



KEEPING FORMER PUPILS INFORMED

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LLANELLI BOYS' GRAMMAR & GRAIG COMPREHENSIVE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3, JULY 2019

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Dear Fellow Members,

I believe that collectively, while we all share two things in common that bind us together, we also represent a powerful and diverse resource that could bring great strengths to what we seek to achieve as a Charity.

What we have in common is first and foremost the School. Our time there gave us in many different ways a platform, a launchpad to get where we all find ourselves today. It forged

our thinking, formed friendships and gave guidance on career choices. Today we have in our group Artists, Musicians, Craftsmen, Teachers, Managers, Politicians, Lawyers, Engineers, Scientists, Historians, Geographers and many others including Academics and Business People spread throughout the world. **What a resource!**

The second thing we share are our roots in the town and surrounding districts of Llanelli itself. The primary task of us as a Charity is to find ways of bringing to bear this resource to support causes in whatever form we judge appropriate linked to Llanelli people or groups of people with similar aims. As a group this gives us the opportunity to put something back into the community which we all have benefitted from. We already support young people in Business & Education, Sport, Health and Music.

While it is very nice to meet annually and share old times, I think we are capable of so much more and we would welcome greatly your comments on any ideas on future activities and what causes we might consider supporting plus what we have already achieved as set out in this newsletter, our website <http://llanelliboysgrammar.org/> or our Facebook page :- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LBGGFPA/?ref=brrs> , for further young people you may wish us to consider.

Finally, an immediate and hugely beneficial way of you helping us is to take up membership of the Association. Our current paid membership is currently in excess of 100 and seeking new members

(currently 600 on Facebook and 400 on email– just a small fraction of the former pupils across the globe who are entitled to join the Association!

All ex-pupils are encouraged to join – all you need to qualify is to be an ex-pupil and to identify in some way with what we are seeking to achieve. To join please visit our website <http://llanelliboysgrammar.org/index.php/join-us/> and complete the form.

Very best wishes

Ken Board
Chairman

AGM

The AGM is scheduled for the 3rd September 2019 at 7.00 p.m. and held in the Stradey Park Hotel, Llanelli. Nominations are requested for the role of Chairperson and Treasurer as the existing holders retire after two years in the post although they can be re-elected.

TRUSTEES 2018-2019

Members present at the AGM elected the following as Trustees of the Charity: - *Chair* - Prof. Ken Board; *Vice Chair*- Mr. George Parker; *Treasurer* – Mr. Phil Cooper; *Secretary* – Mr. David Marshall. *Committee Members*: Ms. Claire Rumble; Mr. Peter Lane; Mr. Paul Oram; Mr. Stephen Edwards, Mr. Hywel Houghton-Jones, Dr Roger Thomas, Mr. Adrian Howells and Mr. Tony Dunne.

MEMBERSHIP

Development of the Association Webpage included the [facility for online membership](#) and as a result we now have a large number of former pupils paying at least the suggested minimum membership fee of £5 per annum. In reply to demand we have also included a 10-year membership for £50 and a life-time membership at £100. Reminders for membership renewal are sent automatically on the anniversary of your membership. Where you see fit to support the Association with a donation, please remember to tick the “Gift Aid” box so your donation may be subject to tax relief adding a further 25% to its value.

FINANCES

The Financial summary of the Association for the period as at 28th July 2019 showed:-

- ✓ Funds held in HSBC Bank £13,991.87
- ✓ Funds held in Paypal £ 541.84
- ✓ Funds held in NS&I Accout £ 649.18
- ✓ Distributed approx. £5,000 to good causes within the Llanelli area during this period.

Our continued financial growth, and with it the financial support to local charities, is all due to YOUR continued contributions through membership, donations and support of events during the year.

Thank YOU!

EVENTS –

2017 ANNUAL REUNION DINNER



The 2017 Annual Dinner was held on 6th October 2017 at the Stradey Park Hotel, Llanelli. Guest Speaker for the night was none other than Doug Perkins, co-founder of international optical retail chain Specsavers! Specsavers Optical Group Ltd is a British multinational optical retail chain, which operates mainly in the British Isles, Australasia and the Nordic countries. The chain offers optician services for eyesight testing and sells glasses, sunglasses, and contact lenses. It also sells hearing aids. In the United Kingdom in 2012 it had the largest single market share of the four major opticians, with 42% of the market.

