

Cowbridge School South Africa Tour 1997



WALES
IN SCALE



TOUR ITINERARY

- 
- 16 July Depart Cowbridge
- 17/20 St Johns College Johannesburg
- 19 July *St John's College v Cowbridge CS*
- 20/22 July Capetown
- 21 July *Boland Agricultural College v Cowbridge CS*
- 22/23 July Oakdale Agricultural College Riversdale
- 23 July *Oakdale Agricultural College v Cowbridge CS*
- 24 July Wilderness
- 25/27 July Port Elizabeth
- 26 July *Newton Park High School 7s Tournament*
- 28/29 July Newton Park High School Port Elizabeth
- 29 July Newton Park High School v Cowbridge CS
- 30/31 July Andrew Rabie High School Port Elizabeth
- 31 July *Andrew Rabie High School v Cowbridge CS*
- 1/2 August Grens Afrikaans High School East London
- 2 August *Grens Afrikaans High School v Cowbridge CS*
- 3/4 August Dumazulu Traditional Village KwaZulu Natal
- 5 August Depart Durban
- 6 August Arrive Cowbridge

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**COUNCILLOR GWENEIRA BATY
MAYOR OF COWBRIDGE WITH LLANBLETHIAN
TOWN COUNCIL**

On behalf of Cowbridge (Ancient Borough) with Llanblethian Town Council, it gives me great pleasure to wish the Cowbridge School Rugby Tour to South Africa every success.

I have followed the fortunes of the Cowbridge School Rugby teams with great interest for the past twenty four years, when my son first started to play for the school. Their results have varied over the years but the first XV Team this year has the best results ever, culminating in winning the Welsh Secondary Schools' Cup.
Well Done.

I wish the tour every success in their visits to Johannesburg, Capetown, Port Elizabeth, East London and in the 7 a side tournament. I am sure that the contacts they will make and the friendships they will forge both on and off the field will give them all great pleasure for many years to come.

Please take the good wishes of the citizens of Cowbridge to all you meet in South Africa.
Good luck to you all.

Gwen Baty

**MRS JOAN DAWSON BSc
HEAD TEACHER OF COWBRIDGE
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL**



It gives me great pleasure that our school's proud traditions of sporting excellence are being so honourably represented by the students involved in this international tour.

The ability of these students to combine the highest standards in their sporting and academic achievements has earned them the respect of the school as well as the wider community and I welcome the tremendous contribution they have made to the ethos of the school.

I would like to offer each member of the squad my good wishes and I hope you enjoy both the challenges and the opportunities which this tour provides.

On behalf of the Governors, staff and pupils I would like to thank all those in the school and the community of Cowbridge who have supported the squad and enabled them to fulfil their dream. In particular I wish to extend my thanks to Hugh Williams, the sponsors, the organising committee and the parents.

HUGH MORRIS (ENGLAND AND GLAMORGAN CRICKETER)

As a pupil of Cowbridge Comprehensive School in the mid 70s, I used to gaze out of the classroom windows and dream of playing rugby for Wales at Cardiff Arms Park. Sadly, that dream was never realised, but I have been fortunate to have represented England at cricket and toured some wonderful countries.

South Africa is one of my favourite places in the world, and I am envious that Hugh Williams and his highly successful rugby team have chosen this year rather than 1975 to tour the Republic! I have made several trips there, most memorable of which was in 1993/4 when I captained the England 'A' team on a ten week tour. The weather was brilliant, the hospitality second to none, and we only lost one game, to Natal, on the whole of the tour.

Cowbridge School will soon realise that South Africa is a 'sports mad' nation, where cricket is hugely popular, but rugby is a religion. As I write this short piece, the British Lions have begun their first tour there in almost two decades. The interest is enormous, the rugby is tough and for the South Africans losing the 'Test' series as World Champions is unthinkable.

The School will be assured of a warm welcome both on and off the field, but if they can reproduce some of the outstanding rugby they have played this year, they will have a great trip and meet and make many friends.

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It is my pleasure and privilege to contribute to the official Tour Brochure of the Cowbridge Comprehensive School Tour to South Africa in the Summer of 1997. The School team are the proud champions of Wales. Whilst they dominated the competition with exciting fifteen men rugby, it was their resolute defence that created the platform for victory in the Final. As a member of the Cowbridge community and the President of the Vale Schools, I have to mention how outstanding their efforts were and Cowbridge and Vale Schools rugby was promoted more effectively than ever before.

I have, albeit from a distance, flavoured the spirit, friendship and enthusiasm of the Squad and it is no surprise that they have enjoyed enormous success. South Africa is certainly in for a treat both on and off the field. I have had the privilege of touring South Africa on two occasions and I am very much aware of the wonderful experience ahead for the entire party. The welcome awaiting the young men will not be short of superb.

Rugby tours were, of course, started by the Vikings who were great rugby players without anyone ever knowing it. The problem was that they went on tours before the invention of the telephone and postal services and arrived at their destination without prior warning. They jumped off their own ships, shouting "BWKWOK GLAMISK TURDLÉ CHOPS" which means "anyone fancy a game of rugby for two pints a man". Not understanding, the locals took completely the wrong impression and started throwing spears and rocks. Annoyed, the Vikings retaliated by exploiting the local young ladies and generally running amok. They enjoyed this so much that pretty soon they began to leave their rugby balls at home. This caused one of the potential great rugby playing nations of the world to get side tracked but they at least left their mark to this day as some of their traditional "pastimes" and merrymaking remain essential tour ingredients.

More seriously, I have to say that there is nothing quite like an international tour and the experience gained by all the tour party will be outstanding, ensuring that everyone returns a better player and, more importantly, a more rounded person.

Congratulations to all the people that have made this possible. For a school side to achieve this goal reflects greatly on the amount of work gone into making it possible. I know that Hugh Williams and his team have worked tremendously hard to make this dream a reality. I envy each one of the lads - there is nothing quite like the times ahead, so savour every minute of it with real pride and quality performance both on and off the field - believe me, these opportunities do not come along often!

I wish Hugh and his party a hugely successful trip with plenty of good rugby football and excellent rugby relationships.

Long live the Vikings!

COWBRIDGE THROUGH THE CENTURIES

The earliest settlement of the town was in the 1st century AD when the Roman legionaries of the Second Legion built a small fort one day's march along the road West from their headquarters at Isca (modern Caerleon). Parts of their road are still clearly visible near the modern town. The fort attracted a civilian settlement which developed into small township. The township did not survive the withdrawal of the Roman legions in the late 4th and early 5th centuries.

