



# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Llandovery bid to extend their unbeaten championship record

LLANDOVERY ARE enjoying the best start they have ever had in the West Wales Rugby Union Championship and boast a 100 per cent. record after five consecutive victories.

They're in their 13th competitive season and their fans are beginning to believe that their favourites are in with a chance of scooping at least one trophy this season.

This afternoon they travel to Glais for a Section D match looking for a win which would be their sixth consecutive victory for the first time since joining the WWRU in 1965-66.

Two seasons ago Llandovery completed the double over their Swansea Valley opponents and with 97 points and 15 tries from their five games so far Glais will be hard pressed to stop them.

The other three sides who have not dropped a league point, New Dock Stars, Carmarthen and Bynea, also play away from home with Section A leaders New Dock visiting Seven Sisters, who are unbeaten at home, and who are anxious to avenge the double they conceded to New Dock in 1974-75.

Leading Section C side Carmarthen are ahead in the race for the trophy for being top tries and points scorers with 24 and 141 respectively from their five games. They are away to Swansea Uplands in the first meeting of the two clubs.

Bynea travel to Llandeilo confident of gaining their fifth win on the run and maintain their challenge in second place in Section D. The last time they visited Llandeilo, Bynea scraped home 3-0 after winning 15-3 at home earlier.

Burry Port are still unbeaten in Section A and should remain so unless their visitors Cwmlllynfell find the form that has eluded them so far. The Amman Valley team are without a single championship point although only New Dock, Tumble and Burry Port have scored more tries than them in their section.

### WEST WALES CHAMPIONSHIP

Section A: Barry Port v. Cwmlllynfell; Hendy v. Brynamman; Llandybie v. Kidwelly; Seven Sisters v. New Dock Stars; Wannariwydd v. Tumble.  
Section B: Abercrag v. Ystradgynlais; Amman United v. Cwmavon; Lougharne v. Cynant; Penclawdd v. Ystalyfera; Pen-y-groes v. Felinfoel.  
Section C: Cefneithin v. Ammanford; Gower-En v. Pontardulais; Llansamlet v. Yavir; Morriston v. Loughor; Swansea Uplands v. Carmarthen.  
Section D: Cwmors v. Pontardawe; Glais v.

Llandovery: Llandeilo v. Bynea; Pontyberem v. Gorseinon; Skewen v. Trebanos.

Haverfordwest return to competitive rugby this afternoon when they visit Neyland hoping to keep up their challenge for the Pembrokeshire Championship Shield.

After losing their unbeaten record against Whitland last week, the Dock will be hoping to redeem themselves with a home win against Fishguard and on present form they should have no difficulty in keeping their home record.

Cardigan, unbeaten in the championship this season, should start as favourites to defeat Tenby Utd. But the visitors have a match-winner in scrum half Kevin Lewis, who could well upset Cardigan's hopes of challenging for the leading position.

St. David's, the newcomers to the championship this term, are still seeking their first success. With Milford managing 30 points in their last game against Pembroke, it is most unlikely that they will collect their first win.

In the other two games, Llangwm take on Narberth with the visitors expected to win, while champions Whitland, home to Aberystwyth, should add another victory in their determination to retain the championship shield.

### PEMBROKESHIRE CHAMPIONSHIP

Neyland v. Haverfordwest; Cardigan v. Tenby Utd.; Pembroke Dock Utd. v. Fishguard; Llangwm v. Narberth; St. David's v. Milford Haven; Whitland v. Aberystwyth.

### SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

At the recent awards ceremony of Llandovery Rugby Football Club, former pupils of Llanwrda C.P. School were in the limelight when the Best Player of the Year under 16 years trophy was awarded to Eurig Evans, formerly of the village Post Office, and that for the Best Player of the Year in the Youth XV to Carwyn Williams. Not to be outdone, his brother Geraint gained a similar trophy for his prowess on the rugby field at the Polytechnic College of Wales, Tre-forest.

The Williams brothers are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. Dai (Bach) Williams, Brodawel, and great things are expected of both young men in the future.

Neighbouring Llansadwrn has its claim to some local sporting fame too, inasmuch that the 'Best Player of the Year in the 1st XV' was Alan Walters, who resides at Bromfield and is a member of the teaching staff at Tygroes C.I. School.

## Llandovery v Pontyberem

After enjoying territorial advantage for most of the first half Llandovery scored right on the half-time whistle from a clean line-out Geraint Williams produced a fine loop in the centre to let M. DYER through for a corner try.

Final: Llandovery 18pts., Pontyberem 3



## Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# LLANDOVERY RACE AHEAD

Glais 9 pts  
Llandovery 19 pts

Llandovery surged into the lead in the fourth minute when Captain and full back Terry Williams came into the line, and gave a fine pass to Alun Williams, who raised over in the corner. Llandovery went further ahead when Terry Williams dropped a neat goal and then came the best try of the match. Noel Page and Howard Ingram made ground before giving the final pass for prop Gareth Williams, to race in under the posts.

