. J.

### STRATFORD PILGRIMAGE, 1963.

Shakespeare, greatest of all English poets, was born in the little town of Stratford-upon-Avon. Stratford is now a sort of Mecca for all who appreciate good literature—almost a huge monument to Shakespeare's greatness. Everywhere are half-timbered Elizabethan houses, and all places which Shakespeare or his family lived in are preserved by the Shakespeare trust. It is to these places that, for the past few years, the "Stratford Pilgrimage" has been made. This year the party consisted of boys of 2A and 3E under the watchful but encouraging eyes of Mr. B. Cox and Mr. O. A. Morris.

We left De la Beche Street at 7.36 a.m., on Tuesday, 14th May, and, except for stops to pick up boys en route, and a halt outside Brecon for refreshments, we had a clear run to Worcester, which was reached at 11.45. Our departure was delayed by the temporary loss of a nameless member of the party, who after lunch (which we had in the Co-operative Restaurant) had detached himself from the party and been unable to find the coach park. We left at 2.34, and arrived at Stratford at 3.23.

Our first visit was to the Theatre Picture Gallery, which contains cosumes, scenery and pictures, relevant to Shakespeare and his plays. We then visited the Parish Church where Shakespeare was christened and buried, and Hall's Croft where the poet's daughter and son in law, Dr. John Hall, lived.



Boys at the Wishing Well at New Place Garden.

The Youth Hostel where we stayed was at Broom, about seven miles from Stratford. After supper there, we left for the Royal Shakespeare Theatre to see "The Tempest", an excellent and imaginative production.

The following morning, we visited New Place, Shakespeare's birthplace, and where Shakespeare died in Henley Street. On the window of the birthroom are scratched the names of many distinguished visitors, including Sir Walter Scott and the actor Henry Irving. Our next appointment was at Charlecote Manor, where, it is said, Shakespeare was whipped for poaching. It would take too long to describe the splendours of the Great Hall, the library (containing 5,000 books) and the park with its deer and peacocks. After lunch, we left for Shottery to see Ann Hathaway's Cottage, following it with a visit to Mary Arden's House at Wilmcote, which has a circular dovecote, and a barn, containing relics of Warwickshire's past. (Both these so-called "cottages" are really large farmhouses).

After supper, we departed to the theatre again, this time to see "Julius Caesar", another good production.

Next morning, we left the hostel for Birmingham, to visit Cadbury's Chocolate Factory at Bourneville, where we were duly supplied with divers and sundry free samples. Our next call was at Dudley Zoo, where, after lunch, we were allowed to wander round at our leisure.

Having had tea, we left, stopping once for refreshments, and arriving back in our ancestral home about 10.45, after what was certainly a most enjoyable and beneficial trip. May I take this opportunity of thanking, on behalf of all the party, Messrs. Cox and Morris, for all the trouble which they took, and their patience in bearing all the troubles which we gave them?

R. D. WILLIAMS, 2A.

### A PLEA FOR NATURE.

In Britain today there is a great variety of wild life. One only has to take a walk through Gower to appreciate the great variety of flora and fauna which exists. This wild life, however, is being seriously threatened, and we can roughly divide the threats into three main terms—farmers are constantly demanding better insecticides, sprays, etc., for their crops, a great variety of which have been developed, and many of which are extremely harmful to wild animals and plants; more land is being required for industries, marshes where duck and other wild-fowl breed are being drained, thus eliminating breeding grounds; wastes from these industries are poured wholesale into rivers or lakes, thus causing pollution and killing many fish; lastly, our society is becoming more mobile and people going camping and caravanning do not take the care they should.

Some people will say that this is just progress, but surely the price paid for progress must not be the loss of our countryside. There definitely must be some compromise, for the countryside is important for a number of reasons. These are points which people just take for granted and do not realise that if the countryside is lost these advantages would be missing. Firstly there is agriculture, and our food supply; people would soon complain if there were no fresh vegetables available or if they were in short supply and therefore very expensive; then we need the countryside to study, and learn more about the flora and fauna; we must not forget also that people like to go into the country to "get away from it all"; fourthly, there exists what is known as the "balance of nature"—how animals and plants live successfully together. The study of this is called ecology, and naturalists are far from understanding the subtle interrelationship between wild animals and



plants; lastly we must protect our coasts for if they are not protected they will *all* be developed into resorts or for industrial purposes within twenty years.

We can protect our country by observing the "Country Code"—closing gates, following paths, etc., by the proper use of guns, by good conduct in nature reserves, and lastly by knowing what eggs can be taken, what birds can be killed and so on.