After the conquest of Glamorgan by the Normans Sir Richard de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Glamorgan, founded the borough of Cowbridge by charter in 1254. The town grew rapidly. By 1300 the population was over 1200 and Cowbridge one of the largest towns in Wales. The town walls and Holy Cross Church date from this period.

The town's success resulted from its convenient location as a trading centre astride the roads in the middle of a fertile agricultural area. Markets, fairs and tolls were the basis of its prosperity.

The Black Death reached Wales in the 1340's wiping out more than half the population. The population of Cowbridge did not reach 1200 again for over 500 years.

Slowly the town revived. Following the act of union of England and Wales in 1536 it became a county and was entitled to elect a member of Parliament. Two new courts, the Great Sessions and Quarter Sessions, were held in Cowbridge once a year. There were regular markets and fairs.

The 16th century was a turbulent time in the town and punctuated by violent armed affrays between feuding local landowners and their gangs of supporters. By contrast it was unaffected by the upheavals of the 17th century and Civil War in the 1640's passed it by. The school at Cowbridge was founded in this period. In 1681 Charles II (influenced by Sir Leoline Jenkins) granted a charter of incorporation in which the town was described as 'very ancient and populous'.

There was a steady increase in population which had reached about 570 by 1670 and grew to 705 in 1781. The first national census in 1801 recorded 759 inhabitants and 1,107 were recorded in the census of 1821. The town took its familiar shape with buildings along the main street and infilling within the town walls.

The prosperity of the town was increased by the setting up in 1764 of a turnpike trust to improve the road from Cardiff to Swansea in exchange for the right to charge tolls - an early form of road privatisation. Toll gates were erected at each end of the town and at the south gate on the road to the mill at the foot of what is now Constitution Hill.

In 1786 the mail coach from London to Swansea began to run 3 times a week changing horses at the Bear Inn. In 1796 a post office was opened in the town. Other schools opened in the town as rivals of the Free School. In 1835 the first bank opened and in 1842 the police station (a room in the Town Hall).

The town was now a major administrative and social centre and the fairs and markets remained the basis of the local economy. On fair days the town was thronged and given over to the sale of animals, produce and goods of all sorts as well the hiring of labourers and domestic servants. The number of public houses increased to accommodate the crowds. 'A glorious race of drinkers' was one description of the leading citizens (and their wives).

The growth and status of the town came to an abrupt end with the opening of the railway line between Cardiff and Swansea in 1850. The original plan to route it through Cowbridge had been opposed by the leading members of the community, concerned that they would lose influence. In the same year the mail coach through the town stopped and the Quarter Sessions ceased to be held there.

The effect of opposition to the railway was soon recognised and in 1862 the leading townsmen obtained an Act of Parliament to build a line to connect with the main line at Llantrisant. It was too late. Cowbridge was confined, in the words of a journalist of the time, 'to the humble position of a small country market town'.

A series of scandals involving members of the Corporation and their failure to deal with the public health problems of the town resulted in the abolition of the Corporation by Act of Parliament in 1886 and the creation of a new and more democratic Council. It remained however a small market town where, it was said, half the population slept and the other half went round on tip toes to avoid waking them.

The railway had cut Cowbridge off from the world; the motor age restored the link. That was at a price and as early as the 1930s a by-pass was proposed because of the congestion of traffic in the long main street. The opening of the by-pass 30 years later transformed the town. It remained a market town but developed again not only as a place to live but as a thriving centre to visit for shopping and leisure.

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COWBRIDGE SCHOOL

The school was founded by Sir Edward Stradling of St Donats Castle in 1608 and completed after his death the following year by his great-nephew Sir John Stradling. It was the sixth school founded in Wales which can trace a continuous history to the present day. Because the foundation provided free education for ten poor boys from the town, the school was known as Cowbridge Free School. From the beginning the master took in fee-paying pupils to supplement his slender income.

Sir Leoline Jenkins, a pupil of the school in the 1630s, was its second founder. He was a distinguished lawyer and public figure who became a Privy Counsellor and Secretary of State to Charles II. He bought the school from the Stradling family and most of their estates which he left to Jesus College Oxford on his death in 1685, the start of what was to prove a difficult relationship. The school remained in the ownership of the College until 1919.

The school in the 18th and the first half of the 19th century was dominated by two men, Daniel Durel headmaster from 1721 to 1763 and William Williams from 1787 to 1847. Latin and Greek were the main subjects of instruction but Durel, who was born in Jersey, spoke French as his first language and, unusually in a school of the time, included it in his lessons.

In the early days of Durel's headship there were 80 boys at the school but they declined rapidly to 20, prompting a petition from the local tradesmen who relied on the school as a source of business. He restored the situation and numbers rose again to 74 by 1740. That appears to have been a high point and numbers declined again until there were only 31 when William Williams died in 1847.

His replacement Hugo Harper was one of the outstanding headmasters of his time but unfortunately not at Cowbridge. He agreed to come to the school on condition that Jesus College rebuilt it and those new buildings remained the core of the school until 1974.

The number of boys increased rapidly from 31 to 80 but in 1850, because of arguments with Jesus College over money to develop the school, he left to take over the headmastership of Sherborne School. Some of the boys

followed him to Sherborne which had been left with only 2 pupils; in his time as headmaster there they increased to 350.

The name of the school had changed to Cowbridge Grammar School by 1870 when James Morson, a man in Harper's mould, was appointed headmaster. There was another improvement in academic standards and another rise in numbers, cut short by Morson's early death in 1875. It was during his time at the school that rugby was introduced.

A combination of poor leadership by the headmaster and legal, political and religious controversies then led to a sorry decline in the school's fortunes and brought it close to extinction.

The opposite was the case with the education of girls. Cowbridge High School for Girls was founded in 1896 as a result of the efforts of 2 prominent citizens of Cowbridge, John Bevan and Edward John. It opened with 18 pupils. Science was not taught as it was considered an unsuitable subject for girls. The school was located in what is now the 6th Form building and was a success from the start. Within 10 years it had more pupils and higher academic achievements than the Grammar School.

Even a school as small as it had become suffered heavily in the First World War. Of the 140 Old Boys in the armed forces over a quarter were killed.