Then centre Geraint Williams scored a good try, after good work by Mal Page

and Meirion Dyer.

After 20 minutes Llandovery were 15-0 up and the forwards were dominating set scrums, rucks and mauls, with only Alan Jones, Glais's jumper, holding his own at the linesout.

Glais came into the game with a good penalty just on half-time from Alan Jones.

Although dominating most of the second half Llandovery could easily have let the game slip from their grasp. They were winning so much ball that everyone appeared to want to score. It was then that Glais grabbed a very good try after an astute interception by wing Billy

Parry. He ran 50 yds, and touched down between the posts. Alan Jones converted.

Centre Geraint Williams put matters safe for Llandovery. Following a fine break by wing Alun Williams, he rolled over for a touch down in the corner.

Wynford Harris, who came on at half time, for John Davies, had a fine game, as did Rusty Jones and Nigel Clark, in the forwards. Fly half Alan Morgan, and centre Geraint Williams, were the pick of the backs.

This is Llandovery's best ever start in the West Wales League, since they joined 13 years ago.

# Llandovery march on

Glais 9 pts., Llandovery 19

LLANDOVERY shot into the lead in the fourth minute when captain and full-back Terry Williams came into the line, and sent Alun Williams racing over in the corner.

And they went further ahead when Williams dropped a neat goal.

After 12 minutes Llandovery increased their lead with the best try of the match. After a move involving Noel Payne, Howard Ingram made ground before giving the final pass to prop Gareth Williams, who dived over between the posts.

Then centre Geraint Williams scored a good try after the initial breaks by Mal Page and Meirion Dyer.

Wynford Harries, who came on at half time for John Davies, had a fine game as did Rusty Jones and Nigel Clarke in the forwards. Fly half Alan Morgan and centre Geraint Williams were the pick of the Llandovery backs.

This is now Llandovery's best ever start in the West Wales League, since they joined 13 years ago, and if they continue to do the basics well, their win run will continue.

### DOMINANT

By this stage Llandovery's forwards were dominating the set scrums, rucks and mauls with only Alan Jones, Glais's jumper, holding his own in the lines.

Glais, however, came into the game with a good penalty just on half time by Alan Jones and although Llandovery dominated most of the second half they could easily have let the game slip from their grasp.

They were winning so much ball that everyone appeared to want to score themselves, and in this time Glais scored a very good try. From an astute interception by wing Billy Parry was ran 50 yards and touched down between the posts for Alan Jones to convert.

### RACED OVER

Centre Geraint Williams, however, put matters safe for Llandovery when following a fine break by wing Alun Williams he



# Llandoverey run in seven tries

*January 1978*  
By EIFION MORGAN

Cwmgorse 3 pts; Llandoverey 36

Llandoverey overwhelmed Cwmgorse in the second half, scoring six tries during this period without reply.

Their pack was dominant throughout and gave their backs ample supply of good ball. And when a little complacency crept in, full back and captain Tony Williams showed fine tactical sense and leadership qualities.

The Cwmgorse backs, though weakened by injury to several key players, never gave up trying. Huw Bassett Davies gave a good all-round performance and a useful service to outside half Gareth Evans, and Peter Williams had several penetrating runs in the middle of the field.

The pattern of the game was soon established and Cwmgorse had several narrow escapes early on in the match.

## MAUL

The relentless Llandoverey pressure was only interrupted by some clever running out of defence by the Cwmgorse backs, and one good run by Eric Higgins the left wing was memorable.

Llandoverey took the lead, however, after a move initiated by Geraint Williams, Malcolm Page, who was conspicuous in the loose, forced play up to the Cwmgorse line only to see his inside pass knocked on.

Page followed up with a vital strike against the head and when Alan Morgan was stopped short of the line Handel Davies scored from the resulting maul. Davies also converted his own try.

Towards the end of the half Cwmgorse came more into the game and Gareth Evans reduced arrears with a penalty to limit Llandoverey to a 6-3 interval lead.

## VINTAGE

With the advantage of the slope and a tiring Cwmgorse pack Llandoverey produced some vintage rugby in the second half.

Immediately following the resumption Tony Williams caught a high kick and broke through an attempted tackle and hoisted a kick deep into Cwmgorse territory. The Llandoverey pack arrived quickly to win the loose ball and when Cwmgorse failed to clear a kick ahead under their own posts Huw Lewis picked up and dived over for Handel Davies to convert.

Within ten minutes Lewis had scored again following an inside pass from full-back Tony Williams.

And the game had barely restarted when Llandoverey went further ahead, and again Tony Williams was the instigator causing a frustrated Cwmgorse supporter to comment "that full-back again!"

From a scrum taken against the head the ball was worked along the Llandoverey line to Dyer on the left wing who passed in-

side to Williams who tested full-back Jones with a difficult high kick. When the clearance failed Martin Phillips, the visitors' number one, gathered to score near the posts and Davies converted.

