

Che Kinmelogue

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The Newsletter Of The Friends Of Kinmel Hall

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IT IS HOPED THAT NEXT MONTH'S
EDITION WILL INCLUDE AN
UPDATE ON WHAT IS GOING ON
AT THE
HALL



FRIENDS OF KINMEL HALL NEWSLETTER 8TH EDITION 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021



TRAGEDY

2011 + 2021

TRIUMPH



Greetings To All
THE FRIENDS OF KINMEL HALL
To The Eighth Edition Of Your Newsletter
In This Of The Newsletter Alongside more of
The History of the hall



We again need to ask for the Old Clarendonians
For their assistance with research
In relation to the School's time in the Building

'Whyly' South of Watford Gap England

3rd September 2021

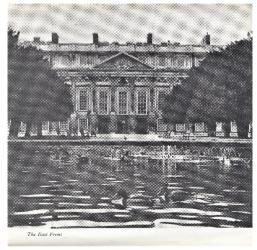
Dear Reverend and Mrs Hughes,

I trust this letter finds you well and that your new home 'Old Kinmael' is comfortable for you as we approach another winter.

As a result of a long-standing friendship, I am spending a most invigorating week with friends in the South. Their hospitality knows no bounds and I am thoroughly enjoying the change of scenery after the 18 months being in isolation due to the Covid Pandemic.

Upon my arrival at my hosts dwelling, I was shown a considerable amount of records and documents relating to the Kinmel Estate. These have been collected over the last 40 years by my host and his family and friends and it is a treasure trove of information.

I beg your indulgence to allow me to recount some of the amazing information that has been shown to me.



Kinmel Hall? Designed by Thomas Hopper

'FIRE AT KINMEL'

Source: - Unknown

The fine mansion of Kinmel – which was spelt KYLMEYL in 1848.

The residence of Lord Dinorben was destroyed by fire on Monday night the 4th October 1844.

The private room of her ladyship was found to be on fire about 10 o'clock. The alarm was given through out the mansion and everyone of the household made frantic efforts to stay the flame but to no purpose.

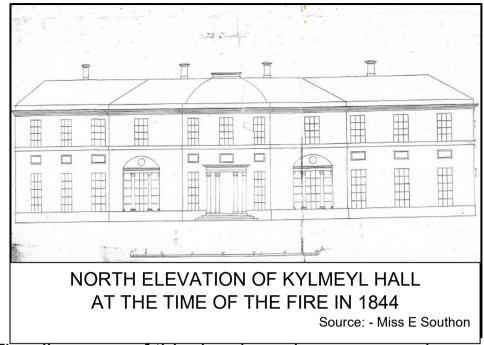
The fire had gained such a hold and no fire fighting appliances being available in the neighbourhood it was impossible to stop the conflagration.

By 5 o'clock the next morning the whole of the beautiful mansion furnished with expensive furniture had been reduced to ashes.

It is said that the carelessness of a maid in leaving a candle too near some of the furniture was the cause of the fire.

The damage was estimated at £35,000. It was stated that it was NOT insured!

It is also said that one of the bells of Abergele Parish Church was cracked in giving the alarm although it is difficult to understand why it was rung It being so far away from the scene!



The discovery of this drawing raises some serious questions, not least the fact that it is attributed to Thomas Hopper and yet at this date Hopper would only have been in his early 20's and not an architect.

However, sources inform me that he was a Surveyor at this time!



KINMEL HALL BY THOMAS HOPPER

Another document that has been shewn to me sheds some light on the possible source of one of the 'Kinmel Ghosts' stories.

I must say, however, it makes for some sad reading.

ABERGELE AND PENSARN TIMES AND VISITORS RECORD SAT.26TH.MAY 1928 NO.1033. ABERGELE FARMER'S TERRIBLE ORDEAL. SUSPENDED HEAD DOWN FOR THIRTEEN HOURS.

