

Hywelian Guild
Magazine 2019

Appendix

In Memoriam

The following heartfelt obituary was unfortunately not included in the 2019 Magazine, for which we apologise. It was not possible to amend the print or online versions, hence its appearance here. At the request of a close friend of Elaine, Melanie Hook, it will also be included in next year's Magazine.

Elaine Marriott (née Krieger, 1949 - 2018)

Elaine was a pupil at Howell's School, Llandaff from Sept 1961 until July 1968. Sadly, Elaine passed away earlier this year [2018], and we would like to pay tribute to what a wonderful person Elaine was. She was dearly loved by her family and many friends and was a beautiful person inside and out.

All those who knew Elaine at school will be aware of the huge contribution she made to school life. She was very talented and gave generously and wholeheartedly of her time and talents to the school, was one of the most gifted girls in the year and seemed to excel at everything. She was very clever and creative. She had a beautiful soprano voice and was a lead soloist in the school choir, which earned her the dubious pleasure of standing on the stage in morning assemblies to lead the reluctant hymn singing. She was a first-class hockey player, spending Saturdays traipsing around the country with the first team. Her acting abilities led to her taking leading roles in school productions: no one will ever forget Elaine as King of the Fairies in *Midsummer Night's Dream*, resplendent in those thick green tights. She was a superb dancer, mastering the newly-developing Rock'n'roll moves outside school and *The Gay Gordons* inside school.

Even at this young age, Elaine was a free spirit and free thinker and often crossed boundaries at school. She was stunningly beautiful and stylish and fully embraced the spirit of the 1960s, experimenting with fashion and make-up, which would sometimes get her into trouble at school. Howell's has always had an excellent reputation, but in the sixties, there were many petty and archaic rules which someone as creative as Elaine found repressive. Girls were not allowed to wear any make-up or colour their hair. Many of the older female teachers wanted the girls to look as plain as possible and preferred the face clean and scrubbed, 'as God made it,' and would regularly send Elaine to the washbasins to scour her face. When she added a colour to her hair, a 'flagrant breach of sartorial elegance' as it was called, she was made to wear her school hat to hide the colour. This hideous navy velour creation had to be worn throughout the day even to games lessons. It was a strange sight to see a young girl in white gym blouse and regulation navy knickers with a hat perched on her head. Elaine's experiences at school probably served to strengthen her innate qualities: compassion, concern for others and empathy for the underdog.

Elaine's spirit was never crushed by school. She caused a melt-down when she came to school with a piercing in her ear. (You probably have no idea how spirited this was in the 1960s at Howell's.) She was packed off home immediately and had to make her way alone to Penarth in the middle of the day.

One of our most abiding memories of Elaine is Latin lessons with Miss Tickner. For some reason, Elaine could not get there in time. The lesson would have already started when Elaine would burst into the room, breathless and dishevelled from rushing, hair wildly cascading out of her pony tail or hat, the

hideous grey pinafore slip billowing out and Latin books spewing out of her arms. We looked on in horrified fascination. Miss Tickner invariably responded by making Elaine stand at the front and construe Latin verbs.

Not all was bleak about school in the 1960s however. Elaine was very successful. She was very popular and often the centre of a group, entertaining her friends with her irrepressible humour and skills of mimicry. She enjoyed two memorable trips to France with her friends. She loved jazz and concerts on the Prom in Penarth, and the sea and the beach. She had many friends at school because of her lovely nature. Perhaps this was one of the legacies of Howell's; friendships forged that were to last for decades.

Elaine went on to follow a successful career in social work in London, where her inner qualities of compassion and empathy were to make a difference to those she dealt with. She loved and was dearly loved by her husband, son and wider family. She unstintingly cared for her mother until her mother died at 96, often foregoing holidays so that she was there to provide care and support.

Elaine was a most caring and loving person. She was very funny and witty and loved life. These qualities endeared her to people and she will forever be in the hearts of her family and friends. Elaine's was a life well lived, a life that made a difference and we, her friends, were privileged to know her.

Marian Davies

Reunion news

This photograph of Cheryl and her erstwhile classmates failed to make it to the print and online versions of the Magazine, but her lively account did, and you can read it there.



We are always grateful for your contributions to the HG magazine, and do our very best to make sure that every one is included. Now and again, unfortunately, the gremlins creep in and we find that we have missed something out.

The reunion photograph and obituary had escaped—but we have re-captured them and they appear in this Appendix, along with our apologies to the contributors.

Lyn Owen, Editor

Please note that while we are pleased to highlight Hywelians' business interests, this does not constitute our endorsement thereof.