

COWBRIDGE & DISTRICT

INTERCOM

No 10
Christmas 1980

Christmas Edition



West Park In Old Masons Yard

West Park, one of the leading commercial and development companies in Wales, are at present involved with several schemes along Cowbridge High Street. The most obvious of these is the Old Masons Yard development (opposite Bridge Garage), which has been designed as a shopping and office complex. The shopping centre will consist of seven shop units (with a pedestrian bridge across the river) and there will be five office suites on the first floor. It was designed by the Dale Kennedy partnership, and has been approved by the local council. The complex is due to be completed by March of next year.

Although West Park don't rent out their properties until they are completed, there have been several enquiries, and possible tenants include a butcher, baker (and candlestick-maker?), chemist, jewellers and a dress shop.

The site at 14a High Street (i.e. Bird's old shop) which is to be a new 'Martins the Newsagent' shop, had to be demolished as the building was unsafe; however, it has been rebuilt in the same style as the former building.

West Park have no further plans for developments in Cowbridge, as a substantial amount of money has been invested already. Although it is possible that the shopping complex will take some custom away from the main street, with the addition of a new car park it is quite probable that more outside custom will be attracted into Cowbridge, and so in the long run the High Street shops will benefit.

West Park are based at Crossways and have a large number of interests; West Park Inns include Cross Inn and the Carne Arms; Glynbridge Farms have a farm in the Vale; West Park have recently won the contract for the M4 Services at Sarn near Bridgend, and also have interests in Brackla, Taff's Well and Cardiff.

Wendy Lane.

WHAT'S ON OVER CHRISTMAS

Church Services:

At Holy Cross, Cowbridge
"Midnight Mass", i.e. Holy Communion with
carols at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve. On
Christmas Day, Holy Communion at 8.00,
9.30 and 11.00am.

On Sunday, December 21st at 6.00pm -
Family Service and Nativity Play.

At Ramoth, Christmas Day
service at 10.30am.

Magic & Punch and Judy Show: organised
by the Entertainments Society for Primary
school age children: in the Town Hall
on Saturday 10th January, between 10.30
and 12 noon.

In the Library: Storytime and Activities
at 3.00pm on Tuesday 30 December and
Tuesday 6th January - especially for
younger children

Glamorgan Hunt: meet at the Hunt Kennels
at 11am on 22 December; on Stalling Down
on Boxing Day; at the Horse and Groom in
Cowbridge on New Year's Day.

ANDREWS & COURIE

Pharmaceutical Chemists

41 High St., Cowbridge. Tel 4072

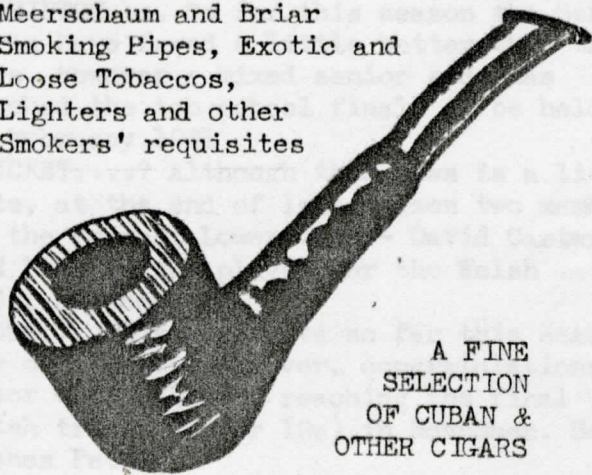
Visit our new premises in Cowbridge
for the finest selection of
high-class cosmetics and perfumery
in the Vale of Glamorgan, including

ARDEN, LANCOME, RUBENSTEIN.
REVLON, ROC, ALMAY, LEICHTNER.
INNOXA, VICHY, CYCLAX, DIOR,
RICCI, CACHAREL, WORTH,
ROGER & GALLET, GUY LAROCHE,
COURREGES, JACQUES FATH.
CARVEN, TED LAPIDUS,
MOLYNEAUX, ETC.

Visit . . .