SHOUTED FOR HELP BUT NONE TO HEAR

A one-armed Farmer, Mr. John Jones, aged 72, living alone at Pen-y-Cefn in the Parish of St. George, passed through a terrible ordeal la.et week and as a result of injuries and exposure, he died at the Weet Denbighshire Hospital in the early hours of Saturday Morning The sad detail of the fatal accident were related to Mr. Robert Davies the West Denbighshire Coroner, who, sitting without a jury, held the inquest at the hospital on Tuesday.

John Owen Jones, Bodoryn, Abergele, the son-in-law of the deceased gave evidence of identification and said he was an abstemious man. He had seen him on the day of the fatal accident, and bad assisted to convey him to hospital after being discovered on the following day. The deceased had spoken to him after the accident, and he said,"! have been unlucky". I got fast in a fence and have been here all night have been shouting but no-one seemed to hear me".

The deceased was a retired farmer. He was 72 and resided at Pen-y-Cefn, no one looking after him. He had lost his right arm many years ago. On the 14th the witness saw him at Abergele Auction He was alright that day. The witness called every day at the hospital after the accident.

Mr. Jones said that as he was going home the lodge gate was closed, and he saw the lights of the lodge going out. Rather than trouble the lodge keeper he had attempted to leap over the high wire fence.

William E. Bradley licensee of the Kinmel Arms, St. George, said he knew John Jones very well. He was at the Inn the evening of Monday 14th and was perfectly sober when leaving at 9.25. Peny-Cefn would be two miles distant from the Inn. On the night Mr. Jones proceeded homeward through a part of Kinmel Park. Before he set out on his walk the witness shook hands with him and said goodnight.

Mr. Jones remarked that he would go home through the park.

The witness looking at his watch said, "You Ought to get to the other lodge just before locking time had he got through the lodge gates there would have been no accident, as he would have had a straight road home with no obstacles. The road to the distant lodge would have been uphill most of the way. The Kinmel time it appeared was about ten minutes ahead of Abergele time, so that the lodge was advanced ten minutes. That would explain why the gate was closed when the old man got there

It was nearly eleven o'clock on the following morning before the witness heard of the occurrence.

HANGING ON THE WIRES

John Parry Jones, farmer, Nant Meifod, St George, said he knew the deceased well. On the morning of Tuesday, the 15th., he went into Kinmel Park to do some .fencing on the top part, which was over 200 yards from the Kinmel Arms. He was driving a float through a portion of the park which he rented. As soon as he entered the park through the gate leading into his pie e, he saw a man with hie feet up, hanging on the wires. That was the fence dividing the piece rented by the witness in the park. It was a high fence with nine wires. It had been put at a height of nearly six .feet to prevent the deer from getting over. There was no barbed wire. The old man's left leg was caught in a loop caused by his .foot slipping off an upper wire. The right foot was also entangled, so that both legs were fastened.

His head was over the fence, and his back was toward the fence, which showed that he had twisted somehow in his endeavours to get free. Even if he had possessed both arms it is doubtful whether he would have extricated himself in fact he would have been just as likely to meet with the same kind of accident There were upright wooden posts every two yards, and he was near one. This fact made matters worse for him, as the wires were tighter on his legs.

He was conscious when discovered. The witness happened to have with him a drawbar and a hammer and broke the stout wires.

John Jones said in Welsh, "Fachgen Anwyl. 'I have shouted a lot'. The witness took him in the float to the surgery of Dr Pritchard of Abergele

The Doctor ordered hie removal to the hospital.

MEDICAL STATEMENT

Dr. F.J. Bennett, Colwyn Bay, said that on Wednesday morning, the 16th, he saw the deceased, who, on the previous day had been attended by Dr. Corrie

On one leg there was an extensive lacerated wound going down to the bone, and on the other leg were two wounds. Already a type of gangrene was setting in. The patient's feeble condition and the exposure and shock he had undergone would predispose him to the onset of gangrene. Jones died about 3.45 in the morning on Saturday.

The cause of death was septic absorption from gangrene. Every attention was given to the patient at the hospital. An amputation of both legs was out of the question.