## EXAMPLE

Williams was again the instigator of the fifth try following some indecisive play he set a fine example to his team mates in setting up the try for Geraint Williams which Davies again converted.

With less than ten minutes of the game remaining centre Huw Lewis scored his third try of the afternoon.

Williams again with a high diagonal kick had set up an attacking position deep in the Cwmgorse 22m area. The ball was moved along the line from the loose maul to Alun Williams on the right wing. Geraint Williams looped around the outside passed inside to Williams who gave Lewis the final pass.

Cwmgorse came back into the game and forced play to the Llandoverey line. But a scissors between Tony Williams and Huw Lewis completely wrong footed them and Geraint Williams continued the move and set Melvin Dyer clear on the half way line to score in the corner.

## PROMOTION

Llandoverey now look forward to playing in Division C next season.

A glance at the league tables shows that this will not be an easy programme but a useful base has been set this season. Several young players have given good accounts of themselves, while the pack has several experienced players who have given valuable service to the club.

# Late tries clinch win

Llandoverey 16 pts  
Cwmgorse 7 pts

score following a strong run down the right hand touch line but was adjudged to have put a foot in touch.

Two tries scored in the dying minutes of the second half decided this game in favour of Llandoverey at the expense of a much improved Cwmgorse side.

This win came at a critical time for Llandoverey as the other promotion challengers were hotting up their pursuit.

The game was played in a strong cross wind and the visitors held out until seven minutes before the final whistle.

Both sides missed penalties and the climatic conditions also contributed to some errors.

The home side's tactical kicking, mainly due to Allan Morgan, proved effective and resulted in considerable territorial advantage.

After 30 minutes Cwmgorse opened the scoring. Llandoverey attempted a blind side move but Peter Williams, the Cwmgorse centre, intercepted an overhead pass and ran in for a try from the half way line. The conversion attempt failed, and within five minutes Llandoverey had reduced the arrears.

Interpassing between the forwards featuring Clarke, M. Page, and Walters took play to the visitors line.

An offside infringement gave Nigel Clarke an opportunity to score with a penalty and make the half-time score 3-3.

## NEAT GOAL

Almost immediately after the restart Cwmgorse increased their lead. From an indirect free kick on the Llandoverey 22 metre line Gethin Edwards took a tap penalty and dropped a neat goal. Llandoverey came back strongly and Geraint Williams reduced the arrears with a 35 metre penalty.

For the next twenty minutes Llandoverey continued to press. Alun Williams was unlucky not to

## PRESSURE

With seven minutes of the match remaining Llandoverey took the lead. From a line out on the Cwmgorse line Malcolm Page charged down an attempted clearance kick and Nigel Clarke scored. Geraint Williams converted with a kick from near the touch line.

They continued to pressurise Cwmgorse and when the full back misjudged a high kick Nigel Clarke was again on hand to score his second try and give Llandoverey a winning 16-7 lead, and halt the losing sequence.



# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Derby double

Llandovery 29 pts,  
Llandeilo 0

Llandovery achieved their first 'double' of the season when they won this game by six tries, a penalty, and a conversion to nil. Although this was a 'local derby' it was played in good spirit and well refereed by Gwyn Jones (Ogmore Vale).

Essentially six tries represents the territorial advantage that Llandovery enjoyed and with greater accuracy in goal kicking the final score would have shown their superiority to greater effect.

The visitors were invariably pushed in the set scrums, and what ball they obtained from the linesout, mainly due to Chris Webb, placed Llandeilo's scrum half Colin Griffiths in all sorts of trouble.

### OFFSIDE

Within five minutes Handel Davies gave Llandovery the lead with a penalty goal following an offside infringement.

The home side increased their lead in the 30th minute. From a scrum on the halfway line the ball went out to Allan Williams on the right wing who cut inside before being stopped. Martin Phillips was again quick to the breakdown and set a movement which resulted in Allan Walters, substituting on the left wing, going over in the corner.

Within five minutes Walters added another try. From a scrum near the visitors line, intelligent play by No. 8 Nigel Clarke gave Walters a scoring pass. Tony Williams converted to give Llandovery a 13-0 interval lead.

Immediately following the restart the home side went further ahead. Walters caught the visitors scrum half in possession at a lineout and

a well timed pass by John Davies allowed Tony Williams to enter the line from fullback and free Allan Williams to score in the corner.

Llandeilo intensified their defensive play and prevented further scoring until 20 minutes into the second half when Nigel Clarke, repeating an earlier move, picked up the ball at a set scrum and drove over.

### THIRD TRY

Allan Walters scored his third try following a blind side break from a set piece by scrum half Handel Davies.

Llandovery's sixth try was scored by substitute Arnold Hughes following a break down the middle by Geraint Williams.

A notable feature of this game was the much improved play of the Llandovery back row who did much to ensure success. With heavier ground conditions now to be expected this particular phase of the game will assume increasing importance both in defence and attack.

## Bob foils Llandovery

Llandovery 0,  
Bynea 9 pts.

gained them good territorial advantage.