In 1919 as a solution to its troubles the Grammar School passed into the County Council system. It was soon transformed by an able and energetic new headmaster Richard Williams, the first headmaster who was not a clergyman. Numbers rose from 56 to over 100 in 1925 for the first time in its history and were well over 200 when Richard Williams retired in 1938. They doubled again under the headmastership of Idwal Rees from 1938 to 1971. The school remained in part a boarding school but the increase was overwhelmingly in day boys.

Idwal Rees was succeeded by Iolo Davies, the distinguished historian of the school, until 1974 when it became a comprehensive school taking in the Girls High School and pupils from Llanhari Secondary Modern School. H V Williams was brought in as headmaster and the old buildings were abandoned. The school built for Harper in 1847 remains neglected.

Gwyn James became headmaster in 1979 and presided until 1995 when Joan Dawson became the first lady in its long history to head the School.

Basil's

*congratulates the Cowbridge
School rugby team on
winning the Cup and wishes
them good luck
in South Africa*

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RUGBY AT COWBRIDGE SCHOOL

VISITORS FROM CARDIFF

The School may not be the birth place of rugby in Wales but it was certainly one of the earliest places at which the game was played.

The game was introduced to Cowbridge Grammar School during the Headmastership of the Reverend J C F Morson (1870-1875). Morson was a reforming headmaster who aimed to place the School on a status equal to the English public schools, an ambition cut short by his early death.

In the 1860s and 1870s Rugby and Association Football were spreading rapidly from their origins in the muscular Christianity of the reformed public schools and the old universities to a wider working community which was beginning to have more leisure time.

How the game spread is illustrated by developments in Carmarthen. A F Laloe left Cowbridge School in 1874 to become headmaster of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. He introduced rugby there and a club was formed in the town the following year.

In Autumn 1874 the Glamorgan Football Club was formed in Cardiff from members who had the previous year begun playing in the park next to the Cardiff Arms Hotel. The Glamorgan Cricket Club had for some years been playing there during the summer.

An early historian of the Club records

"The first away match was against the Cowbridge Grammar School at Cowbridge, on 21st November 1874, the team journeying to Cowbridge in a coach and four. Everyone appeared to have enjoyed the outing, especially the coachman, as on the return journey he was unable to keep his seat on the box and one of the players, C S Watson, took the reins and brought the party safely home, although they smashed the turnpike gate which stood at Ely, in consequence of the gate-keeper's endeavouring to stop them as they were driving through, in the belief that they were going to evade payment. The only other collision was with a lamp-post in front of the Town Hall in St Mary Street."

The club also played a home game the same Saturday at Cardiff Arms Park against the Wanderers Football Club, one of the clubs with which it was to amalgamate two years later to form Cardiff Rugby Football Club. The team of 14 players which travelled to Cowbridge was the first team and included Campbell Cory, who had taken the lead in founding the club, and a number of members who had been playing the previous year.

There seems little doubt that the party's "enjoyment" was as much after the game as during it. The Club's base was the Cardiff Arms Hotel and in the 1870s Cowbridge had some 20 inns and public houses. After the journey from Cardiff the horses would have needed several hours rest and watering at the Duke of Wellington or the Bear, the coaching inns of the day. The coachman's condition may have resulted from sitting out the game there.

The players too would have needed refreshment if the Cowbridge game was anything like the second team game in Cardiff. The South Wales Daily News of the following Monday describes a robust game - 'war to the knife' which began in the early afternoon and lasted several hours. It ended by agreement between the teams and was declared a draw. The result of the Cowbridge game is not recorded.

There was thick fog in Cardiff that day which would have added to the hazards of the boisterous journey home. The story does not end there as the Club received a bill from the Corporation for the damage to the lamp-post and had to arrange a concert to raise funds to pay it.

Fundraising concerts seem to have been a feature of the early days of rugby. Another is described at which

'while a lady was singing and the worthy captain was busy behind the curtain providing creature comforts for the artistes, the popping of a champagne cork was distinctly heard by the audience and caused no little amusement.'

The 1877/8 season saw the creation of the South Wales Challenge Cup. The School was one of the 18 teams which entered, paying a fee of 2 guineas. The list of teams reflects the development of the game. Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Llanelli were joined by Lampeter College, Monmouth Grammar School and Llandovery College as well as Cowbridge Grammar School.

The School team lost to Llanelli at Neath in the first round. It played Cardiff home and away in the 1878/79 season and was good enough in 1880 to travel to Newport and beat the team which won the Cup in 1878 and 1879.

The School was represented at Blackheath in February 1881 when Wales played its first international match. In the team which met England were Edward Treharne, who was still at the School, and Robert Summers, an old boy.

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IDWAL REES AND THE REVIVAL

Such famous beginnings were not sustained and rugby declined at the School. The decline reflected the decline of the School at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries. There would have been years when there were too few boys to form a team at senior level. When the School recovered in the 1920s football and hockey were the winter games.

In 1923 the Welsh Schools Rugby Union was formed to promote the game in secondary schools. In 1931 the School switched to rugby at the wish of the boys. This coincided with a revival in the fortunes of the Welsh side after the lean years of the 1920s. With the connection with Jesus College the boys may also have been influenced by the increasing number of players from Welsh Schools in the annual Oxford and Cambridge Varsity matches.

The change at the School was reinforced in 1938 by the appointment of a new headmaster.

Idwal Rees, then 28, was one of the best known rugby players of his day. He was a Cambridge Blue in 1931 and 1932 and in 1935 played in the centre for Wales in the famous 13-12 victory over the touring New Zealand All Blacks at Cardiff Arms Park. He won 14 caps for Wales as a centre and wing and went on to captain the team. An early exponent of 15 man rugby he was co-author of a coaching manual "Rugger Practice and Tactics" published in the year of his appointment.

He won all his caps while teaching Classics at Fettes School in Edinburgh and playing for Edinburgh Wanderers. On scoring a try at Murrayfield he blew a kiss to the group of Fettes boys in the crowd who had told him in their lessons that morning that Scotland were going to win.

On taking up the appointment he retired from first class rugby and was unavailable for selection for the British Lions 1938 tour of South Africa.

His influence on rugby at the School was soon interrupted by the Second World War. Early in the War he organised a fundraising "Spitfire Match" between invitation XV's. The Headmasters XV won 28-3 in a match punctuated by a Spitfire diving low across Bear Field. He was then to join the RAF himself.

