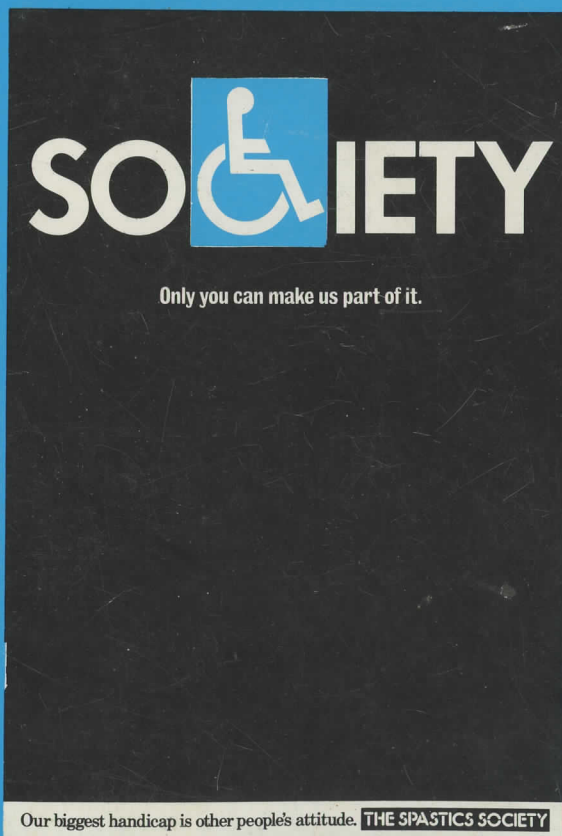


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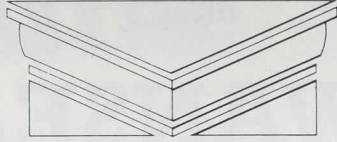
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President's Message

IT HAS been marvellous to the point of tears to see how people of all ages and of all backgrounds opened their hearts to the famine in Africa. Once aware of the need the response was spontaneous and overwhelming.

It may seem an age of cynicism, yet a great capacity for compassion and concern remains. But need takes many forms, and often we fail to recognise need in what we take for granted.

Longfields itself exists because of past spontaneity by the people of Swansea. Its very existence conceals the continuing need. To see it is to think that a problem has been solved. But it is available as a solution only for as long as you continue to support it. However modest circumstances may force that to be, I do hope the support will still be there.

ALAN WILLIAMS, M.P.



A bequest of £10,000 has been left to Swansea and District Spastic Association to be used for the Longfields Spastic Centre, West Cross, Swansea. The money was left by the late Mr. William Ivor Morris, of Pentregethin Road, Swansea, an uncle of one of the trainees at the centre. Mr. Morris was also Deacon and organist at the York Place Baptist Church, Swansea. Pictured presenting the money to Association Chairman Mr. T. Gwyn John is Mr. Morris' cousin Mrs. Evelyn Burridge. Also pictured (from left) Association Treasurer Mr. Harold Austin, Secretary Mr. Derek Miller and Vice-Chairman Mr. Owen Lewis. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.

Swansea and District Spastic Association

WHAT DO WE DO?

“ the aims and objects of the Association are the well-being and welfare of sufferers from cerebral palsy and its allied conditions.”

“ the general social welfare of such sufferers and advising and assisting their parents and those caring for them..”

“ taking all measures to assist those handicapped by spastic paralysis and its allied conditions to take their normal place in the community and to help them so far as is possible to become physically, socially and economically independent.”

“ to receive donations and subscriptions and to raise money for the purpose of the Association and to disburse same for the fulfilment of its objects.”

BRIEF EXTRACTS FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S CONSTITUTION

Chairman's Report



Gwyn John, Chairman.

ONCE AGAIN we are able to look back on a highly satisfactory year and one of very much activity despite the fact that voluntary work seems to get tougher and tougher, and the original members get older.

One would have thought that 34 years on from our first meeting in 1952 that the need for a voluntary organisation would not be necessary but the reverse seems to be the case, the need now seems to be greater than ever.

There is certainly no room for complacency and we must look to younger members of our Association to carry on the remarkable achievements of the past years. We must also look to use the expertise of professional and statutory bodies. The organisation most accessible to us is our own Spastic Society, regional and national, which has grown to be one of the most influential charitable organisations in the world.