Many organisations have been formed to help in this e.g., "The Nature Conservancy" which is the official body and was founded in 1953; the "Council for Nature", which represents amateur societies, and the "Anglers' Co-operative Association" which does very valuable work in fighting pollution in rivers. Locally there are the "Glamorgan County Naturalists' Trust", the "Gower Society", and the "Gower Ornithological Society", and any one interested should join one of these.

We all are responsible for the protection of the country for our enjoyment and study, and if we are aware of the problems we are well on the way to solving them.

Recently there was a "National Nature Week", but we make this appeal to all Dynevor Boys—Please, make every week a Nature Week.

H. BALL AND A. JONES.  
LVI Sc. Biol.

## ITALY.

*A party of 30 boys conducted by Messrs. Chandler, Hounsell and Howells visited Italy in the Easter Vacation. Two members of the party have here recorded their impressions of the country and its people—ED.*

### Life in Italy.

Our first night in Italy was spent in Florence. The station is one of the newest in the world, both in architecture and efficiency.

On leaving the station, the first thing I noticed was the influence of the communists. Large illuminated placards and bunting with the words "Vota Comunista" were spread liberally across the streets and leaflets were being distributed among the populace in preparation for the coming election. It is in such elections that the church plays a large part in swaying the people from one party to another.

The next morning we were taken to the centre of the town and allowed to wander among the stalls which were overflowing into the streets. If one touches anything in Britain the attendants become annoyed, but in Italy they encourage you to look around and you can touch anything. The wares sold are very expensive, but usually of poor quality. It is at these times that haggling takes place energetically. Owing to the numerous occasions at which this occurred, we became quite proficient at evaluating the Italian money in English.

One thing we were warned about by our driver was that, in Italy, if one is on a zebra crossing and an accident occurs the pedestrian has not necessarily the right of way. The traffic travels at a terrific speed with no regard for either cars or people. The coach driver who had been to Britain described British driving as tame.

The Italians love a joke, even if it is against them—this was shown clearly on one occasion when the whole party of thirty marched out into the road across a zebra crossing, and the Italians whom we stopped burst out laughing.

One afternoon we went to a football match at the Olympic Stadium. The Italians go mad with excitement at a football match; they were jumping up and down, shouting, blowing trumpets and generally showing their approval or disapproval in the most ostentatious way. If they were allowed to, the crowds would rush onto the pitch and therefore guards and trenches encircle the field.

The Italians being Catholics take Good Friday very seriously. In Grosseto we saw a large procession emerging from the beautiful church. First came a choir boy swinging a silver censer of powdered incense which gradually rose into the air. He led a choir which was followed by a military brass band. Each alternate choir boy carried a large candle and was in turn followed by a series of floats. A gathering of priests followed carrying veiled crosses which were unveiled on Easter Sunday in the church. The whole procession wended its way around the town, the crowds joining in at the end. The whole procession returned about an hour later and re-entered the church for another celebration of Mass.

There are two completely separate modes of living in Italy. There are the very rich who live in luxurious villas, and the poor who live in little corrugated iron huts. We saw both classes of people living within half a mile of each other in Naples and we were appalled at the state of the less fortunate ones.

However, in Rome there are large blocks of flats to accommodate the poorer people. The flats are unlike those in Britain and America, the main difference being that the Italian ones all have balconies for each room. These balconies are not for pleasure but are intended for extra space and they also serve as a washing space, as the flats have no gardens.

Until a few years ago, there was hardly any employment in Southern Italy, but now that the Government is encouraging larger firms to open factories, employment is available. A typical example of this is the Fiat assembly plant near Naples. The cars are prefabricated on the Plain of Lombardy and sent to Southern Italy for assembly. Another industry that is fast growing is the gas industry. However, some of the peasants are still farming as they have done for thousands of years, cultivating citrus fruits, olives and vines. The olives and vines are grown on the fertile land surrounding Mount Versuvius; some rice is also grown.

There are some delicate arts for a few specialised craftsmen who make wonderful lamps out of large sea shells, which are intricately engraved with Italian figures.

There is an Italian film industry and we saw their enormous open air studios near Rome. Of course the main occupation is selling brooches, postcards and general peddling.

These scenes which we appreciated were only a tiny part of the life of Italy, but were sufficient to show us how differently people live in a foreign country.

MICHAEL NYE, 4D.

### **General Impressions of Italy.**

It was late at night when we reached Rome on the third day of our Italian trip. Our hotel was situated in the suburbs of the city and thus the last lap of our coach journey was through the centre of Rome itself. The almost complete lack of traffic discipline was soon apparent. We quickly gained the impression that the Roman motorist was seemingly oblivious to danger. The wide city thoroughfares were packed with traffic at that time of night and as vehicles sped past in all directions with a blatant disregard for right of way, it became an increasing source of wonder how no serious accidents occurred. This was our first encounter with heavy urban traffic, but our initial impressions were confirmed when we later met heavier traffic. It seems the makers of the Fiat, by far the most popular Italian vehicle, have designed a "dodgem" type of car which appears specially equipped for easy manoeuvre in the rivers of Italian traffic which flood the city at the

rush hours. These Fiats, of which there are hundreds in Rome, were the plague of our coach driver who frequently threw up his arms in despair as they would cheekily steal across our path. The Fiat is even smaller than our own Mini and their drivers seemed capable of all but driving under the chassis of our relatively huge coach.