His return began an era which produced many fine teams. The 1950/1 team was unbeaten and in 1951/2 only one game was lost. Brian Sparks (flanker), Garfield Owen (full-back), Keith Maddocks (wing), Roddy Evans (lock) and Hailyn Davies (centre) all won full Welsh caps in the 1950s. Roddy Evans was the School's first British Lion on the 1959 tour to New Zealand and played in the final test which the Lions won 9-6. He also played twice at Cardiff Arms Park against Avril Malan's 1960/1 Springboks, on the losing side 0-3 for Wales and for the Barbarians who won 6-0 in the final match of the tour, the Springboks only defeat.

Idwal Rees' style of refereeing made Cowbridge a hard school to beat at home. In his early days schools hosting the Cowbridge team made the mistake of offering the whistle to such a famous figure. Sometimes resplendent in his Cambridge blazer he had difficulty in close games in finding the whistle to blow up until the School made the winning score. His hearing was acute in picking up bad language by opposing teams, particularly if they scored.

Whatever his shortcomings as a referee, Idwal Rees created a Golden Age of rugby at the School.

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HUGH WILLIAMS WRITES ABOUT RUGBY AT THE SCHOOL IN RECENT YEARS



I joined Cowbridge Grammar School in 1969 as the "new PE teacher". My first job under Idwal Rees was to design the new playing fields with the jumping pits and cricket nets in their present layout. When the School became a comprehensive in 1974 a second PE specialist was appointed - Glan Williams - and we continue as the longest serving PE partnership in the county. Sadly, because of a back operation Glan is unable to join us on tour.

We introduced competitive rugby throughout the School. A and B teams are run for the first 3 years, an under 15 and an Under 16 teams and 1st and 2nd XV's, 10 teams in all playing regularly. About 30% of the intake of boys represent the School at rugby. Teams at all levels regularly win the District Cup. At U15 level many of the team play District rugby on Saturday mornings and a number play County rugby as do many of the 1st and 2nd XV's at U17 and U18.

Most of the coaching is done by the two of us with help from members of staff and others who also referee and transport the teams. The advent of mini and junior rugby at Cowbridge RFC has improved the standard of rugby particularly at intake level. The Club kindly makes its ground available if the School needs to play 4 home games at the same time and players help in the coaching.

At U15 level John Griffiths in the 60's, Chris Dew and Rob Gibbs in the 70s and Huw Parsons and Neil Powell in the 80s played for Welsh Schools. Last year Rhys Williams played for Welsh Schools at U16 level following Edward Rees the previous year with Andrew Howard following his brother Nick at U16A. Peter Cartwright won a senior Welsh Schools cap in the 1990s and Steven Hales and Philip Ager missed caps through injury. This year Nick Howard, Edward Rees and Rhys Williams have won senior caps and Andrew Merrett an A cap, all 4 being selected for the Welsh School Summer tour to New Zealand which unfortunately clashes with our tour to South Africa. Joe Barnes won a cap at U16.

Others have won international honours after leaving school, Robbie Llewellyn a Youth cap, Howard Merrett at U21 and Colin Donovan and David Hopkins Welsh B caps. Many players have gone on to play senior club rugby.

Old fixtures against Llandovery College and Christ's College Brecon continue and new ones against leading English Schools like Colstoens and Millfield have been added. We can only look in wonder at their facilities. Touring teams from as near as Ireland and as far as South Africa, Canada and Australia are entertained. Rugby still goes on with the same intensity but the old stagers are feeling the pace and appointments of young male staff are few and far between.

It would be wrong to speak only of rugby. International honours are regularly won at athletics, cricket, basketball soccer and more recently hockey. The School has been the top athletics school in the County in each of the last 15 years. Lauren Williams in only her first year at University has already won 6 hockey caps and her sister Annie, our School captain, has won an U21 cap.

Well done.

Leisure in the Vale Hamdden yn y Fro



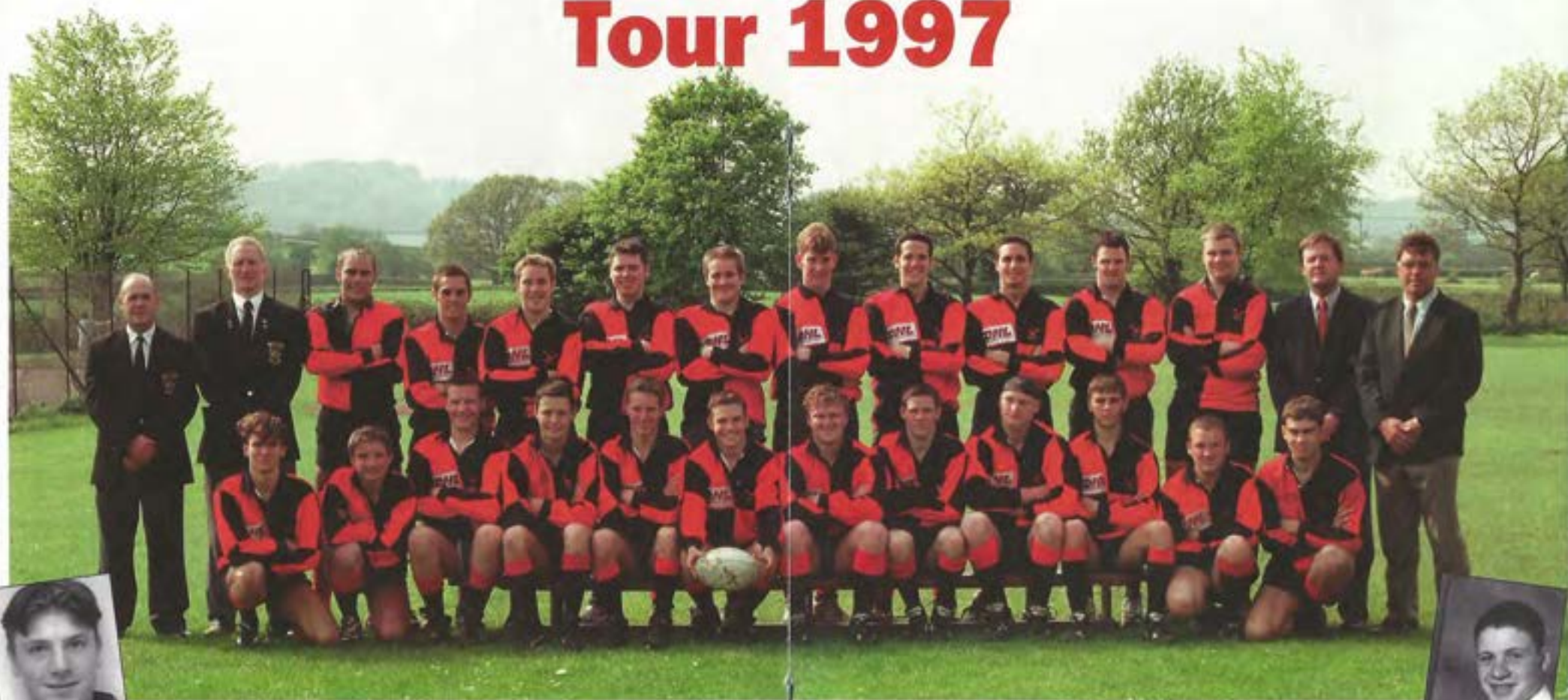
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Cowbridge School South Africa Tour 1997



