

### Che Kinmelogue

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The Newsletter Of The Friends Of Kinmel Hall

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#### BREAKING NEWS

IT IS HOPED THAT NEXT MONTH'S
EDITION WILL INCLUDE AN
INTERVIEW WITH AN
INFLUENTIAL MEMBER
OF THE
OLD CLARENDONIANS



# FRIENDS OF KINMEL HALL NEWSLETTER $7^{\mathrm{TH}}$ EDITION $14^{\mathrm{TH}}$ AUGUST 2021



TRAGEDY

2011 + 2021

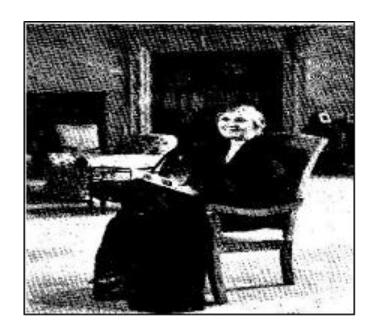
**TRIUMPH** 



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



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



During the Easter Holidays of 1948 Clarendon School for Girls left its homes in Malvern and relocated to the palatial surroundings of Kinmel Hall. But how did this move come about?

This part of the story is best told by Miss E. G. R. Swain herself.

'What was God's purpose for us? There seemed no indication that we were to close down and Mr Fred Mitchell, the Home Director of the C.I.M. and a close friend to the School, seemed sure that Clarendon was to continue and that God

would provide a place. So, we began to pray, very privately, for this thing could not be broadcast and in March 1946, we began to hunt.

The first place we saw was in a remote part of the Cotswolds, a lovely old Elizabethan house and grounds covered with daffodils. We could have rented it and that would have suited us well, for although the original loan was by that time paid off. I had no capital whatever with which to buy an estate. But – it was not big enough.

We should need to add to it a large dining hall, a gymnasium, classrooms, laboratories. I wondered how much it would cost to put up the necessary sectional buildings.

.... I wish I knew a Christian Builder whom I could consult I said to a friend, and they replied, 'Why don't you consult Mr Laing?'

... 'I was met by Mr Laing who greeted me and said he wished to dictate a letter to his secretary in my presence. She came in and he dictated the Letter. It was an offer to buy any suitable estate that we might find for the School, to put it in the Hands of Trustees and allow me to become the Tenant.

Then the Hunt began in earnest.'
.... In September 1947, our agents sent details of a place in North Wales and it sounded ideal – spacious enough, big windows, central heating, a ball room large enough for an Assembly Hall, 36 bathrooms, newly decorated from top to bottom, 300 acres of park and level land for games field.

A week later I had a letter from Mr Laing's agent telling me of the same place in North Wales. He had written to the vendors' agent, had told them he had a

client who might be interested, but he would not even advise her to go and see it unless they halved the price' .... 'Well, get her to go and see it' So on the 1<sup>st of</sup> October 1947, on a misty Autumn evening, Miss Macrae and I drove up the drive, and Kinmel Hall, at that point a Hotel, loomed up out of the mist'

Taken from 'Great is Thy Faithfulness' By E. G. R. Swaine



That is how the story began and sadly we all know how the story came to an end!



What we would like to learn more about is what people remember of their time as either Teachers, Pupils, Staff living in that amazing building sitting high up on the hill overlooking the Vale of Clwyd.

If you have any memories you would like to share with us then please send them in any format to

nesfieldscrown@outlook.com

## Alternatively, and if you are technically minded, we are happy to arrange for a ZOOM meeting with Old Clarendonians.

### Please contact us on the same email address to make arrangements.

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

20	DARREN MILLAR	94.	MICHAEL TREE
29.			
30.	DAVID CALLACUED	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

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