The company had a total turnover of £2.78 billion in 2018/2019 with 2,111 branches in the United Kingdom, Guernsey, Jersey, Ireland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, The Netherlands, Spain, Australia and New Zealand. The event was exceptionally well supported with over 150 in attendance. Doug Perkins gave a memorable speech outlining how he and his wife developed Specsavers. If you wish to view a video of this event please click the following link

<https://www.facebook.com/100005821292536/videos/717334658470571/>

LORD LESLIE GRIFFITHS OF BURRY PORT AT STRADEY PARK HOTEL, LLANELLI – 19TH APRIL 2018 (ARTICLE WRITTEN BEFORE BREXIT DEADLINE PASSED).



“From the Front Bench – A Whip’s View”

The European economy has been a topic of intense and passionate debate for over two years. Has the European Union created a stagnant economy for its members; is the Euro currency a godsend to travelers but perhaps a curse to the Greeks, Italians and the Iberian Peninsula; why does it take countries more than two years to conclude a Trade Deal? All these questions and many more were fielded by Lord Griffiths when he addressed a packed lunch of former pupils at The Stradey Park Hotel Llanelli on 19th April 2018.

Lord Griffiths is now a senior Labour Whip in the House of Lords and in the days immediately preceding our lunch he had participated in and led a debate that had analysed many overt issues and identified crucial points of concern and questions that needed deep consideration, in what is surely one of the most momentous political events of the last 40 years.

If you wish to view the video of this event please visit:-

<http://llanelliboysgrammar.org/index.php/event-videos/>

Always a riveting speaker, Lord Griffiths outlined the topical and complex subject with wit and clarity, clearly enjoying the thrust and ripostes from a keenly interested and fascinated audience. March 29th 2019 may well become a defining moment in the UK’s history, but few will deny the opportunity to participate in the process with “hot off the press” detail and insight, was a coup for the Llanelli Old Boys’ and Graig Former Pupils Association.

2018 ANNUAL REUNION DINNER



The 2018 Annual Reunion dinner was held on 5th October 2018 at the old school in Pwll. Guest Speaker was Huw Tregelles Williams. Aside from being one of the Llanelli Boys Grammar Schools more famous old boys, Huw is a former member of the Arts Council of Wales and a fellow of the Welsh College of Music and Drama. He has served as adjudicator at the BBC and Audi Young Musician Finals, at Llangollen and National Eisteddfodau, and was appointed O.B.E. in the 1998 New Year's Honours. The evening was a resounding success and included a walk around what is now Coleg Sir Gâr and the newly built theatre and sports facility. Part-funded by the Welsh Government, the building will provide future students on courses including performing arts, dance, sport, fitness and production arts with brand new facilities. With an extensive sports hall included in the design, the new facility will also benefit students from across the college with an area to participate in active lifestyles as well as providing the Netball Academy with a home venue for the very first time. The centre also houses a fully equipped brand-new fitness suite with modern changing facilities as well as a purpose-built and modern theatre with retractable auditorium seating and industry standard media and lighting facilities. For details on the 2019 Reunion Dinner or any other events run by the Association please contact: secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org A video of the evening can be found on the Association website <http://llanelliboysgrammar.org/index.php/event-videos/>

2019 ANNUAL REUNION DINNER




The 2019 Annual Reunion Dinner will be held at the Stradey Park Hotel, Llanelli, at 7pm on 4th October. The Guest Speaker will be Professor Stuart Cole CBE. Stuart is Emeritus Professor of Transport. Prior to that he was the first director of the Wales Transport Research Centre (2001) at the University of Glamorgan. Stuart was previously the first Director of Transport Research and Consultancy (TRaC) (1989 – 2001) at the University of North London (now London Metropolitan) which he joined in 1979. Stuart is acknowledged by Parliament, the National Assembly and Government as one of Wales' and UK's leading experts in transport economics and policy. Stuart has nearly 40 years of experience spanning local government, private sector and academic roles. He formerly worked for Cheshire County Council's Transport Unit as Economic Advisor, in his parliamentary work Stuart has regularly given oral evidence and produced reports for members. He has also given evidence to the House of Lords, House of Commons, the Richard Commission, Downing Street 'Think-Tank' etc. on topics such as governance of transport in Wales and rail investment.