A penalty goal and a goal by Bob Prendaville were sufficient to earn Bynea a further two league points.

The game was hard fought and played under atrocious conditions in the second half, and though Llandovery lost their second game in succession this was a much improved performance particularly at forward where Peter Nitsch was outstanding in the loose.

The quality back play which has been a feature of recent games at Llandovery was hampered by poor conditions, and a considerable amount of 'offside' play which went unpenalised.

### PENALTY

Bynea kicked-off into a strong cross wind and within three minutes of the start Bob Prendaville gave them the lead with a penalty from just outside the 22 metre line following an infringement at a loose maul.

Llandovery fought back into the game and came close to scoring but David Richards was having a good game for the visitors. This line kicking

Within two minutes of the second period Bynea scored the only try of the game. Following a scrum on the Llandovery line, Prendaville nipped over near the corner. The same player converted to give Bynea a 9-0 lead. So Llandovery had conceded vital points within minutes of the start of each half.

The Llandovery pack came back strongly. Bynea, although appearing to be heavier, were pushed back in the set scrums and for long periods in the second half Llandovery enjoyed territorial advantage.

## Lla-lack-spainie

Llandovery 13 pts.  
Glais 6.

In their final game of 1977 Llandovery gained two vital league points but lacked sparkle.

The pack provided good possession throughout but the backs were often unable to make full use of this advantage in the face of the sound Glais defence.

Glais outside half, Huw Jones, distinguished himself with sound handling and good line kicking.

The early play was indecisive and both defences were dominant. Llandovery gradually began to establish territorial advantage and after 22 minutes John Davies gave them the lead with a penalty following a late tackle on Geraint Williams.

Glais came back into the game and eight minutes from the interval Alan Jones brought the sides level with a penalty.

### FIRST TRY

Right on half-time the home side scored the first try of the game. The ball was fed out to the Llandovery backs and Jeff Augustus ran strongly up the left wing. He was stopped 35 metres from

the line and a maul developed. Martin Phillips emerged with the ball, linked with Malcolm Page and took the return pass before diving over for a spectacular corner try.

Llandovery scrum half, Handel Davies, converted with a superb kick from the touchline to give the home side a six point lead at the half way stage.

### PENALTY

Glais reduced the arrears immediately after the restart when Alan Jones kicked a penalty from 35 metres. The final result was in doubt throughout the second half and Glais threatened to score on a couple of occasions. The home side's attacks were often ruined by poor handling as well as by the Glais defence.

Only in the final minutes did Llandovery increase their lead and secure victory. Tony Williams put a high kick deep into the visitors 22 metre area and forced Glais to carry the ball over their own try line.

From the scrum Glais withstood pressure as first Handel Davies and then Noel Page tried to drive over. A try did come when Tony Williams entered the line and broke through to score near the corner.

Llandovery when following a line

C 26





# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Llandovery run ends

Pontardawe 6 pts., Llandovery nil

TWO penalties late in the first half decided this game in favour of Pontardawe and ended Llandovery's unbeaten run in the championship.

The foundations for the win was laid by the home side's pack where solid scrummaging brought several strikes against the head.

And in the lines out, particularly in the first half, Geraint Bale gave a good account of himself with his two handed catching.

Pontardawe, however, gained their most crucial advantage in the loose play where their pack was invariably quicker to the breakdown and consequently won substantial ball from this vital phase of the game.

### MISSES

Llandovery kicked off with a slight wind advantage and after some initial Pontardawe pressure, the visitors missed two opportunities to take the lead with unsuccessful penalty attempts.

Llandovery continued to probe the home side's defence with Geraint Williams the pick of the visitor's backs. His elusive running and accurate kicking being a feature of Llandovery's attacking play in the first half.

Gradually, however, Pontardawe came more into the game and dealt competently with the short kicks ahead from the visitor's backs. Garry Bracey at outside half and Peter Knight the Pontardawe full back returned these kicks often with considerable advantage.

Two infringements in the last five minutes of the first half allowed Garry Bracey to kick two neat penalties from practically identical positions outside the 22m line to give Pontardawe a 6-0 interval lead.

### ERRORS

The second half was played in the same vein. Llandovery, on several occasions, failed to maintain sufficient pressure when near the Pontardawe line and some fundamental errors often gave the home side territorial relief.

The Llandovery backs were unable to run their way through around the covering defence and when some initiatives looked promising—notably by Geraint Williams, the support play was sadly lacking.

Following some adverse criticisms recently in the press, it is worth reporting that this game was competently controlled by Mr. Owen Jones.

## LLANDOVERY WIN A THRILLER

by Eifion Morgan

Llandovery 15pts., Abergavenny 7

Abergavenny visited Llandovery for the first time in ten years and contributed to a fine game played in an excellent spirit.

Conditions underfoot were excellent, and both sides ran the ball when the opportunity allowed and the home side deservedly won, scoring two tries to one by the visitors.