"It is a very unfortunate affair," said the Coroner, "one for which no one is to blame."

A verdict of 'Death from Misadventure' was recorded

PROMINENT AGRICULTURIST

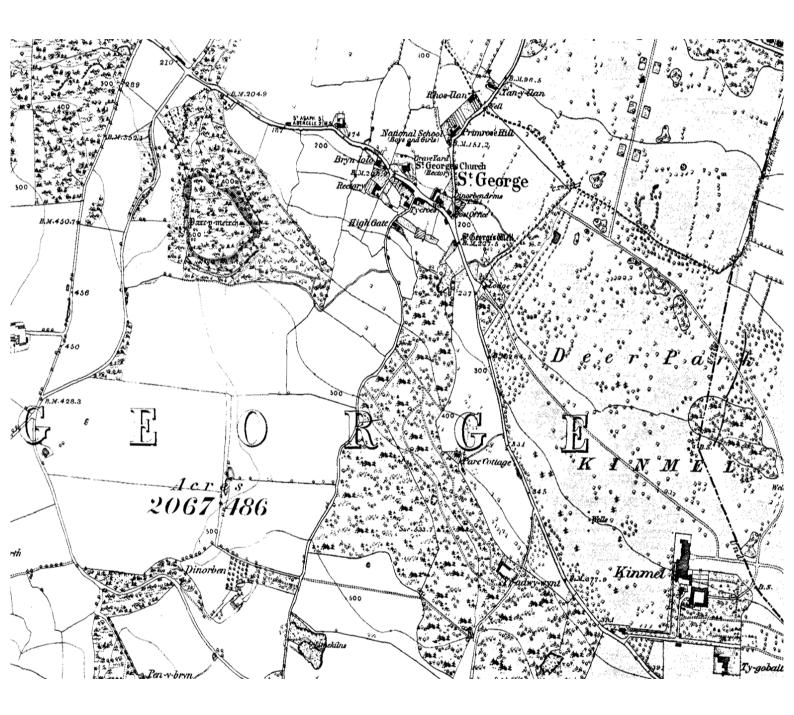
The deceased was a son of the late Mr.Kyffin Jones, Nant Meifod., and was widely known as a judge of horse-flesh and ,expert ploughman. His wife who pre-deceased him over 30 years ago, was a daughter of the late Mr.Diward Hughes, Glan y Morfa

He is survived. by a Son, seven daughters, a brother {Mr. Parry Jones, Rhyl),and a sister Mrs. John Jones, Nant Fawr, Abergele).

FUNERAL OF ,MR.JOHN JONES

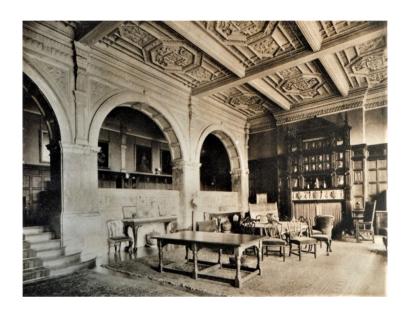
The remains were laid to rest in St. Georges Churchyard on Wednesday 22nd of May.

Mourners included six of Mr. Jones daughters and one son.



AREA WHERE THE TRAGEDY OCCURRED

On a much happier note, there are amongst these documents some amazing images of Kinmel Hall. This one for example shows the Entrance Hall of the building designed by William Eden Nesfield in 1872.