At the traffic lights it is fascinating to watch the traffic draw up sometimes four abreast and several lines deep. It is not difficult, if one imagines racing cars on a starting grid, to see the similarity between this and some keenly contested motor-car race which in effect is what it becomes when the lights change to green. Our party did not witness any major accident during our stay in Rome; indeed it would be difficult to appreciate the consequent havoc if such a calamity took place. Mr. Marples' problems really bear no comparison with those of his Italian counterpart.

The Italians, as we found, have volatile, unbalanced temperaments. Arguments on the street which in this country would cause something of a stir only arouse mild interest from passers-by who it would seem are accustomed to such outbursts. Evidently the Italians are quick to take offence and conflict easily arises. We noticed how in Florence one Italian was yelling abuse at another in a particularly bellicose manner. A nearby policeman looked on disinterestedly but as the verbal onslaught continued he was compelled to take action. The disturber of the peace was casually reprimanded in a way which suggested the policeman was performing a very routine part of his duty. This is perhaps indicative of the average Italian who as we discovered is normally amiable but easily stirred if offended.

We felt we would appreciate this facet of the Italian make-up to the full when we visited the commodious Roma Football Ground to watch the game with Torino, for fisticuffs are by no means unknown in Italian football. The crowd was soon on its feet and roaring their heads off when the home team quickly found the net to go into the lead. There was visual evidence that unruly crowds were not unknown for the playing area was encircled by a deep, dry moat. This was reinforced with unfriendly spikes to deter the would-be invader. There were no shortage of policemen either. However, to our great surprise, there was no insurrection and all the twenty-two players survived the ninety minutes of football. On this occasion the home supporters were well satisfied for Roma won by five goals to nil. Incidentally, the Italian public are prepared to pay well for their football, for the cheapest admission fee was 9/4.

The new motor way along which we travelled to Naples had almost reached completion and it was strange to see women doing what we would consider to be a man's job by the roadside. As we saw in Naples many people suffered from dire poverty in the south. To the south of Rome the country relies largely upon agriculture for its livelihood. It was evident that farming methods were primitive for on more than one occasion we saw oxen-drawn ploughs in use. Thus the small peasant farms are not a profitable business and clearly the region is in need of new industries.

In our country it is difficult to imagine the tragic living conditions which prevail in some quarters of Naples. Many of the flats were built just after the war when there was a shortage of building materials. Consequently these are now in a state of visible decay but are still lived in despite the squalid conditions. Because of the scarcity of living accommodation these flats are overcrowded and those who cannot be accommodated have to suffer the squalor of the literal hovels which have been erected to shelter the more unfortunate. It is sad that an otherwise pleasant city is marred by an atrocious housing situation. These slums left with us an indelible impression of the poverty which prevails in Peninsular Italy.

Nevertheless the Italian people whom we met had a pleasant nature and our coach driver in particular was a cordial fellow who maintained his composure when on our travels some of our party occasionally burst into what might loosely be termed as song. Italian waiters we found very jovial and their limited English was particularly amusing. The Italian people generally were very friendly and often humorous. Indeed it was their hospitality which left a firm impression and did much to make our Italian trip a happy one.

PHILIP J. STONE, IV.D.

### CYMRU 1963.

Yn unig crwydrwn fel y bardd o Sais  
Gan weld daffodiliau'n dawnsio'n ffri,—  
Eu pennau'n euraidd loyw ar eu cyrff—  
I'r fel y Gwanwyn a ddarogant yn hy.  
Pob un a wisgid gan Gymro er mwyn  
Dadlennu'i serch at ei eilun drud.

Myfyriwn yn ddwys fel y bardd o Sais,  
"Drannoeth, ble byddant?" Gorweddant yn wyw.  
I drengi ar domen ysbwriel—yr aur  
Wedi ei bylu, yr iredd ar goll  
Megis gwladgarwch y rhai a'u gwisgent,  
Y Laodiceaidd Gymry un dydd.

GARETH BEVAN, UVI.

## Y GWANWYN.

Dyma dymor cynta'r flwyddyn,  
Gwelwn ŵyn yn prancio'n llon.  
Adar bach sy'n canu'n hapus  
I groesawu'r adeg hon.

Da yw gweld yr haul yn gwenu  
Ar ôl Gaea' caled iawn.  
Blodau sy'n sirioli'r ddaear.  
Carped lliwgar cain a gawn.