Abergavenny's heavier pack posed problems for Llandovery in the set pieces. However, the home side were first to score when Handel Davies initiated a set move from a penalty. Allan Walters ran at the opposition and passed to prop Dai Thomas who did well to score although several visiting forwards were in close attendance. Handel Davies converted.

Within ten minutes Llandovery increased their lead when Allan Morgan was on hand to touch down when an Abergavenny player dropped the ball over his own line. Davies again converted.

### PENALTIES

With the blustery wind at their backs, the visitors soon reduced the arrears when Nigel Evans kicked a long range penalty within ten minutes of the start of the second half. However Handel Davies replied immediately with a 30 metre attempt.

Good kicking down wind forced Llandovery to defend and an ill-judged drop out gave Abergavenny wing Dai James a run to the line and for a period of five minutes Llandovery's line was under seige.

Half way through the second period Abergavenny reduced arrears when centre Bob Thomas broke through the middle to score. Llandovery came within inches of scoring later in the game but the Abergavenny defence held out.

## LLANGENNECH CLAIM THE DOUBLE

4-11-78  
by Eifion Morgan

Llangennech 12 pts., Llandovery 10  
Llangennech got the championship double with a try ten minutes from the end of a match marred by many handling errors on both sides.

The first scoring opportunities went to Llangennech, but they missed several kickable penalties during the first quarter, and only a Dylan Jones attempt was successful.

The same player missed a glorious opportunity to set up a try late in the first half, when he broke through the middle. If only he had drawn the fullback a try would have been meritable.

### OFFSIDE

However, it was nearly half time before Llangennech increased their lead. Scrum half Raymond Jones ran away from the scrum without the ball and Llandovery were caught offside. Dylan Jones made no mistake with the kick.

Llandovery came back strongly and on several occasions were held up on the home line.

Twice flanker Allan Walters was within inches and unpenalised interference stopped Geraint Williams dribbling through.

Within ten minutes of the restart, however, Llandovery had drawn level. Allan Morgan tackled his opposite number strongly and the ball bounced loose. Geraint Williams, who worked tirelessly all afternoon, picked up and set up a try for Handel Davies which Davies also converted.

### ON TOP

Although the Llangennech forwards were gradually getting on top it was Llandovery who scored again when left wing Melrion Dyer crossed in the corner.

With ten minutes remaining it would have been prudent for Llandovery to defend this lead carefully. However loose play allowed Llangennech back into the game.

A Llandovery attack with the full back in the line and a further dropped pass allowed Llangennech to force play from their own half right up to the visitor's line where only a desperate tackle prevented Huw Thomas scoring for the home side.

A line-out led to a scrum where Llandovery unexpectedly were awarded the 'put in' Robert Woodlock took a decisive strike against the head and number eight Keith Williams crossed for a try close to the posts. Dylan Jones converted and although Llandovery attacked again Llangennech ran out winners.



## Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

*Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams*



Llandovery before Saturday's narrow 10-7 defeat at the hands of table topping Bynea. In the picture are: Tony Williams, Jeff Augustus, John Davies, Geraint Williams, Alun Williams, Alan Morgan, Handel

Davies, Rusty Jones, Mac Page, Gareth Williams, Noel Page, Peter Nitsch, Alun Walters, Nigel Clarke, Martin Phillips, Huw Lewis, Wynford Harris and referee, Mr. G. Phillips. (Ifor Jacob, Burry Port)

# Llandovery



# Llandovery just fail

Bynea 10 pts  
Llandovery 7 pts

With the last kick of the game Bynea kept their 100 per cent league record when Spencer Saunders dropped a goal and deprived Llandovery of a well deserved draw.

The game saw both sides attacking furiously but sub standard refereeing, was an unfortunate feature and repeated warnings were allowed to go unheeded.

Bynea started at a cracking pace. The fine combination of back row play, with Hyndeman prominent, and the tricky runs of Prendeville at scrum half made dangerous headway into Llandovery territory and resulted in the first score after 15 minutes.

Hyndeman charged from the back of the lineout and eluded his opposite number to run deep into the visitors 22 metre area. From the ensuing maul Prendeville fed Dai Richards at outside half who dropped a goal.

The home side continued to press with their heavier pack winning a lot of loose ball, but the Llandovery pack stuck to its task manfully and took several balls against the head.

Bynea increased their lead after half an hour. Following an injury to a Llandovery player which did not necessitate him leaving the field, some indecision saw Alan Walters, the visitors

flanker, withdrawn from the pack and the home side capitalised on this immediately.

Interpassing among the Bynea back row forced play into the Llandovery '22' area, and from a loose maul Richards hoisted a well directed kick towards the corner flag. The ball eluded the cover defence and right wing Dennis Gravell gathered and scored.

## FAILED

The pace of the game began to tell on the heavier Bynea forwards and the last quarter of the half saw the visitors pressing hard. Llandovery however failed to take advantage of the four penalties they were awarded - all within kickable distances.

One penalty was right on the Bynea line but Llandovery failed to score.