The Pipe Shop

For a vast selection of
Meerschaum and Briar
Smoking Pipes, Exotic and
Loose Tobaccos,
Lighters and other
Smokers' requisites



A FINE
SELECTION
OF CUBAN &
OTHER CIGARS

64 EASTGATE, COWBRIDGE

TELEPHONE COWBRIDGE 2774

NEW BOOKS ON COWBRIDGE

After last year's publication of
Cowbridge and Llanblethian by Brian
James and David Francis, come another
two books. The first, Cowbridge:
Archaeology and Topography, by David
Robinson is published by the Glamorgan-
Gwent Archaeological Trust - the people
who were in charge of the 'Roman dig'
in Coopers Yard, and more recently
at the back of the Bear Hotel. This
is a detailed study of the town, well
illustrated with maps, diagrams and
many photographs. There is no gossip in
this publication - but it is an
interesting and thought-provoking survey.
(£4.50 from S. Glam HQ, or the Trust
at 6 Prospect Place, Swansea).

The other booklet is the result of
the work of the extra-mural class in
local history: Farming in Llanblethian
1660-1750. The class used wills and
inventories from that period to obtain
a picture of farming, farmers and of
the parish of Llanblethian itself (which
includes Aberthin). £1 from the Local
History Society c/o 1 Mill Park.

A LOOK AT C. D. E. S.

How long is Cowbridge Week?

How far did the Cowbridge Week Hot Air Balloon travel in 1977?

What is Cowbridge Week?

Anyone knowing the answers to the above questions is advised either to emigrate or to keep quiet; otherwise they could find themselves co-opted into helping with Cowbridge Week - which is a fete worse than death.

Seriously though, what is the Cowbridge and District Entertainments Society? It is an organisation comprising representatives from all the societies and clubs in and around Cowbridge, over eighty altogether. Their job is to elect a committee that will arrange and co-ordinate events. With so many exhibitions and events taking place during the eight days - 46 in 1980 - it is obviously impossible for the committee to run them all. They have to liaise with the local societies such as Rotary or the Folk group, and arrange for them to organize events for C.D.E.S.. In addition, other work undertaken by the committee includes the production of the programme, organization of Carnival Day and a host of other items like "It's a Knockout" and the new "Scalextric Trials".

The original concept of Cowbridge Week, when it was instigated in 1965, was that of a fund-raiser for youth projects in the district; to a large extent this still remains the position some fifteen years on. However, with inflation and rising prices it is becoming more and more difficult for events to run profitably. By today's standards, Cowbridge Week as a vehicle for raising funds is highly inefficient. It is possible that in the next few years a major policy decision will have to be taken: whether to reduce the festivities to a few days, with some highly profitable activities (thereby maintaining the society as a fund-raising organisation), or to retain Cowbridge Week at the cost of a greatly reduced profit margin - which would mean that the Society would have to withdraw from making donations.

Cowbridge Week can always do with new ideas. If you have any constructive suggestions on how the week can be improved, please contact either the Secretary, Mr T. Bennett, 25 Geraint's Way, Cowbridge, or the Chairman, Mr D. Busher, 8 Geraint's Way, Cowbridge.

STOP PRESS..... SPORTS NEWS.....LATEST HEADLINES FROM COWBRIDGE SCHOOL.....

BADMINTON.... So far this season the Senior Girls have fared a little better than the boys. However a mixed senior side has reached the top school finals to be held in February 1981

CRICKET....? Although this news is a little late, at the end of last season two members of the present Lower Vith - David Cartwright and Paul Murphy played for the Welsh Under Sixteens XI.

RUGBY.... Mixed results so far this season for our Firsts. However, congratulations to Peter Cartwright on reaching the final Welsh trials (Under 19s) in November. Best wishes Pete!!

SOCCER.... The Sixth form played their first match against Howardian recently, and came from behind gallantly to win 4 - 1.

SQUASH.... Congratulations to P. Murphy, again - this time for reaching the semi-finals of the South Glamorgan Under 16s

Championship in September, and to Andrew Green for a similar result in the Mid-Glamorgan championships
CYCLING.... Since passing his cycling proficiency test in 1978, Christopher Lucas of the Second form has gone on to win his area competition and the Welsh championship. He missed becoming the U.K. champion by only one point. The best of luck for the European championship in Oslo next May!