BACK ROW STANDING, LEFT TO RIGHT:

Terwyn Parry (Assistant Manager) John Powell (Manager) Tim Russell Christian Williams Matthew Saunders Ben Williams
Mark Morgan David Pugh Jonathan Bound Nick Bain Venn Jonathan Roedemer Steven Callow Robert Glaves (Assistant Coach)
Hugh Williams (Coach)

KNEELING, LEFT TO RIGHT:

James Jones Anthony Davies Simon Clarke Damian Cottle Ben Thomas Owen Ruttle (Captain) Andrew Fahey (Vice Captain)
David Kendrick Sandy Buchalik Matthew Lewis Andrew Howard Huw David

INSET:

Tom Williams (left) Joe Barnes (Right)





David Fine

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Owen Ruttley, Jonathan Roedemer
and the Team
in South Africa

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OWEN RUTTLEY (Captain)

Scrum half/Utility back. Aged 18. 5' 6½" 11 st 7lbs

Member of the '93, '95 and '97 Cup winning teams. County player at all age levels. Crawshay's Welsh Youth XV. Player of the year 96/7 because of his versatility infectious enthusiasm and tenacity. Keen student of physical fitness. Studying History, Economics and Sociology at A level. Hopes to go to UWIC to study Sport/Human Movement and become a PE teacher (still believes in the tooth fairy)

**'MUTTLEY'****ANDREW FAHEY** (Vice captain)

No8/Flanker. Aged 18. 6'. 15st

Member of the 93, 95 and 97 cup winning teams and a County player at all levels. He has played cricket at county school level and enjoys athletics basket ball and skiing. Maths, Economics and Geology at A level and intends to go to Loughborough University to study accountancy and financial management.

**'MR BLOBBY'****NICHOLAS BAIN VENN**

(Wing) Aged 18. 6'2". 12st 6lbs

Nick will be at home in South Africa. He was born in Durban and attended Forest View primary school, Kloof until the family moved to Cowbridge in 1989. A County rugby player he has represented Welsh schools at high jump and the County at long jump and 100m. Studying PE and Business Studies at A level to pursue a career in management consultancy/ accounting. Uncanny ability to hang on when superfluous to requirements.

**'THE LEECH'****JOE BARNES**

Flanker. Aged 16. 6'1". 14st 3lbs.

The baby of the party. Broke his jaw in the final Welsh U16 trial but kept fit and gained his cap in the win against England in April. Excellent wet weather player as Wales U15 Life Saving Champion and British Champion on the 'Malibu Board. His kick boxing skills make him useful in the rucks. Intends to study Geography, PE and Biology and become a fighter pilot.

**'DESPERATE DAN'**

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TRADE member

JONATHAN BOUND

Lock Aged 18. 6'3". 14st 4lbs.

Most improved player in the team this season and played in all Cup games. Winner of several local sailing competitions. Enjoys music and plays in a band. Made head boy because of his ability to do the Times crossword before Assembly. A levels in Chemistry, Physics and Biology and intends to study Chemistry at London University and then go into scientific research. Looking forward to opportunities for free accommodation on tour.



**'THE
LODGER'**

ALEXANDER (SANDY) BUCHALIK

Centre Aged 18. 6'2". 14st 3lbs.

Came to Cowbridge in 1990 from London. Has played for London Welsh juniors and Bridgend youth as well as London Schools at soccer. Welsh Schools basket ball trialist. PE and Italian (or Religious Studies) at A level. Hopes to go to College of St Mark and St John in Plymouth to take a B.Ed in PE and become a teacher.



'ASPRIN'

STEVEN CALLOW

Lock. Aged 17. 6' 3". 18st 8lbs.

The giant of the party. On the bench for the Cup games and an important member of next year's team. County player and in the Welsh Development squad. Studying Double Maths and Physics at A level aiming for a University degree in Mechanical Engineering. Has a great collection of antique cars and is an expert on oil.



'DONK'

SIMON CLARKE

Prop. Aged 17. 6'1". 13st7lbs.

On the bench for the Cup matches and played several games for the 1st XV during the season. County player at several levels. Practising his javelin throwing for the wildlife parks. Studying Biology, Physics and Geography at A Level and intends to go to University and then become a pilot in the RAF. Special interest: Trigonometry. Dietary requirement: Pies



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11 Webb Ellis 12 Grand Slam 14 Vat 15 Car wash 18 Pasta 19 Fish 20 Plot

DAMIAN COTTLE

Wing. Aged 17. 6' 1". 12st 11lbs.

Regular 2nd XV player for the past two seasons. Has represented district at all levels. Active in ATC and has represented Wales ATC at Athletics. Studying Maths, Physics and Chemistry at A level and intends to study Engineering at university and train as a commercial pilot with BA. Keen naturalist and regularly prunes bushes.



'PRUNER'

HUW DAVID

Prop. Aged 17. 5'11". 13st

Ever present on the bench during the Cup campaign and will be a regular member of the 1st XV next season. Active in the Young Farmers Club he has represented the County at their Welsh Clay Shooting Championships. Studying Biology, Geography and Business Studies in intends to get a degree in agriculture and business management. A major fundraiser for the brochure, his other main pastime is driving, particularly off road.



'BUSH WHACKER'

ANTHONY DAVIES

Outside half Aged 17. 5'9". 11st 8lbs.