The second half saw Llandovery attacking strongly with scrum half Handel Davies having a fine game and giving the tiring Bynea back row a difficult time.

After 15 minutes they reduced the arrears when John Davies kicked a penalty, and within 10 minutes they were level.

Handel Davies received the ball from a loose maul on half-way line and broke

round the blind side, kicked ahead, gathered and ran in from the 22 metre line for an unconverted try.

## SHAKEN

Bynea seemed visibly shaken and defended their home record resolutely. Prendeville, as usual, had a fine game both in attack and defence, and the home side appeared to be satisfied with the draw. With the second half running out, Clarke was only marginally wide with a penalty attempt from the half way line.

With the game well into injury time Bynea launched what was to be their final assault.

Prendeville hoisted a high kick into the '22'. This was cleanly fielded by the Llandovery full back who called for the 'mark'. From his position behind the play the referee allowed the move to continue and a maul developed.

Again Bynea worked the ball back and Prendeville fed Saunders who dropped a goal to win the game.

It was a big blow for Llandovery who had given a good account of themselves and were within seconds of being the first side to take a point from Bynea this season.





# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s cgw03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## PIPPED BY LAST GASP DROP GOAL

by EIFION MORGAN

Bynea 10 pts., Llandovery 7

BYNEA kept their 100 per cent league record intact with the last kick of the match, Spencer Saunders dropping a goal to deprive Llandovery of a well-deserved draw.

The game was played on heavy ground conditions in a rather dismal winter afternoon. But the game was anything but dull, with both sides in turn attacking furiously.

Sub standard refereeing, however, was an unfortunate feature.

Bynea started at a cracking pace and with a fine combination of backrow play scrum-half Prenderville made dangerous headway into Llandovery territory

### DROP GOAL

This resulted in the first score after 15 minutes. Hyndman charged from the back of the lineout and eluded his opposite number to run deep into the visitors 22m. area. From the ensuing maul Prenderville fed Dai Richards at outside half who dropped a goal to give Bynea a 3-0 lead.

The home side continued to press with their heavier pack winning a lot of loose ball, but the Llandovery forwards stuck to their tasks and took several balls against the head in the set scrums.

### INDECISION

Bynea increased their lead after half an hour. Following an injury to a Llandovery player which did not necessitate him leaving the field, some indecision saw Alan Walters the visitors flanker withdrawn from the pack, and the home side cashed in on this immediately.

Inter-passing among the Bynea backrow forced play into the Llandovery 22m area, and from the ensuing loose maul Richards hoisted a well directed kick towards the corner flag. The ball eluded the covering defence and right wing Dennis Gravell gathered and scored far out.

### REVERSAL

The pace, however, began to tell on the heavier Bynea forwards and the last quarter of the half saw Llandovery pressing hard. However, they failed to take advantage of the four penalties they were awarded — all within kickable distances.

One penalty awarded was right on the Bynea line but Llandovery failed to score and turned around 7-0 down.

The second half saw Llandovery attacking strongly with scrum-half, Handel Davies kicking a fine game and giving the tiring Bynea backrow a difficult time.

After 15 minutes they reduced arrears when John Davies kicked a penalty. And within 10 minutes

they were level. Handel Davies received the ball from a loose maul on the halfway line and broke round the blind side, kicked ahead, gathered and ran in from the 22m line to score an unconverted try.

### ON TOP

Bynea seemed visibly shaken and defended their home record resolutely. Prenderville, as usual, was having a fine game both in attack and defence, and the home side appeared to be satisfied with the draw. However, with time running out, Clarke was only marginally wide with a penalty attempt from the halfway line.

With the game well into injury time Bynea launched what was to be their final attack. Prenderville hoisted a high kick into the 22m area which was cleanly fielded by the Llandovery fullback who called for the 'mark.'

From his position behind the play the referee allowed play to continue and a maul developed. Again Bynea worked the ball back from the maul and Prenderville fed Saunders who dropped a goal to win the game.

There was no time to restart a game which was considered the best seen at Bynea this season.

The result, however, was a considerable disappointment to the Llandovery team who had given a good account of themselves and were within seconds of being the first side to take a point from the Section-D leaders.

Thursday, September 14, 1978

## LLANDYBIE SPARKED BY RODERICK'S PENALTIES

BY E. NOEL LEWIS

LLANDYBIE 21pts  
LLANDOVERY 4

Despite an excellent ball-winning performance by their pack, Llandovery crashed to defeat in this friendly encounter between the clubs.

And although the match was far from being one-sided, as the score suggests, the visiting backs and threequarters must carry the burden of blame for defeat.

They squandered chance after chance through rather aimless handling, and suffered from a famine of ideas.

Another factor which contributed to Llandybrie's win was the goal kicking of full back Clive Roderick who landed three penalty goals and two conversions for a personal tally of 13 points.

In contrast Llandovery missed a number of relatively easy kicks, one from short range and in front of Llandybrie's posts.