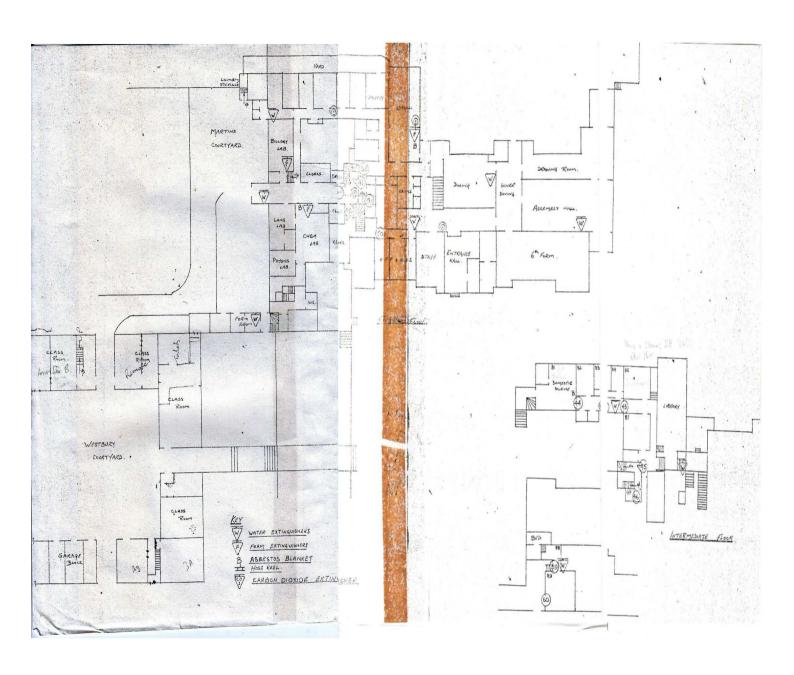


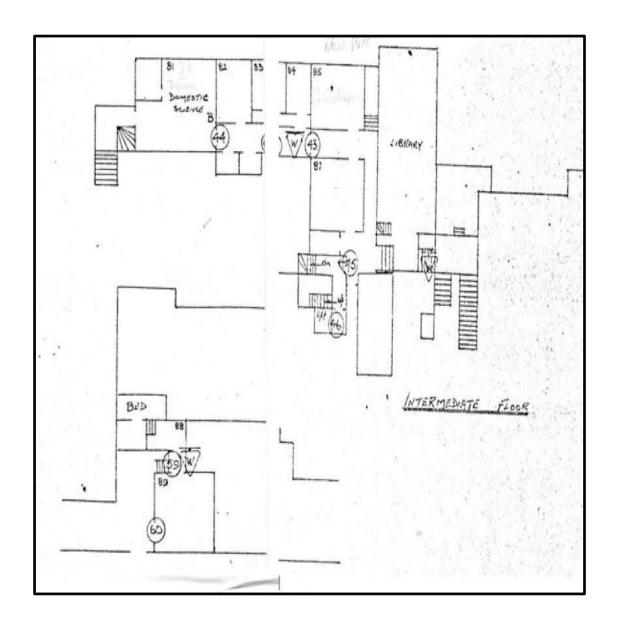
I will close now and I will write to you again soon with more examples of the amazing finds my host has shewn me.