Yn y coed y gwelwn nythod.  
Adar nawr sy'n paratoi.  
Eu rhai bach, maent yn eu disgwyl.  
Prin yw'r amser i gael hoe.

Harddwch natur sydd i'n llonni.  
Gwir hyfrydwch sy is y rhod,  
Blodau, adar, anifeiliaid,  
I'n Creawdwr y mae'r clod.

DAVID JOHN, 1c.

## NOFIWR OFNUS.

Ni chlywaf ddim ond dwndwr maith y môr  
A chwyn galarus, aeol oesol wynt—  
A chathlau sanctaidd boen y cannaid gôr  
Heb weld adenydd llathr eu troellog hynt.

Bwriaf fy ngwannaidd gnawd i'r ewyn flri  
Yn eiddgar wyllt i herio heli'r aig.  
Ond aflwydd ddaeth i'm rhan mewn oeraidd li,  
A grym y don a'm taflodd wrth y graig.

Ac yn fy ngorffwyll ofnais fynd i fedd  
Mewn dyfroedd dwfn echrydus; trois yn ôl  
O'm penbleth pŵl a'r eigion wynt fel cledd  
Yn ceisio dryllio'm cnawd a'm hymgais ffôl.

MEIRION DAVIES, UVI.

## DYN RHYFEDD IAWN.

Mae dau ddigwyddiad diddorol ynghlwm wrth enw'r dyn rhyfedd hwnnw o'r enw Iolo Morgannwg, a phellter amser yn gwahanu un oddiwrth y llall. Bu un ar Primrose Hill, Llundain, yn y ddeunawfed ganrif a'r llall ym Mharc Singleton ym Mehfin y flwyddyn hon.

Sôn wyf, wrth gwrs, am 'Gorsedd Beirdd Ynys Prydain.' Seremoniau a gadwyd yn fyw dros ddwy fil o flynyddoedd yn ôl, er dyddiau'r Derwyddon! Dyna freuddwyd ffantastig Iolo. Myth? Pam lai? Cyfnod Rhamantiaeth Dderwyddol neu'r myth Derwyddol oedd yr adeg honno ac yr oedd ffugio yn gyffredin.

Ond beth yr ots am hynny? Roedd miloedd yn y Parc y diwrnod hwnnw a phawb wedi mwynhau gwledd i lygad a chlust yn wyneb haul a llygad goleuni.

Diolch i'r cymeriad rhamantus a lliwgar hwn am ddiwrnod off o'r ysgol, am ddwyn tipyn o liw i fywyd miloedd o bobl ac am roi siew i'r Teledu yn y fargen.

Pwy oedd'e? Ble'r oedd e'n byw? Beth oedd ei waith'e? Cwestiynnau llosg sydd ym meddwl pob Cymro gwladaidd a ddaw wyneb yn wyneb â dyn diarth.

Ei gartre? Bro Morgannwg. Lle nodedig am ei brydferthwch ac yn llawn o ramant a thraddodiadau hanesyddol. Gwlad Caradog, Brenin y Siluriaid. Gwlad Eryllt, mam Hafren a roddodd ei henw i Fôr Hafren. Am hon y canodd Milton yn ei Comus.

Yn y Fro ceir cromlechi, croesau, cestyll ac eglwysi hynafol a phwy na chlywodd am Llantwit Major (Llanilltud Fawr)—Canolfan addysg yn y bumed ganrif? Nid rhyfedd ei fod yn fardd mawr a chefnidir mor gyfoethog y tu ôl iddo.

Ei waith? Bu'n saer maen a cheir hanes amdano yn naddu cerrig i wneud pont Llundain a bu wedyn yn cadw siop lyfrau.

Ond ni allai'r Fro ei ddal yn gaeth—dyn a'r ysfa mynd arno oedd ef. Cerddodd gannoedd a channoedd o filltiroedd i chwilota a chasglu stwff llenyddol. Dyw e' ddim yn syndod eto ei fod yn ysgolhaig mor fawr a phwysig. A sôn am ei deithio, ei unig gwmni ar daith oedd ei geffyl, ond ni welech lolo ar ei gefn, 'roedd ei serch yn ormod tuag ato i wneud hynny.

Ond hyn sy'n bwysig. Yn y ddeunawfed ganrif\*roedd mynd a bri mawr ar glybiau a chymdeithasau llenyddol a rhai Cymreig yn eu plith, wrth gwrs. Yn wir y Ddinas oedd canolfan llenyddol Cymru. Cawn lolo yn symud rownd a'i drwyn ym mhopeth. Gwnaeth gyfeillion. Roedd Southey, y bardd Saesneg yn gyfaill mawr iddo, hefyd Tom Paine a Wilberforce ac eraill, heb sôn am y 'London Welsh'—pobl yn llawn sêl a brwdfrydedd dros eu gwlad. 'Gorau Cymro Cymro oddi-cartref' meddai'r hen ddihareb, ac mor wir oedd hyn am yr alltud o Gymro y dyddiau hynny.