A regular member of the 2nd XV who has shown flashes of inspiration and gained in confidence in his few games in the senior team. Studying Physics, Chemistry and Maths at A level with a view to a career in Accountancy or Law. Enjoys listening to music but his greatest interest is physical fitness. he trains hard at every opportunity, accounting for his flushed cheeks.



'PINKY'

ANDREW HOWARD

Scrum half. Aged 17. 5'7". 11st

First choice scrum half until his shoulder was broken against Neath College and he became a semi professional touch judge. County player at all levels and at cross-country. U16A Welsh Schools cap. studying French, History and Economics at A level and intends to take a sports degree at university. Hopes to use his trigonometry skills in South Africa.



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JAMES JONES

Outside half/wing. Aged 18. 5'10". 10st 7lbs.

Started as outside half but moved to wing and was top try scorer in the Cup including the only try in the Final. County player at Rugby and Tennis. A levels in Chemistry, Biology and Physics and intends to go to University to study medicine. Enjoys music and visiting antiques fairs



'LOVEJOY'

DAVID KENDRICK

Full back/utility back Aged 18. 5'9". 11st 3lbs.

Member of the 93, 95 and 97 cup winning teams. District and County rugby at all levels. Cricket at county level and Welsh U14 Gymnastics squad. A levels in Physics, Maths and Geography and intends to study Civil Engineering/Surveying at University. Banjo player with magnificent collection of Barbie dolls.



'KEN'

MATTHEW JON LEWIS

Outside half/Full back Aged 17. 5' 10 1/2". 12st.

Moved to outside half in rearranged back division after Dog Howard's injury. County player at all levels and Welsh Development Squad member. Studying English, Geography and Biology at A level and intends to study Sports Science at University and become a PE teacher. With his family's talents he could have a future in Showbiz. Another keen doll collector. Selective hearing defect causes problems with whistles.

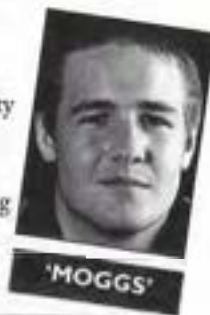


'PRETTY BOY'

MARK MORGAN

Flanker. Aged 18. 5'11". 14st.

Ever present member of the team until 25th January 1997. County player. Represented school at Athletics, Basketball and Soccer. Biology, Physics and Maths at A level and intends to study Mechanical Engineering at University. Enjoys reading and playing guitar. Special dietary requirements: None



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DAVID PUGH

No 8 Flanker. Aged 17. 6' 2". 14st 7lbs.

On the bench for the Cup games and on as replacement in the Final. U17 County player. A levels in Maths, Economics and Geography. Hopes to follow a financial career after University, with pottery as an alternative. Nocturnal habits explained by his Kiwi origins. Tenacious ball carrier with unique radar system to identify supporting players and lay the ball off before contact



'THE BAT'

JONATHAN ROEDEMER

Lock. Aged 18. 6' 1". 14st 11lbs.

A key member of the pack for 7 years including the 3 Cup wins. County player and member of Crawshay's Welsh Youth team. County shot putt champion. Taking vocational A level course in Leisure and Tourism to lead to a Higher Education course and a career in sport or recreation. Talks a lot about weight training and has a full set of athletic supports for every joint in the body. A dedicated follower of fashion. Favourite brand name: Ralph Lauren.



'KRYPTON'

TIM RUSSELL

Flanker/Centre. Aged 18. 6' 1". 15st 3lbs.

Apart from school rugby, Tim has represented Pontypridd Youth and won a Welsh A cap against England in April. Considers himself a 7s specialist but avoids training if possible. Studying PE at A level and hopes to go to the Army School of Physical Training to become a PTI. He describes himself as having a beautiful face, tight blond curls and a magnificent body.



'ADONIS'

MATTHEW SAUNDERS

Prop/Flanker Aged 18. 5' 10". 13st

Most of the information about this player is classified because of his involvement with the SAS. Believed to have represented the County at rugby. Said to have studied Maths, Physics and Chemistry at A level and to intend to become a vet after University. Known to fish to support himself in the wild and engage in expeditions in lightweight clothing in villages near Cowbridge.



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BENJAMIN LLEWELLYN THOMAS

Hooker Aged 18. 5'11". 12st

A member of the 93, 95 and 97 cup winning teams. County player and in Welsh U16 Development Squad. County cross country runner. Keen horseman and twice winner of Wales & Border Counties gymkhana. A levels in Geography, Maths and Physics and intends to read Civil Engineering at University and retire a millionaire by 45. Keen horticulturist with a special knowledge of brassicas. The bookmakers of South Africa await his arrival with anticipation.



'SHABBA'

BEN WILLIAMAS

Lock/flanker. Aged 18. 6'1½". 15 st.

District representative and has played for Llantwit Major Youth and Cowbridge RFC. County level swimmer. A levels in Geography, Business Studies and Sociology and intends to study for a BA in Business Management. A stern disciplinarian who plans a career in the Police or Customs and Excise. Favourite film: Forest Gump. Special Dietary requirements: Shrimps.



'BUBBA'

CHRISTIAN WILLIAMS

Wing. Aged 17. 5'10". 11st 5lbs

The token Frenchman of the party is expected to bring Gallic flair to its play. A flyer who represented the school at athletics and competed at county level. Studying French, Economics and Geography at A level and intends to read Marketing/Advertising or French at University. Also known as Velcro because of his handling skills.



'HANDS'

THOMAS WILLIAMS

Centre/Wing Aged 17. 6'1". 12st 7lbs.

County U17 player and a member of the Cup Squad. Another who will be a regular in next season's team. Studying French, Economics and History at A level and intends to become a lawyer. A keen rugby spectator he enjoys weight training and driving. Moved from wing to centre because of difficulty in staying awake



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(and to South Africa on receiving John Powell)

HUGH WILLIAMS

Tour Manager/Coach

One of the few Welsh speakers born in Barnet, Hertfordshire, he returned to Dolgellau when 10 months old. Educated at Dolgellau GS and Cardiff College of Education he joined Cowbridge GS School in 1969 and is now the longest serving male member of staff. A fine centre he stayed with Cowbridge RFC rather than accepting invitations to join more famous clubs. In the spare time he has, he plays cricket and golf and enjoys skiing and reading. Spoke no English until the age of 6 but has made up for it since

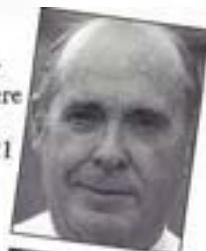


'HUGHIE'

TERWYN PARRY

Assistant Manager/ Choir Master

Born in the heart of the South Wales coalfield in Pontrhyll in the Garw Valley and educated at Garw GS and University of Wales Swansea where he graduated in Geology. Lectured at the Mining College of Yorkshire and Lancashire before coming to Cowbridge where he has taught for 21 years. His interests include rugby, golf and choral singing. Has seen every Springbok team to play in Britain since Basil Kenyon's 1951 Springboks. Visiting South Africa for the second time. Master of the art of losing people in conversation.