Tickets for this year's dinner will be £35.00 and are available from Committee Members or George Parker/Sam Smith at Parker Plant Hire Ltd email: sam.smith@parker-plant.co.uk or telephone 01554 772431 option 3.


WORLD WAR 1 – ROLL OF HONOUR

A Roll of Honour presentation for former pupils and two teachers who lost their lives in World War 1. This has been produced by the Association and continues the work originally started by Barrie Lewis and David Mathias. To complete the records, we need your help to find details on two of the fallen, namely Tom Jones and David Jones. Also, confirmation of details for Phillip Dudley Waller – was he a former pupil? We also have the above in electronic format and can email if you wish. Your help would be much appreciated please contact: secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org or sam.smith@parker-plant.co.uk

An example of the information contained in the Roll of Honour is as below:



Ethelbert Harold Foster *Lieutenant, Welsh Regiment*



Ethelbert was the son of Obed and Eliza Jane Foster (nee Williams), of Llantwit Fardre. He was a [Science Master at Llanelli](#) for several years prior to the war, and was commissioned into the [4th Battalion, Welsh Regiment](#). Ethelbert was then attached to the [1/8th Battalion, London Regiment \(Post Office Rifles\)](#). He was killed in action during an attack on the [Hindenberg Line](#) on 8th October 1918, aged 35, and is buried at [Bois-Des-Angles British Cemetery, Crevecouer-Sur-L'Escaut, France](#).

INSCRIPTION:
"THY PURPOSE LORD WE CANNOT SEE"

[Return to list of Fallen Soldiers](#)

Committee members & friends are working on a Book of Remembrance and presentation for World War 2 detailing the lives of those listed on the school Role of Honour. If you have personal detail/ photographs of any one listed then please forward to Stephen at the address quoted at the end of this newsletter or if in electronic form, forward to secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org

The complete presentation can be viewed on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LBGGFPA/> or email sam.smith@parker-plant.co.uk for a copy.

PEOPLES' COLLECTION WALES

The Association continues to work with the National Library of Wales (NLoW) to populate an [Association Webpage](#) under their [People's Collection Wales](#) project. Whilst still in its infancy, the Association will work to upload our own documents, images, videos and sound recordings of life at the School thus ensuring that the history of the School, its masters and pupils is documented to help enrich the cultural history of Wales. To date, the Printed Material Archive in the NLoW under the category of "A List of Welsh School Magazines and Newspapers" contains the following: -

Llanelly County School Magazines 1900–1945, Llanelly Boys' Grammar School Magazines 1946–56; 1958–64; 1970. The “Jester” newspaper Nov 1974–March 1975. The Graig School Magazine (later “The Graig Gazette”) Our aim is to enhance this collection and eliminate chronological gaps. Consequently, if you have any old school magazines, photographs or whatever documenting your time at School then please contact the Secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org or at the address given at the end of this Newsletter.

BURSARIES

CHARITABLE BURSARY– SKI4ALL WALES

Your Association has again supported the charity Ski4All Wales. Our contribution will assist 20-30 young persons of various cognitive disabilities to ski in Pembrey. The sit-skis required for the skiers each cost over £4,000 and are specially made in Canada. The funds raised also go towards paying for the volunteer's train to become instructors and who give up their time every Wednesday – without which the



Ski4All project would not be possible! If you would like to make a donation to this charity please contact: secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org for more information on Ski4All Wales please visit their website <http://www.ski4allwales.cymru/>

Ski4All says about the donation:

*“What a day! We are incredibly fortunate to have such phenomenal local support from the Llanelli Boys Grammar School & Graig Comprehensive Former Pupils Association. A whopping £600 donated today ♡
It was a pleasure to show you around our club today and hope you can visit us again soon”*

SPECIAL SPORTS BURSARY - BRIN ISAAC MEMORIAL FUND

George Parker represented the Association in 2018 when proudly presenting the Association Cup & Bursary to Miss Lucy Thomas recipient of the Brin Isaac Young Achiever 2018 Award for her achieving her National Standard in Target Shooting. Competing at the GB Pistol Talent Squad at the recent British Junior International Match where Lucy took a bronze, a silver and a gold in the main event.