Dyna'n fyr gip ar fywyd y ffenomenon ryfeddaf yn hanes ein llên. Bardd mawr, *ysgolhaig* mwyaf ei gyfnod ac ni chafodd ysgol!

G. BEVAN, U VI

### DEBATING SOCIETY 1963.

The Debating Society is now dormant and so soundly that not even those weekly purrings now disturb the reverent hush of Assembly. Believe it or not, while most of the School nodded on in apathetic somnambulance, the Debating Society has been doing some pretty hard talking.

Our year's activity began with what might be called a moral outburst—"that all meetings devoted to the incitement of race hatred should be proscribed"—a timely debate as some Fascist rallies in London had opened old wounds. Although none sympathised with the unfashionable doctrines of these people and all disapproved of their abuse of free-speech, ironically enough the right wing won the day arguing the right of freedom of speech and the effectiveness of the Public Order Act.

On September 22nd the motion was "that the so-called Liberal Revival is nothing but a flash in the pan"—a motion with already a vintage flavour. Despite the Liberals' gallant and rather strange attempts to appeal to reason, by a hideous coalition of non-Liberals, by the astute attack of the proposer—a socialist, by many slanders and calumnies against the lonely seven, the motion was carried.

The next debate was about the desirability of Britain's entry into the Common Market. Some stressed the benefits of the ending of tariff barriers, higher productivity, a bigger market for our goods, political union, living in the future, a bastion against Communism, while others stressed the pre-



carious nature of the promises of material gain and called upon the family gods—queen, country, commonwealth and Lord Beaverbrook. The motion was carried, but by then General de Gaulle was no longer interested.

There followed a debate upon Telstar—its desirability or otherwise. This, of course, is the expensive toy which kept normally sane people watching B.B.C. television until the early hours with dire effect upon punctuality next morning. Some held that this device, a spectacular advance in Science, was a waste of money when the majority of the world's people starve; others holding that progress is inevitable, the burning of books is a worthless gesture. However, these last were soundly defeated and now all can salve their consciences by contributing to the Freedom from Hunger Campaign.

During the next few days people were again anxiously scanning their television screens to see if we were all going to be annihilated over the Cuba crisis, and there was many an impromptu debate in yard and corridor. An emergency session of the Society was arranged for the following Wednesday, but the motion—"that this house deplores the U.S. blockade of Cuba", was defeated by one vote, which was surprising after the hullabaloo created at the time.

A religious debate upon the "necessity for salvation" was but poorly attended but the following debate—"that Guy Fawkes is a good thing" aroused greater interest. It was held that letting off steam in a harmless way is a good thing and the occasion provides fun for all. Against this it was said that fireworks are dangerous, materials for bonfires scarce in a technicalological age and the burning in effigy a loathsome thing in a civilized society. The motion was however carried largely by the support of a group of first years—it was good to see them.

After a debate on "mixed marriages", a motion passed largely by the number of abstentions—came the old pacifist formula—"this house will not under any circumstances go to war for Queen and Country". The pacifists, all ten of them, spoke with passion and conviction, holding that war solves no ills but only augments the original evil. Others, not all jingoists, with equal conviction contended that as in the case of St. Catherine, the heathen do not listen, the innocent are massacred and faith dies with them. The motion was defeated but narrowly. The Establishment was next assailed in an anti-monarchist motion, always popular in Dynevor. The Chairman's casting vote decided the issue—Charles's head must roll, the monarchy should be abolished.

The only other noteworthy debate took place in the Easter Term, on Elvis Presley—Is his acclaim justified? Is he the greatest pop singer? The majority of the hordes who attended vociferously thought so—the motion was carried.

Employing modern aids, this year we recorded several debates in an attempt to improve the quality of the oratory. Furthermore a very necessary rule was introduced limiting speeches from the floor to two minutes.

In accordance with tradition, a Brains Trust was held at the end of the Christmas Term. There was a good audience to put questions to a mixed panel of pupils and masters. Among the more interesting questions were—What is the highest form of pleasure? Is television producing a race of square-eyed morons? Is the Church an anachronism?

Once again we have to record our thanks to Mr. Chandler without whose support, advice and criticism we should be in a parlous state. As another generation of sixth formers leave this term we feel certain that another year will support the Society and avail themselves of the opportunity of expressing their opinions, questioning set beliefs, and formulating a considered and necessary faith in the world and themselves.