In the meantime, there is much activity at Longfields and when this year book is in print the "Personal Development Project" will be well underway and I am sure we wish the Co-ordinator and his staff much success in

their efforts to develop social and life skills and a better quality of life for all our young people at Longfields.

After much deliberation and many meetings the Management Committee have decided to go ahead with alterations and extensions, mostly because of the increased proportion of wheelchair users amongst the work force. This would mean more space in the main workshop, also additional toilet facilities.

Much needed repairs have also been completed with the re-roofing of the sloping roof of the works centre and work is going ahead also with the re-roofing of the care unit and there is some repair work to go on at Bethany Lane.

There has been closer liaison with the Welsh Region of the Spastic Society and their work in the region.

The Mobile Physiotherapy Service in Wales is well underway and 1985-1986 saw the introduction of the fifth, serving East Dyfed and 1986-1987 should see the start of number 6 in the West Glamorgan Area.

Agreement was reached for a research project with the University College, Swansea, and a meeting was held at Longfields on 16th May, to meet Mr. Orian McGann of Swansea University to set this up. The aim of this research is to identify the volume of people in West Glamorgan with cerebral palsy and then it could be linked in Wales to form a National Register. We should be having the report of this research in the very near future.

I have visited Cwmbran and Sully with members of our group and everyone was impressed with the progress there of the Personal Development Projects, and we hope that we will meet with the same success at Swansea.



Admiral Sir John Cox (third left), director of the Spastic Society and formerly Commander in Chief of the Fleet Air Arm, is visiting Society projects in South and West Wales. Sir John was pictured during his tour of the Longfields Spastic Centre, West Cross, Swansea, with from left, Mr. Terry Powell, Works Manager, Mr. Emrys Williams, founder member of the Swansea and District Spastic Association, Sir John Cox, Mrs. Gill Williams, Development Officer Spastic Society in Wales, Mr. T. Gwyn John, Regional Chairman Spastic Society in Wales and Chairman of the Swansea and District Spastic Association, Mr. Owen Lewis, Swansea Vice-Chairman, Mr. Derek Miller, Secretary, and Mr. Dell Jones, Regional Manager Spastic Society in Wales. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.

Sir John Cox, the Director of The Spastics Society visited South Wales in June and called at Longfields and the Hostel at Newton, and met several of our Committee, the youngsters who were in the Residential Unit that evening and the Trainees at the Hostel.

I accompanied him the following day to visit Glanwili Hospital, Carmarthen to see the Physiotherapy Service there, we also visited Cwmbran and Sully and The Heath Hospital to see a demonstration and explanation of the Foetal Heart Beat Monitoring Project, of which the Welsh Region have made generous contributions and he was very impressed with the projects in South Wales and was good enough to write to us and tell us so.

The Spastic Society is planning a national week in September 1987. A national planning group has been established with members representing Social Services, The Regions, Education, Campaigns, S.O.S. Appeals, Alpha Groups, Publicity and Press. The group is co-ordinated by Anita Mansell, Head of Publicity and Information, The Spastic Society.

The Campaigns Department of the Spastic Society continues with their work along with the lobbying department of keeping the pressure on Members of Parliament and keeping close contact with the All Party Disablement Group to fight for a better deal for the disabled.

On the appeals front, in our own group, we have had one of our most successful years. The 10 kms Run and the 5 kms Fun Run was probably one of the most successful events in the history of the Association and of course, we had the benefit of the Lord Mayor's Parade, organised by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, along with our normal organised events.

The Ladies Guild continue with their wonderful work and have been a terrific source of support over many years.

Thanks must go to those of the caring and compassionate members of the staff at Longfields and the Residential Unit.

I have deliberately not mentioned any names in my report. There are so many people doing so many things to benefit the Association in their own way that they are too numerous to mention.

In July we lost one of our long standing

members, Mrs. Marjorie Williams, who you all know did some wonderful work in Longfields. She is sadly missed and our sympathy has been expressed to her loving husband Emrys who continues his support and help to the Association after many years of service.

As this report goes to press, our Regional Social Worker, Mr. Howard Kent, has been taken ill, but I am sure, that when you are reading this he will have fully recovered and back at Longfields carrying on with his spendid work.