FENCING.... Not from Cowbridge School, but congratulations to a newly-arrived Cowbridge resident, Alistair Coxhead of Whitchurch H.S. for winning the Welsh Under 16s title.

STOP STOP PRESS.....

Rugby Congratulations to Peter Cartwright on being selected to play on the wing for Wales against Yorkshire Under 19s.

THE ROYAL MINT AT LLANTRISANT

The Royal Mint has been manufacturing coins for over a thousand years, since the time of Edward the Confessor. The Mint moved from Tower Hill to Llantrisant just over ten years ago. It produces up to 2,800 million coins every year, for 56 countries in every continent in the world. The variety of different coins produced means that the Royal Mint is involved in the bullion market. Since 1975 it has been managed as a commercial enterprise, and it competes with other government and private mints for contracts abroad.

There has been much research into the design of coins, to prevent counterfeiting and the use of 'Plastic money' in many vending machines. Beading around the edge of coins helps to prevent this. Before the coins leave the Royal Mint, each barrel is weighed and checked for uniform thickness and quality. Another test is the annual 'trial of the Pyx, a centuries-old event. The deputy master of the Royal Mint has to present a sample of U.K. coin for trial to make sure it is the standard weight, fineness, composition and diameter.

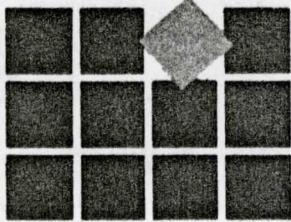
The Royal Mint not only produces ordinary coins, but also proof coins which require greater precision and quality as they are often made in gold or silver. They are punched from a machine one at a time in a carefully controlled dust-free atmosphere, and are checked individually before being sold to collectors world-wide.

The Royal Mint also produces medals, for gallantry and for orders of knighthood; also medals for collectors, and commemorative medallions.

Suzanne Riddle

Trustmark

Carefully selected
business & office products



TRUSTMARK LIMITED
25, HIGH STREET
COWBRIDGE.

TEL: COWBRIDGE 3714

SUPPLIERS OF OFFICE EQUIPMENT, STATIONERY AND
COMPUTER SYSTEMS. DISCOUNT PRICES.

OPEN SIX DAYS A WEEK

INCLUDING ALL DAY WEDNESDAY.



Eleganza

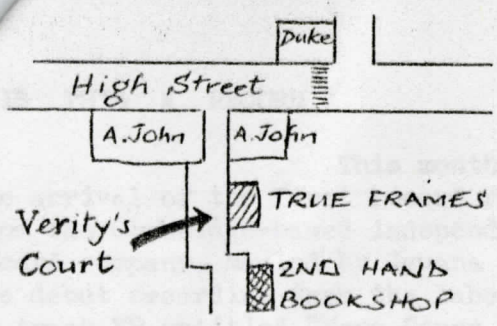
Proprietor: Mrs. Clifford Morris
Ladies' High Class Accessories

*Millinery - Handbags - Gloves - Scarves - Umbrellas
Costume Jewellery - and Choice Gifts for Ladies and
Gentlemen*

55 High Street,
COWBRIDGE

Tel: 3675





TRUE FRAMES

for picture framing
at competitive prices

..... and the

SECOND-HAND BOOKSHOP

for book bargains

Tel: 4351

OLD BOYS OF SOME DISTINCTION

Evan Seys, Sir Leoline Jenkins, Major-General Bruce Tyler, Roddy Evans, Garfield Owen, Keith Pontin, Colin Donovan..... all old boys of Cowbridge School (the Grammar School was previously known as Cowbridge School). Three celebrated old boys are considered below.

Alun Lewis, a distinguished Anglo-Welsh poet, attended the school in the late 1920s as a boarder (his family lived in Aberdare). While at Cowbridge his literary talent was shown in the short stories he had published in the school magazine. After gaining first-class honours in History at Aberystwyth, he began to get poems published in The Observer, and Time & Tide. While serving in the Army he wrote Raider's Dawn (1942) followed by The Last Inspection & Other Stories. His last Book, Ha! Ha! Among the Trumpets was published in 1945, after his death in 1944 as a result of an accident in Burma.