'PARRAROTTI'

JOHN POWELL

Team Manager/Assistant Coach

Born in Bargoed and educated at Lewis Boys School and Loughborough College, he taught in London for 23 years before returning to Wales in 1985. He is now Head of Careers, Work Experience and Industrial Liaison. Claims to have more clubs than Gary Player including Pontypridd, London Welsh, Blackheath and Wasps and to have played in most continents of the world. Still playing veterans rugby and hopes to get his boots on in South Africa (if his insurers permit)



'WINGNUT'

ROBERT GLAVES

Assistant Coach

Born in Barry and educated at Ysgol Gyfun Rhydychfen, Weymouth College and Southampton University, he made his first trip to Africa teaching for VSO in the Sudan. He then taught for 8 years in London and for 6 in New Zealand where he became Head of Physical Education at Otago Boys High School. On returning to Wales he joined Cowbridge School in October 1996.



'KIWI BOB'



THE WELSH SCHOOLS RUGBY UNION CUP 1996/7

ROUND 1 Aberdare Boys CS 0 Cowbridge CS 62

Scorers

Tries: David Kendrick (2) Nick Bain Venn (2) Rhys Williams (2)

Andrew Howard, Steven Callow, Matthew Lewis

Conversions: Owen Ruttley (6)

ROUND 2 Cowbridge CS 51 Neath College 12

Scorers

Tries: James Jones (3) Nick Bain Venn (2) David Kendrick (2) Owen Ruttley

Penalties: Owen Ruttley (1)

Conversions: Owen Ruttley (4)

ROUND 3 Cowbridge CS 16 Gowerton CS 6

Scorers

Tries: James Jones, Rhys Williams

Penalties: Owen Ruttley (2)

QUARTER FINAL Bassaleg CS 11 Cowbridge 34

Scorers

Tries: Mark Morgan (2) Rhys Williams, Nick Howard

Penalties: Owen Ruttley (1)

Conversions: Owen Ruttley (3)

SEMI-FINALS Cowbridge CS 22 Ysgol Tregib 7

Scorers

Tries: James Jones, Owen Ruttley, Nick Howard, Steven Callow

Conversions: Owen Ruttley (1)

FINAL COWBRIDGE CS 8 BRYNTEG CS 6

The rain that kept off in the morning was by the kick off being swept over Cardiff Arms Park by a swirling wind. The Brynteg team, led by Welsh Schools captain Gareth Williams, had won convincingly in the quarter-final against 1995 winners St Davids College and in the semi-final against 1993 winners Cross Keys College.

The dismal weather conditions did not deter a colourful and exuberant crowd of more than 3,000 who were to see a match which made up in excitement and tension for what it lacked in fluent rugby.

Playing with the wind Cowbridge struck first with a try after 12 minutes when a kick by Andrew Merrett deceived the Brynteg full back and Sandy Buchalik made enough space for James Jones get in wide out. They continued to have the better of the first half but the conditions made handling difficult and a number of promising attacks broke down. Brynteg ran a number of penalties in the Cowbridge 22, decisions that were at the end to cost them dear.

In the second half with the wind behind them Brynteg's domination of the line out enabled them to pin Cowbridge down in their own half for long periods. Injuries disrupted the Cowbridge back row, with Mike Morgan and then Nick Howard having to be replaced. Brynteg pulled back 3 points with a penalty but an Owen Ruttley penalty in one of the increasingly rare Cowbridge visits to the Brynteg half restored the lead. A second Brynteg penalty brought the margin back to 2 points and set up a desperately tense final 10 minutes played almost entirely in the Cowbridge 22 to deafening noise from the crowd. The scrum anchored by Eddie Rees held firm in a series of 5 metre scrums. A drop kick in front on the posts was blocked. Relentless tackling held the line. The siege was lifted at last by a long run out of defence by Nike Bain Venn at the final whistle.

Teams

Cowbridge:

David Kendrick, James Jones, Sandy Buchalik (rep Rhys Williams), Andrew Merrett (vice captain), Nick BainVenn, Matthew Lewis, Owen Ruttley, Edward Rees, Ben Thomas, Matthew Saunders, Jonathan Roedemer, Jonathen Bound, Mark Morgan (rep Joe Barnes), Andrew Fahey, Nick Howard (captain) (rep David Pugh).

Brynteg:

Paul Thomas, Christopher Addinell, Charles Butcher, Stephen Hadley, Matthew Jones, Mark Dingle, Robert Morgan, Rhys Gronow, Gareth Williams (captain), Michael Dixon, Huw Alford, Kevin Burke, Gary Punter, Stephen Clatworthy, James Bater.

Scorers

Cowbridge: James Jones try, Owen Ruttley 2 penalties

Brynteg: Matthew Dingle 2 penalties



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Nick Howard Andrew Merrett Edward Rees Rhys Williams

Match Itinerary

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 27 July | Otago Schools at Queenstown |
| 30 July | Christchurch Schools at Christchurch |
| 1 August | Central Region Schools at Palmerston North |
| 5 August | Taranaki Schools at New Plymouth |
| 9 August | New Zealand Schools at Eden Park, Auckland
(curtain raiser to New Zealand v South Africa Test) |
| 10 August | New Zealand Schools 7s Tournament |
| 12 August | Waikato Schools at Hamilton |

GLAN WILLIAMS

who is unable to tour to South Africa because of a back operation.
Best wishes for a speedy recovery

Sonia Jasinski (Team Physiotherapist)