Finally to those who continue to give us their wholehearted support and interest we are deeply indebted including the statutory bodies. The coming year, I am sure, will be most eventful and progress must be kept up to keep Longfields very much alive.

I think all augers well for the future.

T. G. JOHN
Chairman



Time for exercise in the Care Unit.



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£ _____
(Amount in figures and words)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and seal this _____ day of _____ 198__

named Covenantor in the presence of:
SIGNED, SEALED and DELIVERED BY THE ABOVE

(Usual signature of Covenantor)

Signature and Address _____

of Witness: _____

N.B. This form should be returned to Harold G. Austin, Honorary Treasurer, The Swansea and District Spastic Association, 'Longfields', 6 Bethany Lane, West Cross, Swansea SA3 5TL.

To give you some idea of just how valuable the Deed of Covenant method of subscription is to the Association, for each £5.00 net annual subscription entered in the Deed and paid to the Association by the subscriber, the Association recovers £2.04 Income Tax making the total gross benefit for the year £7.04 (based on a basic rate of Income Tax of 29%).

Playgroup Work Joy for Disabled

Article and photograph reproduced courtesy of South Wales Evening Post



Val Griffiths (left), Sheila Middleton and Mary Harding with some of the children at Mumbles Playgroup, Swansea.

VAL, SHEILA and Mary are no different from the other women who help out at a Swansea playgroup.

They take care of the toddlers, play games with them and teach them to draw.

The three women have become an indispensable part of the Mumbles Playgroup, accepting full responsibility for the children in their care.

The only thing that makes them different is that they are believed to be the first spastics ever to assist in a childrens' playgroup.

Val Griffiths, Sheila Middleton and Mary Harding joined the Mumbles Playgroup in October last year on a trial basis.

Nine months later, the experiment has proved to be a complete success. All three women enjoy working with children two mornings a week, and the children are as comfortable with them as they are with the other able-bodied women.

"We were a bit apprehensive about the way the children would react at first, but everything has turned out brilliantly," said playgroup organiser Liz Knill.

The women, who live in Newton Road, Mumbles, and attend Longfields Spastic Centre during the day, volunteered to join the playgroup because they wanted the chance to work with children.

"This pilot scheme has proved that they

don't have to be pushed out of the community," said Liz. "They can be part and parcel of the community, and work within it the same as everyone else."

Their presence in the playgroup gives young children the opportunity to meet disabled people, and to learn that they are no different to any other person.

"They can see for themselves that their disabilities make them no different to a person who has to wear glasses, or a hearing aid," said Liz.

Sheila said she was never in contact with children until joining the playgroup.

"I have learned how to cope with them,"

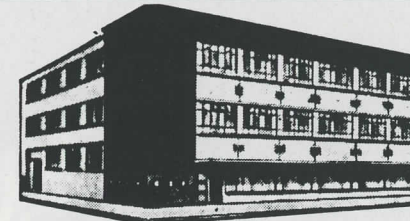
she said. "And I have learned to take care of myself and be more independent."

The women are working to the best of their abilities. Sheila helps the children draw, paint, and read, while Val and Mary play games with the children.

There had been minor problems in the beginning because Val and Mary have speech impediments which at first made it difficult for the children to understand.

"When I first came here there were a few problems," said Mary. "But they all understand me now when I talk to them."

ALAN MORRIS
July 8th, 1986



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Personal Development Project

I WOULD like to thank members of the Association for the opportunity to contribute to their Year Book for the first time.

For me, the past year has been an exciting and rewarding involvement with members and staff at Longfields. Efforts have centred around the development of an M.S.C. Community Programme project for people attending the Work Centre and Day Care Unit.

The aim of the project is to develop individual programmes extending to all levels of personal achievement, through a variety of new opportunities, experiences and activities in Longfields and the wider community.

The activities will range

from – basic reading, writing and numeracy
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to – operating a computer or typewriter

from – simple hobbies
to – sporting activities

and much, much more . . .



Jane and Wendy enjoying a painting session.