D. J. M. J.

### SWIMMING.

This year will see a revival of the School Swimming Club's Annual Gala, an event which has lapsed for many years. The Gala will be on an inter-House basis and already much talent has revealed itself in the preliminaries.

An event which gave great pleasure to the participants and resulted in some excellent swimming was a match between Bishop Gore and our own first and second year boys which resulted in a win for Bishop Gore by 67 points to 56.

The over-all efficiency of the Bishop Gore boys was a little too much for the School team, but one felt that if Dynevor had been a little stronger in the front-crawl at first-year level, then there might well have been a surprise result.

Individual winners for Dynevor were J. Presley in the breast stroke and K. Howells in the back-stroke in the first-year group. In the second year group, B. Trubey, back-crawl, and J. Blain, breast-stroke won their events and we also won the Medley and Free-style relays in this group.

Another match between these old rivals has been arranged and this time, third-year boys will be included.

P. Tanner, B. Trubey, L. Blain, S. Noot, R. Bishop, J. Heron, M. Macey, H. Jones and D. Fishwick, represented the School in the Swansea Schools Annual Swimming Gala. It was the first time for many years the school had really made a comprehensive attempt to win the championship, and they did really well, coming joint-second with Oxford Street School, with Bishop Gore first.

In the Lower Middle Section, P. Tanner was first in the Breast-stroke event, B. Trubey was first in the Back-stroke and third in the Diving, L. Blain was third in the Front-crawl event. In the Squadron Race, the school were joint-third.

In the Lower-Middle Section, M. Macey was second in the Breast-stroke event, fourth in the Diving, J. Heron was fourth in the Front-crawl event and B. Fishwick fourth in the Back-crawl. In the Squadron Event, Dynevor finished third.

## **ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.**

### **Intermediate XI.**

The intermediate XI took a long time to settle down and lost some "easy" matches early in the season.

After the "cold spell" they played consistently well and drew with Townhill and Penlan away. Their final record was: Played 7, Won 0, Lost 4, Drew 3, For 6, Against 7.

In the Cup Competition the side did very well defeating Hafod 2 - 0 in the quarter-final and Pentrepoeth 4 - 1 in the semi-final.

They therefore succeeded in reaching the Final which was staged at the Vetch Field.

After a thrilling encounter with Townhill, the side lost by 3 goals to 1, but this score does not show a fair reflection of the play, and everyone agreed that the score flattered the Townhill boys.

The Senior XI enjoyed a successful season and the team showed better form than the scores suggest. Almost half of the side were drawn from the third forms and these boys should form the nucleus of next season's team, so prospects are bright.

The final record was:—

Played, 13 ; Won, 7; Lost, 4; Drawn, 2; For, 41 ; Against 25

The Senior team also had a successful run in the cup, defeating Penlan A 2-0, Hafod 5-0, but unluckily losing in the semi-final to Townhill, the eventual winners of the Competition. The score of 4-2 was not a true reflection of a game which was keenly fought.

Philip Stone of 4D played for the Swansea Schoolboys XI, and Alan Baglow, Geoffrey Burns, both of 4A, as well as Cyril Davies of 3E were chosen as reserves.

### JUNIOR RUGBY.

For the first time for many years the school were represented by two teams in the Swansea Schools Rugby Union Cup Finals held at St. Helens. The 'A' Team, under the Captaincy of S. Nott played Bishop Gore 'A' in the Senior Cup Final. The match proved to be a titanic struggle between these old rivals, and justly ended in a draw of 3 pts. each, after extra time had been played. The try for Dynevor was scored by Peter Hiley, our international representative.

One felt that the team did not quite play to its full potential in this important match, but that nevertheless, it was an outstanding achievement to reach the Final.

The 'C' Team, captained by N. Gange, surprised everyone by reaching the Intermediate Cup Final, and in doing so, took Dumbarton's unbeaten record for the season in the semi-final, with two first-rate tries by P. Tanner and G. Blackmore.

In the Final they played Penlan 'C' and the weight and experience of this team was just a little too much for our boys. They eventually lost by 9 points to nil. Nevertheless, for a team which contained so many second year boys, it was a really wonderful effort, and augurs well for our rugby future in Dynevor.

We would like to thank the following masters for their support and enthusiasm throughout the season: Messrs. H. Lloyd, I. Mort, D. Howells, J. Bennett, A. Balch, C. McGivan, and G. Hounsell.

## RUGBY FIRST XV.

P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts. for	Pts. Agst.
19	12	1	6	103	74

The school XV. had a very successful season due mainly to the excellent spirit which prevailed through the season. This combined with the blend of youth—seven players were of lower sixth age—and experience—only four players had not played 1st rugby before, and the enthusiastic approach of the captain Robert Griffiths, the rugby knowledge of Vice-Captain B. Davies who unfortunately left at Christmas, enabled the team to beat many schools of better rugby ability.