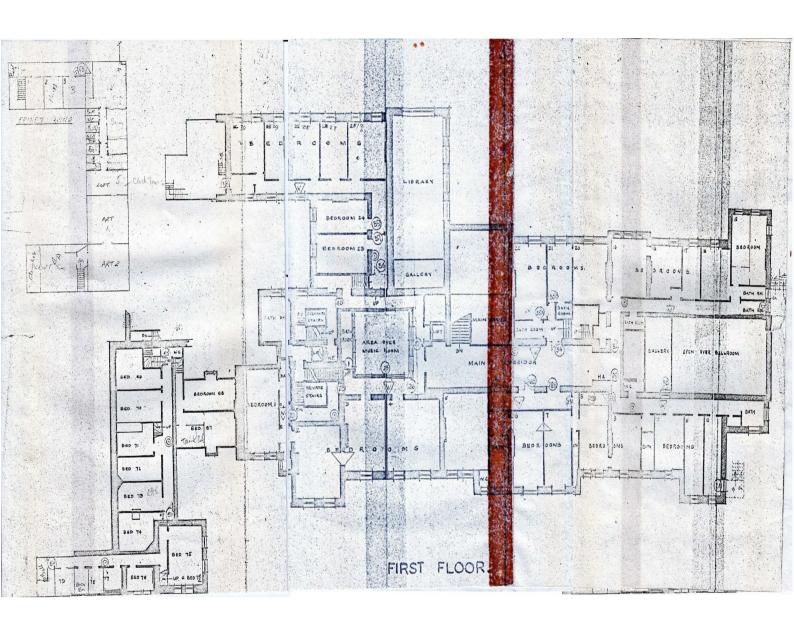
Yours,

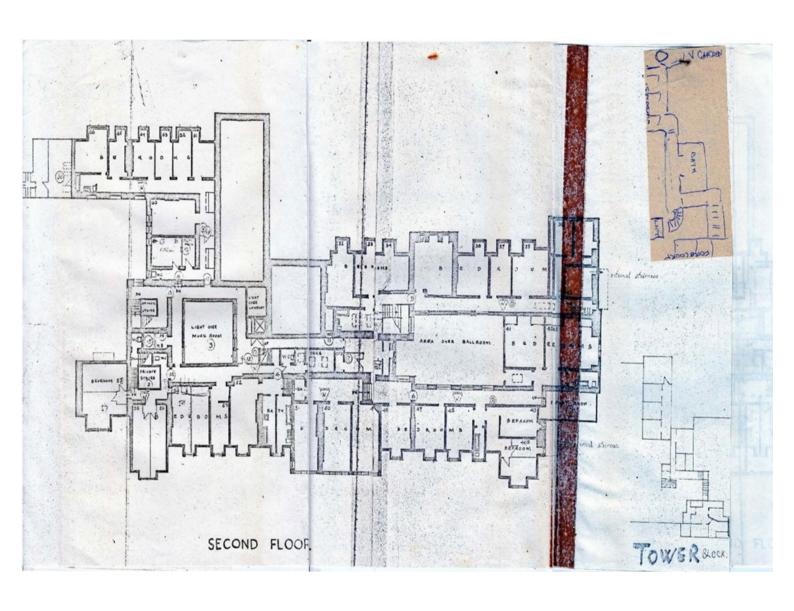
Fred W Bradley

DO THE FOLLOWING IMAGES BRING BACK MEMORIES









| 1. | ADAM HITCHINGS | 66. | JOHN ROBINSON |
|-----|-------------------------|-----|--------------------------|
| 2. | ALISON RICHARDS | 67. | JONATHAN FENTON-VINCE |
| 3. | AMANDA VENABLES | 68. | JOSHUA VINCE |
| 4. | ANDREW BENNETT | 69. | JOY CRANSTON |
| 5. | ANDREW DAVIDSON | 70. | JOY SCOTT |
| 6. | ANDREW SUMNER | 71. | JUDITH ALFREY C.A.D.W. |
| 7. | ANDREW WILLIAMS | 72. | JUSTIN ALBERT |
| 8. | ANDY MCKINNEY | 73. | KATE REES |
| 9. | ANNE SMITH | 74. | KATHRYN ROBERTS CADW |
| 10. | BARBARA WHITBY | 75. | KEN MOORE |
| 11. | BBC CORRESPONDENT | 76. | LISA FIDDES |
| 12. | BEN OAKLEY | 77. | LISA TASTEVIN |
| 13. | BETTY WATTS | 78. | LORD JULIAN FELLOWES |
| 14. | BIRGITTA WILSON | 79. | LORD LANGFORD |
| 15. | BRUCEND DELIA BICKERTON | 80. | LORD LIEUTENANT OF CLWYD |
| 16. | CARL YAPP | 81. | LORD MOSTYN |
| 17. | CATH STEWARD | 82. | LUCIE CARAYON |
| 18. | CHARLIE CULVERWELL | 83. | LUCY E WILLIAMS |
| 19. | CHRIS BLANDFORD | 84. | LUISA PETERLONGO |
| 20. | CHRISTINE J ORME | 85. | MARGARET DUNN |
| 21. | CHRISTOPHER BROOK | 86. | MARGARET RUTH ALFORD |
| 22. | CLLR PAULINE H WILLIAMS | 87. | MARIAN MARTIN |
| 23. | CLLR ALAN HUNTER | 88. | MAROUSSIA OAKLEY |
| 24. | CLLR ANDREW WOOD | 89. | MARQUISS OF ANGLESEY |
| 25. | CLLR CHARLES MCCOUBREY | 90. | MARTIN JONES |
| 26. | CLLR DELYTH MCRAE | 91. | MARY SOLDAN |
| 27. | CLLR MARK BAKER | 92. | MATT OSMONT |
| 28. | CURTIS SHEA | 93. | MICHAEL FITT |
| 29. | DARREN MILLAR | 94. | MICHAEL TREE |
| 30. | DAVID CHATTERLEY | 95. | MICHELE TURNER |
| 31. | DAVID GALLACHER | 96. | MIRIAM HAGEN |