The introduction of the project will mean that a co-ordinator and team of instructors will work alongside existing staff members and offer their knowledge and experience of life to people at Longfields on a one-to-one basis. Not only will this initiative open up new horizons and enhance the lives of the disabled people, but also offer the opportunity of experience and training in the provision of social and personal services to the new staff team. While I write this article arrangements are in hand to appoint the co-ordinator of the team who I am sure will have the support and co-operation of the

Committee, staff and parents to meet the aims of the project. I am convinced, that given the commitment of everyone concerned, the project will successfully build on the service already provided by the Association.

I would like to thank members, and staff for the friendly support I have received in my first year and look forward to being involved in future developments at Longfields.

GILL WILLIAMS
Development Officer,
Spastic Society (Wales Region)



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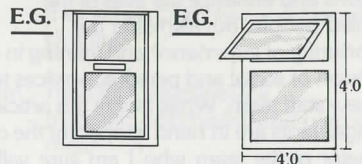
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The Last Ten Years . . . And The Next . . .

LONGFIELDS SPASTIC Centre was once described as "historical". One definition of this is "belonging to the past, not of the present". This does not apply to Longfields because although it was opened in 1955, it is very much of the present and, hopefully, of the future too. There is no doubt that it fulfils, to a large extent, the pressing needs of many handicapped people and their families. Present developments are designed to make the activities at the Centre more attractive and satisfying for all concerned.

It was in 1976 that we mourned the loss of our chairman, Mr. Bill Paton, M.B.E., who had been previously the Association's very active Honorary Secretary for 21 years. The solid foundations which were laid during his time have been developed and consolidated over the last ten years despite many difficulties. I had the privilege of serving as Chairman from 1976 to 1985 when Mr. T. Gwyn John accepted this responsibility. He is also the chairman of the Wales Region of the Spastic Society, and I am sure we all wish him well in these onerous duties.

Among the major changes that have occurred was the transfer, in January 1976, of our school-aged trainees to Morfydd House School for the Physically Handicapped. Although this special school was founded in 1954 by the Local Education Authority, largely through pressure from our Association, it accepted pupils only of a certain standard of ability for many years and many of our children were excluded. Then an Education Act decreed that every child of school age should have the opportunity to benefit from education whatever the degree of disability. This was a progressive step and as a result many children have received some benefit from the specialised education at Morfydd House and later Dyfatty Special School to which the latter moved. It so happens that now several who left Longfields in 1976 have reached school-leaving age and would like to return to our Centre. It is generally felt that the Association should make provision to accept them back as far as possible, therefore steps are being taken to provide the extra space and facilities they will require.



Returning from a walk.

For those who missed the advantages of attending a special school we have provided, since 1979, a part-time teacher to extend the variety of their activities. This was advocated by Dr. Littlepage, Community Health Consultant, and has proved to be of considerable benefit to our more heavily handicapped members, adding a new dimension to their everyday lives.

Other developments include more regular use of our short-term Residential Unit which was originally opened in 1973. This provides much-needed family relief and a pleasant holiday for those who have come to regard

Longfields as their "second home".

So it is clear that although Local Authority provision has improved in recent years, our comprehensive Centre for cerebral palsied people at Longfields still provides indispensable services and amenities not readily available elsewhere. It should continue to do so with even greater expertise in the foreseeable future. This will depend on the goodwill and continuing support of all concerned.

OWEN J. LEWIS
Vice-Chairman, July 1986

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Councillor Tyssul Lewis opening our Garden Fete, 1986.

Annual Garden Fete, June 1986



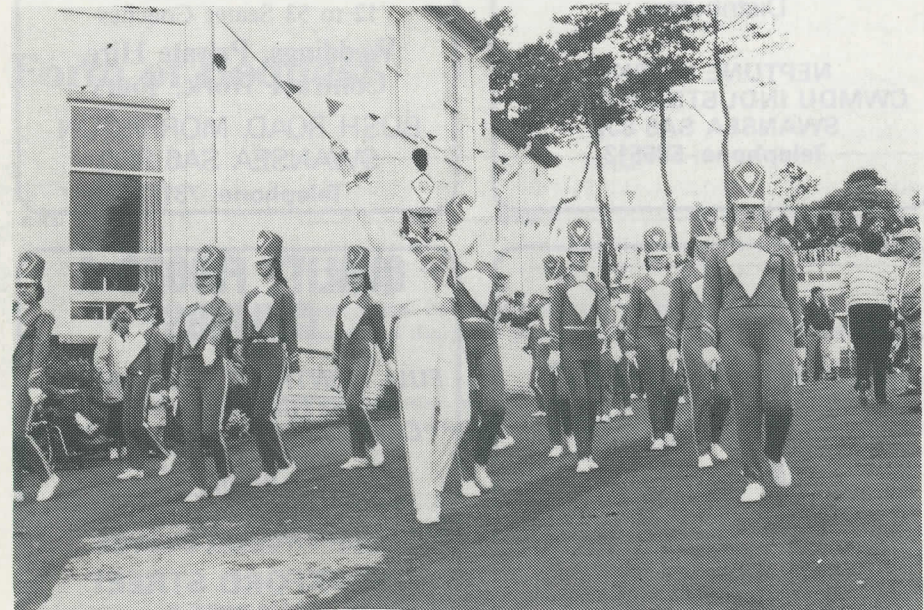
Crowds gather around Aunty Daisy's stall.