In the first half of the season the school gained a notable victory over Ystalyfera, whose threequarters contained two schoolboy internationals. This victory showed the magnificent covering of the forwards, a fact that played a large part in the breaking up of many potentially dangerous threequarter movements. The following Saturday however, Glan Afon defeated the school and so gained the double over us. To make up for this, the school completed the double over Bishop Gore and in this match started Bob Griffiths's famous cry of "feet, feet" every time the ball was on the ground which must have put the wind up many opposing forwards.

The second half of the season was much curtailed by the severe winter but in the matches played the school gained the double over Pontardawe, Dyffryn and Maesteg. Geoff Atherton took over from B. Davies at outside half and his long touch finding kicks often took the steam out of the opposing packs. R. Evans took his place in the centre. The four remaining games of the season which all ended in victories for the school, did much to boost the confidence of the team prior to the traditional game against the Old Boys. The school opened the scoring in this match but were finally beaten by 10 points to 9, a good result from the school's point of view.

Geoff Atherton was the top points scorer with a total of 43. This total was made up of 3 tries, 8 penalty goals, and 5 conversions. Alan Hayward was the top try scorer with 6 tries. D. Steele had the distinction of playing in a Final W.S.S.R.U. Trial and representing Glamorgan Secondary Schools XV in Ireland against Munster Schools.

The team as a whole would like to thank Mr. G. Jones, who refereed all the home matches and without whose enthusiasm there would be no First XV fixtures. We would also like

to thank Mr. Hopkins and the masters who accompanied the team on away fixtures. Our thanks also to Mrs. Baker and her helpers for giving up their Saturday mornings to prepare a meal for the teams and to the groundsman at Townhill for preparing the pitch.

The team would like to extend best wishes to next year's First XV., and we are sure that win or lose it will continue in the fine tradition of Dynevor Rugby.

## CRICKET.

Both Junior teams have done well this year again in the Local Schools League and are well in the running for championship honours. To date they have lost one match each and won three.

The Captain of the Senior XI was G. Tasker and of the Junior XI, P. Parffitt.

D. Sinnett, R. Brown, G. Tasker, W. Gibbs, J. R. Davies and P. Parffitt have represented the Swansea Schools Cricket Association in this current season.

## SENIOR XI.

The Senior Captain this year is again Michael Jones, who has played five seasons for the team.

The side has not had such a successful season in comparison with recent years, but this is due to the fact that the team is young and inexperienced. The batting has lacked consistency, although G. Anthony, H. Thomas, T. Lewis, J. Humphries and M. Jones, had some very good knocks.

The bowling too, has lacked penetration, but M. Jones took 8 for 10 against Llandilo and 6 for 34 against Penlan. Lyn Rees took 5 for 19 against Pontardawe.

One very good feature of the side this year has been the fielding, which is of a very high quality.

To date the record of the side is—

P.	L.	W.
6	4	2

## SCHOOL ATHLETICS.

This year has seen a marked increase in the number of boys interested in athletics, and if this trend continues Dynevor will soon become a very strong force in athletics in the area.

The season opened on a bright note when the school relay team (A. Tucker, P. W. Jones, A. Davies, P. Wilson) won the Grammar Schools Invitation Relay Shield, at the University Sports. The relay team had a further success when they won the Glamorgan Junior Championships, and P. Wilson also won the 100 yards and was second in the 220 yards.

This year the school entered a full team in the West Glamorgan Schools Championships. Although the school did well in the Senior Section, the overall result was disappointing, particularly the lack of a single success in the Junior Section. Stuart Williams (4b) proved the 'find' of the season, finishing fourth in the 440 yards in the County Championships in the creditable time of 57.6 seconds; he could well prove a valuable asset to the school team in the future.

This year also sees an invitation to an inter-school athletics match with Penlan. The event proved very exciting, Penlan winning by 96 points to 95, and it is hoped that next year a full fixture list will be arranged.

We would like to thank all the Masters who have given us their support, particularly Mr. Hopkins and Mr. Ieuan Jones.

The 'revival' which has taken place in athletics at Dynevor was reflected in the standard of the School Sports. Twenty-one new school records were set up, and some of the times recorded were very good considering the condition of the ('now famous'!) track!

Although Grove had a considerable lead after the field events, the sports soon developed into a struggle between Dillwyn, who seemed to have more natural talent, and Llewellyn, who again set an example to the other houses by organising House training sessions.

The struggle was so close that the result was not decided until the last event of the afternoon when Dillwyn won the Senior relay, and also the sports. The Victor Hudson award was won by M. Gange, and the Cup was presented by Mr. T. Burgess.