That renowned actor, Anthony Hopkins, was educated here. He was born in Port Talbot in 1957, and left Cowbridge Grammar School to go on to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art; then returned to Wales to study at Cardiff College of Drama. He made his London debut as Metellus Cimber in Julius Caesar, followed by numerous other plays including Juno & The Paycock (1961) and Macbeth in 1972. Anthony Hopkins has also made his mark in various successful films, for example, The Lion in Winter, When Eight Bells Toll, A Bridge Too Far, and the more recent All Creatures Great & Small and International Velvet. Appreciation of his skill has been shown by his receiving the Best Actor Award in 1973, and an Emmy Award - the TV equivalent of an Oscar.

Many men, well-known in the world of finance and business, attended Cowbridge Grammar School: for example, Sir Idwal Vaughan Pugh who was - until fairly recently - the Ombudsman. At Cowbridge, he won a Scholarship to St John's College, Oxford, and after Oxford entered the Civil Service. He was Permanent Secretary at the Welsh Office from 1969 to 1971; he has been Chairman of the Hodge Group, and the Halifax Building Society since 1979.

Lindsay Gibbon.

Cowbridge Library:
20th December at 11 am
Carols - prizes for the
Children's Art Competition.

Geoff Pratt

(Handyman)

- for your....
- General house repairs
 - Painting & Decorating
 - Glass Repairs
 - Secondary Double Glazing
 - Gutter repair
 - Tiling bathrooms & kitchens
 - Carpentry

For a free estimate,
phone Cowbridge 2018

IS THIS A RECORD ?

This month sees the arrival of the first record release from the Cowbridge-based independent record company, Mauled by Iguana Records. The debut recording from the label is a 10 track EP entitled "More Songs for Lovesick Earthworms..." and features two local bands, the INDUSTRIAL CHIPMUNKS and AGA-ZARA POLOTOK.

The two bands, sickened by the lack of places to play in the area, went into studios in Penarth in the summer, and at the expense of the studio engineer's hearing, recorded six songs each. After many holdups, both financial and due to a lack of cooperation from certain people (no names mentioned), the two master tapes from the studio were sent to be "cut" at studios in London. This (expensive) process involves the transfer of chaos/music from the tape to a plastic coated 14" disc (the lacquer) via a cutting lathe. Labels for the record were printed in Essex, but were slow in the printers and caused delays at the pressing plant.

Finally, the lacquer arrived at the pressing plant, but by this time costs had increased by 75%, and there were further delays when the bands scraped up, stole begged and borrowed the extra cash. While money was flying around factories in London, the record sleeves were being printed in Cardiff, along with amazing posters (also amazingly expensive).

The bands now intend selling the record via local record shops, and are also approaching independent distributors for national release. It will sell at £1.25 which includes a negligible profit margin, the whole record being made simply to gain exposure for the bands, and for the enjoyment.

The Industrial Chipmunks have agreed to play a private event at Cowbridge Junior School, and there are possibilities of a number of gigs early in the New Year. However, there is a distinct lack of places for small bands to play in the area: they are desperately looking for venues, and anyone who thinks he can help, is interested in the bands or record, or would like more detailed information

concerning record production can write to Mauled by Iguana Records, 3 Brookfield Park, Cowbridge. Independent record production may take a large amount of organization, but it is relatively easy, can be fairly cheap, and very helpful in promoting a band. The message of Mauled by Iguana Records is printed on the back of the sleeve. It says simply "D.I.Y. not E.M.I.". That way, music stays as you want it. No-one dictates but yourselves.

O.D. Cologne.



COWBRIDGE 4070

Relax in the warm atmosphere of our medieval restaurant.

In the candle-lit dining room visitors can enjoy food cooked from the best local produce in the finest British tradition.

Ideal for small parties or business luncheons.

Open lunchtime from 12 noon until 2 p.m., and evenings from 7 p.m.

INTERCOM is written at Cowbridge School by Wendy Lane, Stuart Hammond, Kay Thomas, Lesley Busher, Suzanne Riddle, Richard Alden, Lindsay Gibbon. Correspondence to Alison Thomas. Editor: A.J.L.A.