| 32. | DAVID HALL | 97. | NICHOLAS KINGSLEY |
|-----|------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| 33. | DAVID PRICE | 98. | NICK MORRIS |
| 34. | DAVID VINCE | 99. | OLIVER VINCE |
| 35. | DEBBIE VINCE | 100. | PAMELA TOWILL |
| 36. | DELYTH MCRAE | 101. | PAULINE JONES |
| 37. | DESIREE PENNINGTON | 102. | PENNY ICKE |
| 38. | DIANA MALSHER | 103. | PETER HARE |
| 39. | DICKON FETHERSTONHAUGH | 104. | PETER HOWELL |
| 40. | DOROTHY AGNEW | 105. | PETER WELFORD |
| 41. | DR AMY BOYINGTON | 106. | PROFESSOR NEIL JACKSON |
| 42. | DR H W FLEMING | 107. | REV TIM HALL |
| 43. | DR JOHN E DAVIES | 108. | RHODA MCGOWAN BONEY |
| 44. | DR JONATHAN BERRY CADW | 109. | RICHARD ADAMSON |
| 45. | DR MARK WEBB | 110. | RICHARD BADDELEY |
| 46. | DR PETER WAKELIN | 111. | RICHARD BARLEY |
| 47. | DR R PAUL EVANS | 112. | ROB SHELLEY |
| 48. | DR SHAUN EVANS | 113. | ROBERT THOMAS |
| 49. | DWYNWEN | 114. | ROGER TURNER |
| 50. | EDDIE VASS | 115. | ROSIE BURTON |
| 51. | EDWARD BLAKEMAN | 116. | SALLY JONES |
| 52. | FRANCIS DOWNER | 117. | SARAH CASRSON FITZWATER . |
| 53. | GARETH LLOYD-DAVIES | 118. | SIMON BAYNES MP |
| 54. | GILL SMITH BOYES | 119. | STEPHEN WEEKS |
| 55. | GWEN STAVELEY | 120. | STEPHEN WELCH |
| 56. | HAY CASTLE | 121. | SUE HILLIER-SMITH |
| 57. | HEATHER JONES | 122. | TIM & SIMONE VINCE |
| 58. | IAN LANG | 123. | TIMOTHY COOKE |
| 59. | JACOB VINCE | 124. | TOM ELLIS |
| 60. | JAMES DREW | 125. | TOM LLOYD |
| 61. | JEREMY MUSSON | 126. | TREVOR OSBORNE |
| 62. | JO BENNETT | 127. | VALERIE PALMER |
| 63. | JOHN GOODALL | 128. | VANESSA THORPE |
| 64. | JOHN LAWSON-REAY | 129. | VICKI |
| 65. | JOHN RIPPIN | 130. | VALERIE OXLEY |
| | | 1 | |

Driving the half mile through the oak tree track and pastoral meadow fields, the grounds themselves seem to hide the hall until the last moment.

Almost shyly the building keeps you waiting for your first glimpse.

Some chimneys and a fleeting side section glance before a right turn brought me to face directly onto Nesfield's crown, the stunning French Renaissance architectural masterpiece built as Kinmel Hall.

PETER HARE