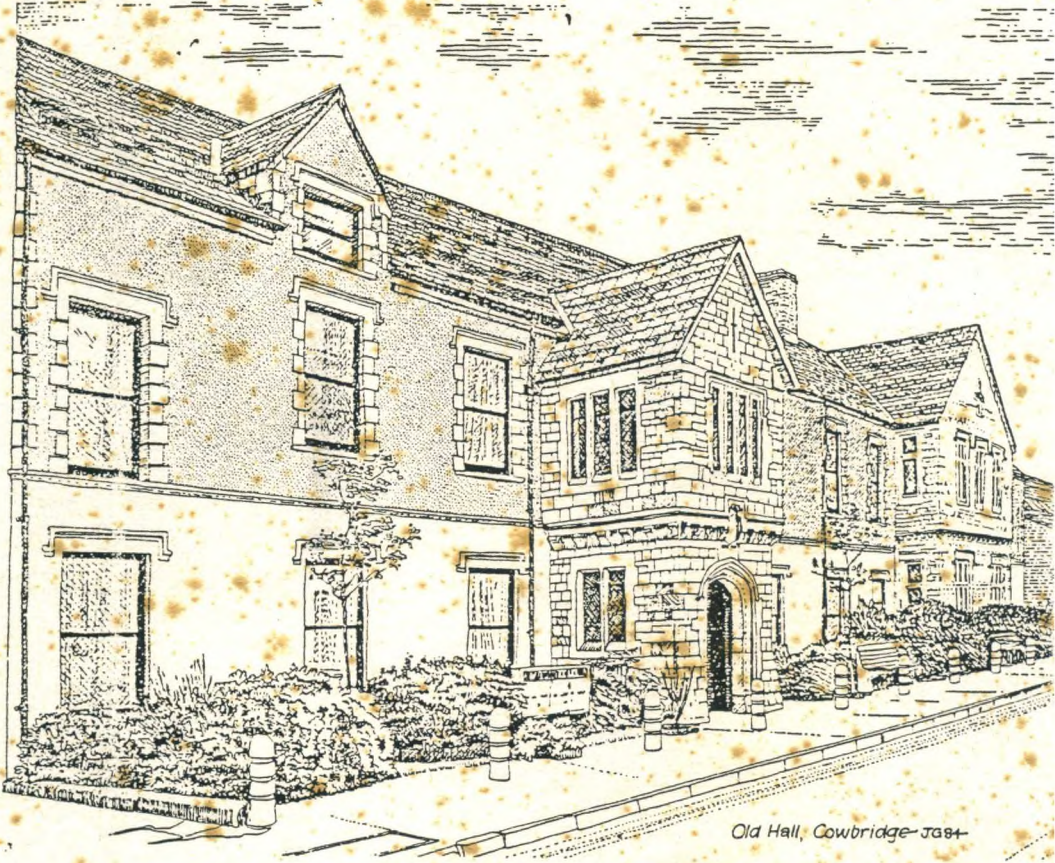




Cowbridge
Community
College ~ Old Hall.



Old Hall, Cowbridge-1884

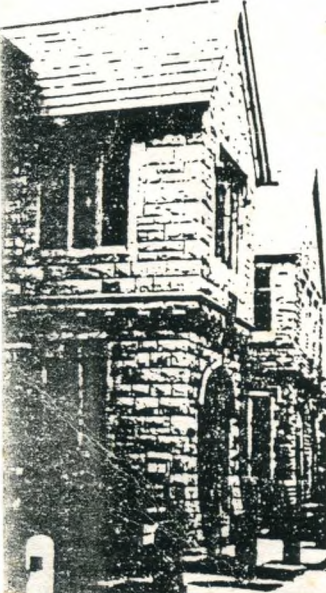


Cowbridge Community College - Old Hall.

Old Hall Community College was opened in September 1975 to provide additional facilities in the Cowbridge area for adult education and community groups.

The College, part of which was originally built in the 16th Century, is now a grade 2 listed building of architectural and historical interest. The building was originally occupied by the Edmondes family who were prominent locally particularly in connection with the church. Dr. Benjamin Malkin (1776-1842) a traveller and social reformer also lived here (see parish church of the Holy Cross, Church Street).

From 1932-1964, Old Hall housed part of the former Cowbridge Grammar School but the building fell into disrepair and was unused for a number of years.



Glamorgan County Council repaired and re-designed the building, intending to re-open Old Hall as offices. After Local Government re-organisation however, the County of South Glamorgan on the advice of the Education Committee, decided that the building would be ideal as a centre for cultural, social and educational activities. With this in mind it was re-modelled as a Community College with offices, refreshment area and a number of general purpose rooms.

Since 1975 the College has become the focal point for many new developments locally in the provision of leisure and recreational classes. Over 2000 students and members annually take part in activities ranging from practical to academic courses leading in many instances to higher education. The College staff organise exhibitions in a purpose built area. Local societies/groups, the University Extra Mural Department and examination classes held under the auspices of the Barry College of Further Education are all housed in the building.

The Building

This is originally of 16th Century origin. Its front elevation is much overlaid with 19th Century features in a Tudor style including window drip moulds, a porch and N.W. gable. The interior renovated in the late 20th Century. The building has two storeys, porch and N.W. gable faced with stone in snecked courses recessed wings with cement rendering cladding to ground floor and first floor with pebble dash and slate roofs. In the inside is a 16th Century-17th Century stopped and chamfered fireplace and is located on the first floor.

There are extensive grounds to the rear of the building, bounded by the original farm walls and the enclosed area also houses the local health centre and town library.

An exhibition programme is promoted and in Old Hall there are two venues:

- (a) The Old Hall Gallery - located in the College.
- (b) The Cowbridge Library which adjoins the main building.

An Arts Co ordinating Committee exists to promote the main exhibition programme.

Old Hall is available for hire and full details of all activities can be obtained from the Principal. Telephone Cowbridge 3831