In retrospect the two tries scored by Llandybrie to Llandovery's one, would have been a further reflection of the run of play.

Roderick's goal kicking qualities were soon seen to advantage when heotted home his first penalty goal after wing Ray Leech had been tripped on the 22 metre line.

This score came against the run of play, and soon after Llandovery had a glorious opportunity to equalise when centre Huw Lewis was illegally obstructed. Tony Williams, however, shot wide from the easiest of positions.

### ERROR

Continuing to win good ball from rucks and lines Llandovery again set up camp in Llandybrie's 22 metre area. But again their backs lacked enterprise and it was from a Llandybrie error that they took the lead.

After play had been opened up in front of his own posts by adventurous Llandybrie skipper Darrel Edwards, a pass went to ground.

Llandovery quick heeled from the easing scrum and wing Alan Williams crossed in the corner to open their accounts.

### PENALTIES

Just before half time, however, Llandybrie again seized the initiative when powerful wing Ken Davies pounced on a defensive mistake and booted forward before picking up and trotting over unopposed. Roderick landed the conversion points with a touchline kick.

Two more penalty goals by Roderick in the second half split the end of Llandovery's hopes of winning, and midway through the half, Darrel Edwards charged down a kick by Geraint Williams and followed up to score, Roderick again converting.

Pick of Llandovery's hard-working eight, who deserved a better response from their back division, were Nigel Clarke and Noel Page.





## Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams



The Crazy Wanderers, an outfit from Llanwrda, won the annual rugby sevens at Rhandirmwyn Show, beating Bois y Mynydd, a team led by Wales centre, Ray Gravell, by 18 points to nil in the final.  
Photo: Martin Smith, Llandeilo.

# Penalties decide

Pontardawe 6 pts  
Llandovery 0

Two penalties late in the first half decided this game and ended Llandovery's unbeaten League run.

The foundation for the win was laid by the home pack. Their solid scrummaging produced several strikes against the head while in the linesout, particularly in the first half, Geraint Bale gave a good account of himself with his two-handed catching.

Pontardawe gained their most crucial advantage in the loose play where their pack was invariably quicker to the breakdown and consequently won substantial ball from this vital phase of the game.

Llandovery kicked off with a slight wind advantage and after some initial Pontardawe pressure, the visitors missed

two opportunities to take the lead with penalty attempts.

Llandovery continued to probe the home side's defence with Geraint Williams the pick of the backs. His elusive running and accurate kicking were a feature of Llandovery's attacking play.

Gradually the 'Greens' came more into the game and dealt competently with the short kicks ahead from the visitors' backs.

Garry Bracey at outside half and Peter Knight the Pontardawe full back returned these kicks often with considerable advantage.

Two infringements in the last five minutes of the first half allowed Garry Bracey to kick two neat penalties from practically identical positions outside the 22m line and give

Pontardawe a 6-0 interval lead.

### ERRORS

The second half was played in the same vein. Llandovery, on several occasions, failed to maintain sufficient pressure when near the Pontardawe line and some fundamental errors often gave the home side territorial relief.

The Llandovery backs were unable to run their way through or around the cover defence and when some situations looked promising, notably involving Geraint Williams, the support play was sadly lacking.

● Following some adverse criticisms recently of referees it is worth reporting that this game was very competently controlled by Mr. Owen Jones.



## Llandover RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Errors cost Llandover this high-score game

Llandover 4pts., Pontardawe 8

Pontardawe arrived at Llandover in a confident mood having won the previous encounter at home, and with some good recent performances to their credit notably their big win last week against Cwmgor. Their play fully justified their optimism and ran out winners by two tries to one.

The visitors completely dominated the lines-out where John James repeatedly outjumped the opposition, and with prop Roy Pascoe tidying up, Pontardawe enjoyed unlimited ball from this phase of the game. This allowed Julian Bracey at outside half to kick Pontardawe into strong attacking positions and foil many promising Llandover attacks.

Whilst the Llandover forwards did well to hold their heavier opponents in the set scrums, the visitors gained an appreciable advantage in the loose play where Roy James was conspicuous.

Llandover were unable to effect the final move that could have altered the ultimate result. In rapid succession during the first

half, two forward passes prevented certain tries and on another occasion, Jeff Augustus was over the line only to be recalled for a foot in touch.

The home side's backs were also guilty of handling errors when the situation looked promising. Such errors were particularly unfortunate when the home side attempted to run penalty awards from within their own half. Once again Geraint Williams was the pick of the home side's backs in both attack and defence.

### TERRITORIAL ADVANTAGE

The game was played under fairly heavy ground conditions, but Pontardawe were on top and only some good clearance kicks by Alan Morgan at outside half relieved the pressure.

Llandover were unable to gain substantially from several penalties awarded to them, but after 20 minutes with the home side coming more into the game they went ahead through an unconverted try. Tony Williams the Llandover full back kicked the ball

forward, for Martin Phillips the Llandover flanker to score a crucial try.