Gwyn John (Chairman) and Terry Powell (Work Centre Manager) examine plants for sale on the day of the Fete.



Derek Miller (Hon. Secretary) talking to Emrys Williams about one of the items for sale on Emrys's White Elephant Stall.



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Address: _____

Signed: _____

Form of Bequest

To: _____
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of the Association and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other
proper officer for the time being of the Association be sufficient discharge of the
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The Five Star Farce

by Owen Davies

DURING THE innocent years of childhood, I was always told that ambition and a sense of adventure were two great virtues. However, time has taught me that such virtues lead to hard work, expense and an endless string of unpredictable situations.

Having travelled abroad for many years on my own, I developed a strong ambition to stay in a really plush five star hotel. Finally, my ambition came true, a four hour flight and a ninety minute coach journey, landed me in the Hotel Tenerife Playa, officially rated as four star, but described in many brochures as five star, with of course an appropriate price tag. A lift took me to the sixth floor, then began the most confusing walk of a lifetime as I tried locating Room 625. Unfortunately the person who had numbered the rooms was a complete lunatic, after doing a marathon through endless corridors, I eventually found Room 625 next door to Room 681.

Before unpacking, I made a thorough inspection to ensure I had all the costly facilities. Everything seemed satisfactory until I pulled back the door leading to the balcony, which promptly came off its runners and pinned me to the floor with a resounding thud. After replacing the door and myself in an upright position, I walked on to the balcony which just about overlooked the sea, but gave an excellent view of the busiest traffic junction on the island, with four sets of traffic lights all operating at different times. The noise of screeching brakes and roaring engines proved that sleep was going to be a challenge.

The following morning I was awakened from a very spasmodic night's sleep by a loud and impatient knocking on my door. I sat up in bed, tried to look presentable as I anticipated a sexy waitress bringing me morning tea on a silver tray. Imagine my

surprise as the door opened and there stood Tenerife's answer to Nora Batty, armed with the largest industrial vacuum cleaner I have ever seen, which she guided around the bed like a possessed Grand Prix Driver. It's quite an un-nerving experience to be sitting up in bed at 7.45 a.m., watching your socks, shirt and Y-fronts being devoured by a vacuum cleaner. After uttering a few four letter words in Spanish, the lady retrieved my garments and departed.

At approximately eight o'clock I ambled down to the oval shaped restaurant, hoping to enjoy a leisurely breakfast, instead I found myself at the end of a half mile queue. When I eventually reached the restaurant entrance, I did suggest to the Head Waiter that it might have been quicker if I had applied to Oxfam for a Food Parcel – alas he was not at all amused.

Breakfast over, I strolled down to the swimming pool and sun terrace, only to find that every sun lounger was occupied. Therefore, I was forced to spend day one of my holiday on the balcony being slowly defeaned and having my bottom embossed by a wicker chair.

Still the first day wasn't a complete disaster, as I had an excellent dinner followed by a short walk and long drinks. When I returned to my room another noise accompanied the traffic, a dear soul playing the piano and singing in a pavement bar just below my balcony. I listened in amazement as he sang thirty four verses of 'It's Now or Never, Be Mine Tonight', every one out of tune. He was so bad, the ants were throwing themselves off the balcony.