EDUCATIONAL & ENTREPRENEURIAL BURSARY – CAMERON REARDON – BUG BOX UK

Cameron Reardon won our Education & Entrepreneur Bursary in June last year. He has set up his own online entomology store (Bug Box UK) where he sells exotic insects from across the globe to customers such as schools, zoos and individuals in the hobby. As well as the cash Cameron has gained business advice and mentoring from us to help him exceed his business knowledge! This

has helped open many doors for him, and his business is now growing drastically! He is no longer just selling exotic insects he also has packages such as education schemes, birthday parties and handling events. He has traded in Cardiff's Capital Shopping Centre where he was able to showcase his business in person not just online. For more information on Bug Box UK, <https://www.bugboxuk.co.uk/>

If you feel you can offer Cameron any advice or professional guidance in further development please contact: secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org

MUSICAL BURSARY – LAUREN FISHER – LARS (LOUD APPLAUSE RISING STARS)

Lauren Fisher recipient of the 2019 Llanelli Grammar School Old Boys and Graig Former Pupils Association Music Bursary was presented with her cheque this evening by chairman Prof Ken Board. This year has been a very successful one for Ysgol Gyfun y Strade pupil, Lauren Fisher. She had considerable success in the Rotary UK Young Musicians Competition. She was the overall winner of the Rotary Club of Llanelli competition, the Area Competition winner and a finalist in the Southern Wales District final held in Blackwood. Lauren was then invited to be a guest artist at the Centenary Gala Concert of The Rotary Club of Llanelli. Lauren also won the 2018 Gethin Hughes Bursary Prize in a very tough competition which was hosted at the annual concert of Cor Meibion Llanelli at Ffwrnes Theatre, Llanelli. As a member of LARS (Loud Applause Rising Stars) she has performed at many prestigious events such as soirees at Stradey Castle and Llanelly House, at the City and County of Swansea's Armed Forces Day and Remembrance Commemoration events, at musical evenings at Machynys Golf Club and at Loud Applauses' Night with the Stars Gala Concert in Ffwrnes Theatre. For more information on LARS please click

<http://www.loudapplauserisingstars.co.uk/>



SUPPORTING LOCAL CHARITIES

The Association, following its charitable aims, was pleased to provide over £5,000 in support of our nominated bursaries and also to local charities/orgainsations during 2017/2018/2019:-

- The Brin Isaac Memorial fund (£400.00)
- Ski4All Wales (£600.00)
- LARS (Loud Applause Rising Stars) (£1,000.00)
- Cameron Reardon – Entrepreneur (£1,000)
- Hywel Dda Health charities – **CAMHS Surf Tonic** (£1,400.00)
- Production of memorial booklet for the fallen soldiers of World War 1 and digital presentation directly supported by funding from former pupils (£1,500.00)



Also, we plan to support Armed Forces veterans and SCAMHS (Specialist Children and Adult Mental Health Services) in the coming months.

We would like to offer our thanks to former pupils who have directly supported some of the above charities and production of the Memorial Booklet and Digital Presentation.

Do you have a particular local charity worthy of support by the Association?

If yes, then as a committee, we are keen to hear from you stating the charity and reasons for Association support. Please send your suggestions to the Secretary c/o Parker Plant Hire Ltd, Hire Centre, Halfway, Llanelli, SA15 1HQ or by email to secretary@llanelliboysgrammar.org

ASSOCIATION TIES



Is your wardrobe lacking style?


Finish off “the look” with an Association tie.

Association ties will be available for sale at the Reunion dinner priced £10.

Online purchase will be considered after this date (dependent on stock)

NEWSLETTER

Our web site hosts a current copy of this newsletter which I hope you will find interesting as it brings you up to date with the Association's activities over the last two years. Please view it at <http://llanelliboysgrammar.org> If you have not renewed your membership there is a link on the website to do so and for those who have already done so - Thank You!