In future years may we suggest that the school sports be held in the first two weeks of term, so that "new finds" might

be used in the school team. Also the inclusion of hurdles events might create some interest in an event in which the school is sadly lacking.

Although the standard achieved this year was higher than in previous years, there is still plenty of room for improvement. Boys who are really interested in athletics must realise that good results only come with hard work. They should take particular notice of the school motto—

“Nihil Sine Labore”.

PETER WILSON.

## HOUSE MATCHES.

### ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

Junior: Grove 2—Llewellyn 1.  
Senior: Dillwyn 5—Llewellyn 1.

### RUGBY.

Junior: Dillwyn 6—Llewellyn 0.  
Senior: Llewellyn 8—Dillwyn 3.

## SCHOOL SPORTS.

1. Dillwyn	..	124 points.
2. Llewellyn	..	119 points.
3. Grove	..	91 points.
4. Roberts	..	84 points.

## OLD DY'VORIANS ASSOCIATION.

At our last annual dinner Mr. Wilfred Thomas, a founder-member and for long an energetic committee member of the Association received the Presidential Chain of Office from the retiring President, Mr. Wilfred Higgs. The committee has repeatedly acknowledged its debt of gratitude to Mr. Higgs for his unfailing interest in the affairs of his old school and we know that Mr. Thomas who has already given long years of service to the Association will not be any the less enthusiastic in the performance of his duties as President.



In addition to Mr. Thomas, other speakers at the dinner which was again very well attended, included Mr. W. C. Rogers, Borough Estate Agent, Mr. H. Wilson Thomas, and the school's headmaster, Mr. Meredydd Hughes. A pleasing feature of the evening was the large number of younger Old Boys who attended and it was our pleasure to welcome as guests, Mr. L. J. Drew, Director of Education, and two retired masters of the school, Mr. C. C. Davies and Mr. C. Meyrick.

It was announced during the function that Councillor W. T. Mainwaring Hughes had kindly offered to give the Association a plaque inscribed with the names of Past Presidents and the Headmaster said that it would give him pleasure to have such a plaque placed in the school.

The two Social Evenings already held at the St. Helen's Sports Club were considered such a success by those members who attended that it has been decided to hold another one after the Old Boys' cricket match against the school in July.

It has been a source of satisfaction to the committee in recent years that so many Old Boys have requested to be considered for the Old Dy'vorians rugby and cricket games against the school. The rugby match last March was no exception when it was possible to field a very strong side against the boys of the present school team who acquitted themselves admirably before losing a closely fought contest.

In a previous note to the School Magazine, reference was made to a fund set up to provide a baby-grand piano for the school and it was with great pleasure last October, that we were able formally to make such a presentation. Our sincere thanks are due to those many past pupils who by their generous contributions to the fund enabled us to make this gift. The Headmaster and School Captain, in accepting the piano on behalf of the school, assured us that many generations of Dynevor schoolboys will derive benefit from the possession of such an instrument.

We were delighted with the general interest shown in the first of our annual public lectures given by Dr. Brian Flowers, F.R.S., last October. Pupils from the Swansea Grammar Schools and many people from local educational spheres joined the Old Dy'vorians at a lecture, outstanding for its topical interest and the authoritative manner in which it was delivered. We would remind our members that printed copies of this lecture, a review of which appeared in the last Magazine, are still available for purchase, upon application to the school.

The second lecture in the series will be given by Professor Cecil Price who holds the Chair of English at Swansea University College. Professor Price, an Old Dy'vorian, has kindly agreed to speak on "Research—In an Arts Subject?" in the School Hall, on Thursday, 17th October, 1963. Tickets of admission will be available from the Hon. Secretary at the school early next term.

To two eminent Old Dy'vorian, Alderman Percy Morris and Mr. Harry Secombe, go our most sincere congratulations on their recent appointment as Commanders of the British Empire. Alderman Morris, a Past President of the Association, has always maintained a close interest in Dynevor and we past members of the school are delighted at this further honour so deservedly gained by him.

Mr. Secombe, the internationally famous T.V. and radio personality, keeps himself informed of the Old Boys' activities and has promised to attend one of our dinners when his heavy commitments allow him an opportunity to do so.

Our congratulations and best wishes also to all those Old Dy'vorian successful in recent University and College examinations and finally our annual appeal to those boys about to leave school this term. We would welcome your support of the Association and ask you to contact the Hon. Secretary for details of membership before you leave. We already have many young members, but our aim as a past pupil's Association is to have as many boys as possible from each school year join our ranks.

Mr. Bryn Cox who is retiring from the staff this term has earned the respect and affection of many generations of Dy'vorian by his loyal and worthy service to the school. We thank him now at the end of his long and successful career for the important part he has played in the education of so many Old Boys and offer him our sincere best wishes for a lengthy and happy retirement.

G.H.