Next morning I left my room at 7.00 a.m., determined to obtain a sun lounger by the pool. The vibration of prancing footsteps

from floors above and below me, suggested that I was not the only one with the 'early bird' idea. The scene that followed was exactly like a reconstruction of the Falklands War, with at least five hundred guests all 'yomping' towards the pool and preparing a surprise attack on the sun terraces. Admittedly I'm no mathematical wizz kid, but it seemed obvious that when five hundred people try to occupy a mere two hundred loungers, there's bound to be 'a bit of bover'.

I leaned against a banana tree and watched the battle proceed, the main practise was to roll up a beach towel, stand on the sun lounger and wallop the opposition. Then I spotted a vacant lounger situated in a corner away from the main battle area. Not wishing to cause a stampede, I casually strolled over and sat down. After insuring that it was all in one piece, I laid back and bathed in the early morning sun, wondering whether I had found peace at last.

The foolish illusion that I had found peace was quickly shattered, a Worzel Gummage type character emerged from the undergrowth carrying a spray gun with a wobbly nozzle and a large drum of insecticide. He stood on the bottom of my lounger, exclaimed "Nana bugs – no good", then proceeded to spray the tree behind me, As I coughed and spluttered through this uncontrolled spray, I could visualise the press headlines, 'Swansea Man Sprayed to Death on Holiday Island'. Fortunately I was saved from death when the wobbly nozzle finally snapped and Worzel retreated back into the

vegetation, leaving me with a wet lounger and smelling like a two legged Air Wick.

Relative peace returned for the next two hours, apart from the chaos of guests returning from breakfast, only to find their sun loungers had been whipped by someone else. Then a well built young lady appeared strutting around the whole area of sizzling bodies, shouting "It's happy hour time, I want contestants for Volleyball and the Egg and Spoon Races". I was informed that this was the hotel's Entertainments Officer, her job was to organise various games throughout the day, or as one gentleman put it "The dam girl is a pain in the . . .".

As I lay in the sun observing the general mayhem of guests making fools of themselves while others cheered and shouted, I couldn't help wondering what sort of madhouse I had come to. Some may think that this was a harsh observation to make after only two days, but in fact this catalogue of noise and confusion lasted the entire holiday.

I returned from the Tenerife Playa desparately in need of sleep and peace. The concept that a Five Star Hotel would provide a luxurious life-style and refined tranquility, were now just a shattered, expensive illusion.

However, my sense of adventure is rather like A.I.D.S. for which there seems to be no lasting cure, so I am once again leafing through the glossy pages of 1986 holiday brochures, hoping to find peace and comfort at a fair price.

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A Synopsis of the Association's History

- 1952** Association formed with less than a dozen parents. First met in a rented school room in the Grove, Uplands.
- 1953** Centre officially opened 15th April, by Sir Ben Bowen Thomas, then Permanent Secretary to the Welsh Board of Education.
- 1955** 'Longfields' acquired by the Association with the help of the late Mrs. F. M. Phillippe, a London philanthropist. Centre officially opened in September by the then Mayor of Swansea, Councillor Percy Morris.
- 1962** Work Centre opened by Lord Brecon, the Minister of State for Welsh Affairs (cost £10,000).
- 1967** Occupational Therapy unit opened by the Rt. Hon. Sir Elwyn Jones, Q.C., M.P. (cost £35,000).
- 1972** Local Authority provided a teacher for young children.
- 1973** Short-term Residential Care Unit completed at a cost of £12,500 and opened in June.
- 1976** Children of school age transferred to Morfydd House Special School.
- 1977** Association celebrates 25th Anniversary.
- 1981** Ladies Guild celebrates 21st Birthday.
- 1985** Thirty years at 'Longfields'.

Some Facts

- CEREBRAL PALSY 'is a disorder of movement and posture caused by damage or failure to develop normally in a small part of the brain controlling movement. Messages do not reach the muscles, and thus arms, legs or other areas of the body cannot be controlled.
- SOME people with cerebral palsy are only lightly affected. Others are totally immobilised and unable to move much more than one toe or one finger. Many people with cerebral palsy have a higher than average intelligence, whilst some may suffer a mental as well as a physical handicap. Sight, hearing and speech difficulties are common.
- THE SPASTIC SOCIETY was founded in 1952 by a group of parents who were concerned about the neglected needs of their disabled children. It is now a national organisation providing advice and support for thousands of people.
- SINCE 1952 the Spastics Society has been able to help over 30,000 cerebral palsied children and adults, and is now actively promoting the need to integrate people with disabilities fully in the community.