**Llanelli Grammar School Old Boys
& Graig Former Pupils Association**


**Cymdeithas Undeb Cyn-Fechgyn Ysgol Ramadeg Llanelli
a Cyn-Ddisgyblion y Graig**

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**With your help -
working to support young people in
education, health, sport and music**




Armistice Service 2016




Music Award – Loud Applause Rising Stars




Educational Bursary



Ski 4 All Wales




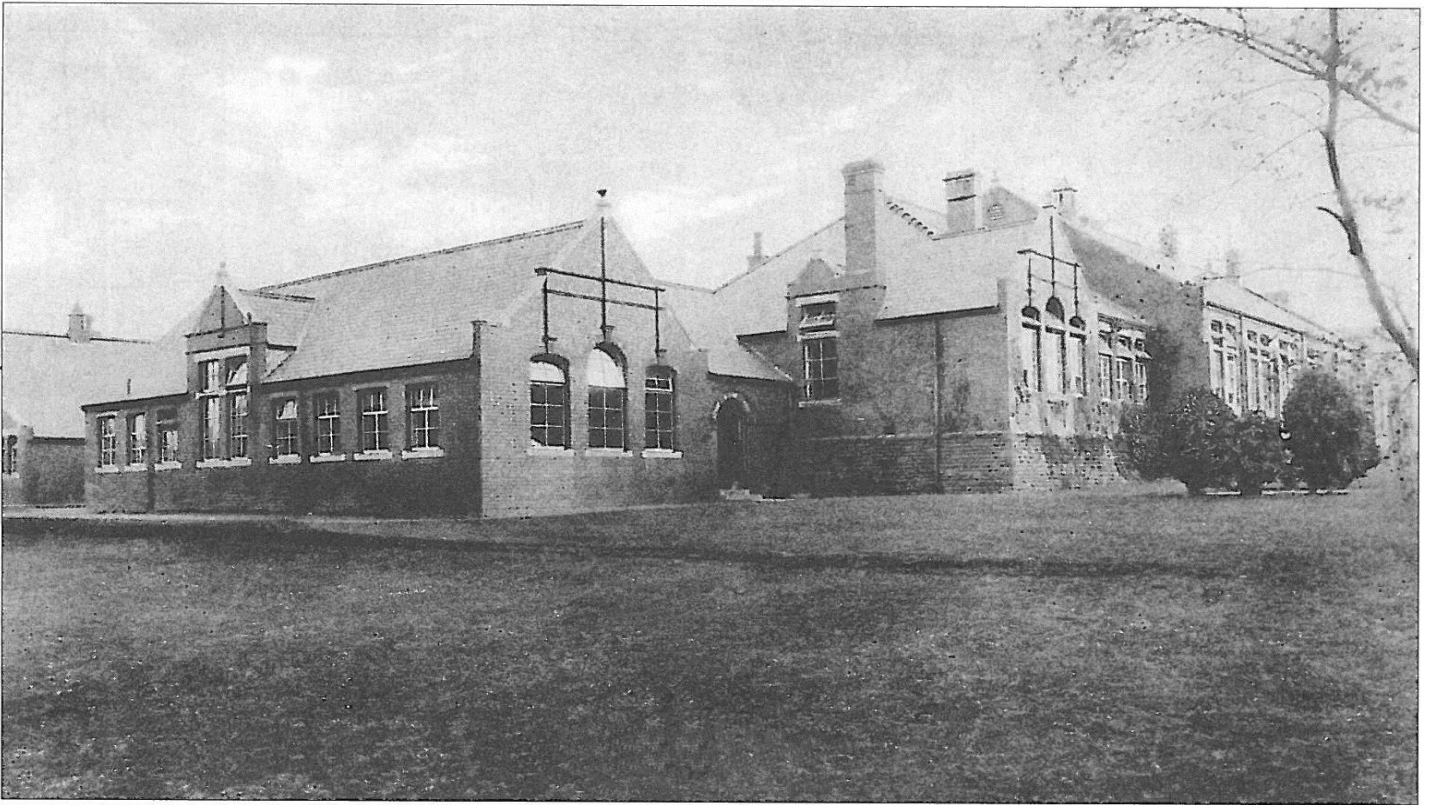
CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service)
Surf Tonic Project



Sports Award – Brin Isaac

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