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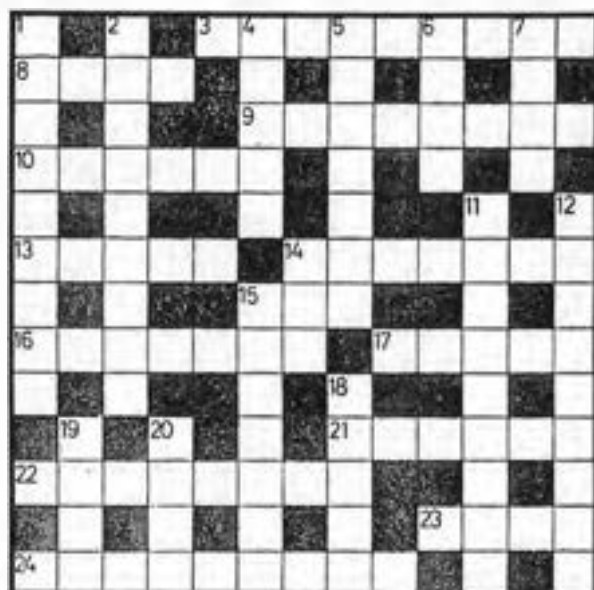
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ACROSS

- 3 Here we are! (9)
 8 Three points (4)
 9 Rivals of 3 in Hugh Andrews Cup (8)
 10 He won't be the next Labour PM (6)
 13 The game and where it started (5)
 14 You'll find his work in the Rijksmuseum (7)
 15 A boulder, designed by computer? (3)
 16 Plead with the tree ant? (7)
 17 Front of Arab's hat is lost in the town (5)
 21 Peter Pan didn't want to be one of these (6)
 22 Rhys, Hugh, John Peter Rhys? (8)
 23 Rivalled by Caerphilly (4)
 24 Steve's always right, an English Pengwyn (9)

DOWN

- 1 Cambridge blue, Welsh international, and headmaster (5, 4)
 2 The only remaining one in the town walls (5, 4)
 4 Greased and boozed? (5)
 5 Macbeth's heath, referees, and whistles? (7)
 6 Jot, tittle, or the ninth letter (4)
 7 Do this and bear it when you're penalised (4)
 11 William started 13 at 13 (4, 5)
 12 A distant memory for Wales (5, 4)
 14 Cask or tax (3)
 15 The motor-car was here to be cleaned (3, 4)
 18 Eaten in a tapes bar in 23 (5)
 19 Goes with gold or chips (4)
 20 It thickens as the story gets complicated (4)

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Onllwyn Brace, Brian Price, Paul Ringer and Robert Jones

Tony Faulkner, Peter Manning and the coaching staff at Cardiff RFC

David Pryor and the members of Cowbridge Choir

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Gwyn James for his support for rugby at the school

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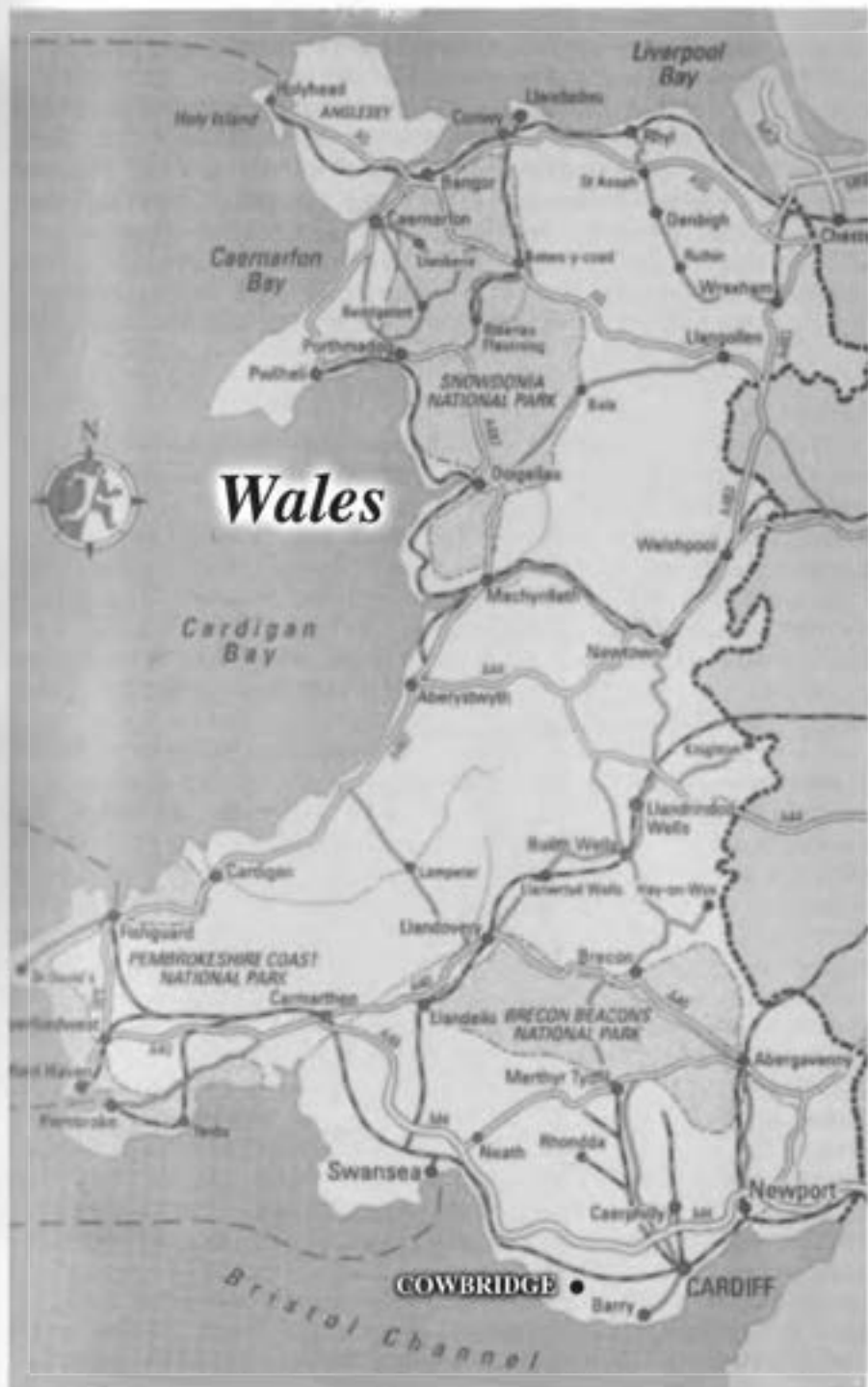
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