Ten Mile Race and Five Mile Fun Run



Off and running – the runners and club athletes at the start of the event at the Knabb Rock, Mumbles. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.

ON SUNDAY 11th May this year, the Swansea and District Spastic Association held a 10 Mile Road Race and 5 Mile Fun Run along the foreshore from the Knabb Rock to Swansea Marina and back.

The entire organisation and planning for this event was the fulfilment of an inspired idea by the Appeals Organiser, Mr. Gerald Couch, ably assisted by his wife Iris, daughter Sharon and a small band of helpers drawn from the Management Committee.

We were fortunate to obtain sponsorship by the Prudential Assurance Company and they have our heartfelt gratitude for their support and encouragement at all stages before, during and after the race.

Almost 850 entrants lined up at the start of the race and set off at the firing of a small cannon by the Lord Mayor of Swansea. The weather was fine, if slightly overcast and a stiff breeze faced the competitors on the return run to the finish at Knabb Rock.

John Theophilus was the outright winner of the 10 Mile Race and he received a magnificent cup donated by the Prudential Company. Delightful trophies were awarded to the first, second and third winners in each event and these were generously donated by Caseys of Landore.

Councillor Gwylfa Thomas assisted the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress at the prizegiving. The organising committee of the Mumbles Yacht Club provided magnificent help and allowed the use of the Club facilities. In this respect we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Matron Gloria Watts and her husband Tony.

Swansea Harriers' officials were the time-keepers and made valuable suggestions. Mention must be made of the important part played by officers of the South Wales Constabulary under Inspector Robert Jones. The events could not have been held without their help and co-operation.

In the words of a star performer, "You stand every chance of turning this inaugural event into a classic for years to come". This is the avowed intention of the organiser.

Proceeds from entry fees and sponsorship of the competitors raised more than £3,000 towards Longfields Spastic Centre funds. One unusual feature was that each entrant could sponsor the charity of his or her own

choice, so that other worthy causes benefited from this event.

Finally, we would like to thank all those who played some part, either large or small, in helping to ensure the unparalleled success of this unique event.

H. POWELL
Deputy Appeals Organiser

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Ten Mile Race and Five Mile Fun Run



Winner of the 10 Mile Race John Theophilus (in a time of 50 min. 20 secs.) talking to Sharon and Gary Couch.



Finishing the five-mile course in his specially-designed wheelchair earns 19-year-old Cliff Llewelyn, of West Cross, Swansea, a special award, presented by Annette Tonkin, representing one of the race sponsors. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.



Students from Gorseinon College of Further Education have raised £130 for local spastics. The girls, all doing the same course, raised money by taking part in the Prudential Road Race and Fun Run last month. Pictured, left to right, are: Miss Julie Brown, Mr. Gerry Couch, Appeals Organiser Swansea and District Spastics Association; Miss Angela Williams, Miss Helen Williams, Mr. Huw Williams, course lecturer; Miss Donna Stratton and Miss Sharon Couch. The girls have yet more sponsorship money to receive. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.



Some pupils of Dyfatty Special School took part in the Five Mile Fun Run and presented cheques in excess of £150 to both the School and Longfields. Included in the picture are Mr. Gerry Couch (left) Appeals Organiser for Longfields, Mr. John Hall, Headmaster, some of the staff of Dyfatty, and some of the pupils who took part. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.

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Members and friends enjoy the Annual Pancake Day Coffee Morning held by the Ladies Guild at Longfields. Photo courtesy South Wales Evening Post.

The Ladies Guild

THE SWANSEA Spastics Ladies Guild is now in its twenty-sixth year. This is a sobering thought and it is hard to believe that we have been together so long, many of us since the first meeting in 1960. Our title is well known among Womens' Groups in the City and, we like to think, well respected. Although our meetings are sometimes far from orderly, out of chaos come good results. In the past year we have had further successes, in all raising £5,000.32.

Our Christmas Fayre proceeds broke all previous records, realising £1,707.84, and was very well attended. In fact, the problem was to keep out the customers while the stalls were being prepared, rather than to attract them. Mrs. Frances Matthews performed the opening ceremony, entertaining us with amusing anecdotes in her inimitable style. The stalls were attractive and the refreshments delicious, and we thank everyone who helped in any way. This year our Fayre will be held on Saturday, 22nd November, commencing at 12 noon, again at the Patti Pavilion.

Several coffee mornings were held, the two most notable being at the home of Marjorie and Emrys Williams, and at the Mansion House. The weather let us down on the first occasion, but we were still able to enjoy Marjorie and Emrys's lovely garden, and a very pleasant morning resulted in proceeds of £194. At the Mansion House, with the willing co-operation of Mrs. Lorraine Bevan and her staff, coffee and biscuits were served in lovely surroundings and £135.20 was raised.

A new and somewhat ambitious venture for the Guild this year was a Cheese and Wine Evening. This was held at the Forge at Bishopston, by kind permission of Mrs. Joyce Evans, and proved to be the highlight of the year. Mrs. Evans and her daughter were most helpful, and the evening was enjoyed by all.

Proceeds from this event amounted to £274.25. Evening functions are now possible because parents are able to leave their boys and girls in the Residential Unit in the care of Mrs. Linda Smith and her staff, and this means that our events attract many people who are not free to attend in the daytime.

Elaine Michael continues with the Mail Order project, having raised, during the year which ended on 31st March, 1986, £819.12. There is a great deal of work involved in this, for which we thank Elaine, and she invites even more work by asking for your support in bringing in orders. Catalogues are always available from Longfields.

Donations continue to arrive, particularly around Christmas, when we seem to be in many people's thoughts, and, large or small, they are all most welcome.

The Guild does not often meet in a purely social way, but in June we enjoyed a day trip to Llandrindod Wells. Lunch was taken at the Commodore Hotel and the afternoon was spent either browsing among the shops or walking beside the lake or, in a few cases even in 'taking the waters'. Here again the Residential Unit was in use, enabling members to stay out until mid-evening. Our thanks go to Jean for arranging the trip.

In all it has been a very good year, and our membership has increased. Please join us if you have spare time and energy. We meet at the Friends Meeting Hall Annexe in Page Street on the second Tuesday in each month (except August) at 10.30 a.m.

My personal thanks are extended to all officers, members and friends for their cheerful co-operation during the past year.

JOAN OWEN
Honorary Secretary

Valete

SINCE WRITING for the Year Book we have been saddened by the death of our Vice-President, Marjorie Williams. Marjorie had been in poor health for some time, but was in remarkable spirits even at her coffee morning in aid of the Guild which was held just two weeks before her passing.

We shall remember her as a most loyal member of the Guild and of the Association, a devoted wife and mother, and a very good friend to Longfields and to all who attend there.

Marjorie will be sadly missed, not only by us, but in many circles, and we extend to Emrys our sincere sympathy in his great loss.

J.O.



Messrs. Emrys Williams, Cliff Davies and George Owen relax in the sun at the Coffee Morning in Emrys's garden.

The Swansea and District Spastic Association wish to express their thanks to Lancaster Partners Limited for publishing this Year Book on our behalf without any cost to the Association.

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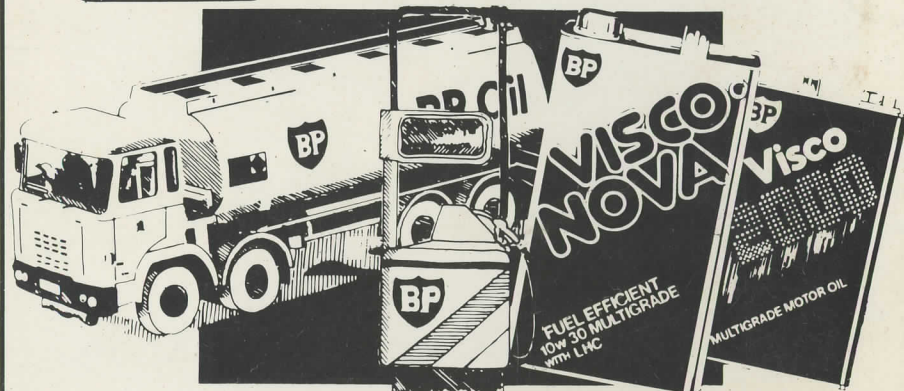
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