Having weathered considerable pressure Llandover were in the lead — a lead they could have improved almost immediately.

### FORWARD PASSES

Twice within a minute a Llandover player crossed the line only to be recalled when the referee adjudged the final pass to the forward.

Right on half time Pontardawe levelled the scores. Roy James charged down an attempted clearance kick and the ball was moved out along the Pontardawe line for Nigel Preece to finally score, a beautiful try.

### DECISIVE TRY

With both sides striving for a win the play followed the pattern of the first half, with Pontardawe pressing hard and only good tackling notably by Geraint Williams prevented further scores. Half way through the second half, Pontardawe scored again, this time through centre Gordon Williams who ran through a gaping hole in midfield to score.

# Hugh's kick won it for Gorseinon

Gorseinon 9 pts., Llandover 7

THE PATTERN of the game was set by a very strong wind blowing downfield resulting in each side being dominant in each half.

Playing with the wind in the first half Llandover scored a try and a drop goal but missed kickable penalties—misses which they were to regret later.

Within ten minutes of the start John Davies gave them the lead with a drop goal following an indirect free kick. But they could not add to their score until right on half time when Geraint Williams scored a try following a kick ahead by Alan Morgan.

### FINE KICKS

Gorseinon had the advantage in the second half, and Huw Jones was unlucky with a penalty before Allan Harris crossed for a try from broken play which Jones converted with a fine kick from near the touch line.

The visitors held on to their slender lead until injury time when again Huw Jones kicked a fine penalty from 40 metres to give Gorseinon victory and two league points.



# Llandover RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Geraint swings it Llandover's way

by EIFION MORGAN

Llandover 15 pts., Skewen 6

ONE of the best runs seen at Llandover for many a season added some welcome sparkle to an otherwise indifferent performance by the home side.

And it carried an added bonus in the form of a spectacular try for Geraint Williams which regained the lead for Llandover.

Receiving the ball well inside his own half Williams stepped inside his immediate opponent and with perfectly timed side steps beat another four defenders before crossing the Skewen line.

The run was a timely reminder of the vast potential and footballing ability possessed by the young centre.

### PENALTIES

The conversion by Handel Davies gave Llandover back the three points lead they had lost earlier in the second half when Roddy Richards pushed Skewen in front with two penalty goals in reply to a penalty by Davies in the first period.

And up to then Llandover's display had disappointed their fans. Although their lighter forwards had got the better of the Skewen eight, they could not penetrate a tight defence.

### NO SUPPORT

Support, also, was missing, as was seen when a glorious break by flyhalf Alan Morgan which took play to the Skewen line where the defence was allowed to recover.

After Williams's brilliant try, Llandover increased their lead by two more penalty goals, last of which gave Handel Davies his hat-trick.

## Williams magic turns the tide

Llandover 15 pts. Skewen 6 pts

One of the best breaks seen at Llandover produced a sparkle in a game marred by fundamental errors.

The Skewen pack, although virtually the same as last season, were disappointing, and their young half backs had a mediocre afternoon. Llandover enjoyed considerable territorial advantage especially in the first half but were unable to maintain sustained pressure on the Skewen line.

Llandover kicked off with the advantage of a stiff breeze and were immediately on the attack. Indeed, it was fully 20 minutes before Skewen had their first scoring opportunity when Roddy Richards was wide with a penalty attempt.

Though the home side pack was getting the better of the heavier Skewen eight in the set pieces the score hardly reflected this supremacy. Three long range penalty attempts were missed before Llandover took the lead with a Handel Davies penalty from in front of the posts.

Llandover were camped in their opponent's half and one glorious break by outside half Allan Morgan took play up to the time. Lack of support allowed their defence to

recover.

Llandover, however, could not maintain sustained pressure and were continually forced out of their opponents '22'. The back play also failed to penetrate the Skewen central defence and at half time the home side only held a three point advantage.

The second half was barely minutes old when Skewen levelled the scores. The ball came back slowly from a loose maul and the Llandover halves were caught in possession under their own posts. An offside infringement at the maul allowed Roddy Richards to kick an easy penalty. Almost immediately the same player kicked Skewen into the lead. So within five minutes the home side supporters were shocked to see their team behind against bottom of the table Skewen.

With the Llandover backs strangely ineffective against a Skewen threequarter line who were up quickly to tackle it needed a classical break from centre Geraint Williams to break the stalemate.

Receiving the ball 35 metres out Williams went inside his man and after a series of four perfectly timed side steps scored half way out. This was the finest break seen at Llandover for many a season and reminded the crowd of what an exciting footballer Williams is.

Hopefully more of this will be evident in future. Handel Davies converted and Llandover had regained a three point lead.

With Llandover forcing play again into the Skewen half, the visitors were relying heavily on their young half backs Mike and Alan Davies. Both players settled down as the game progressed.

Two further penalties by Handel Davies made the game safe for Llandover though Skewen returned to the offensive late on.





# Llandoverv RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## RFC

Llandoverv RFC held their annual presentation buffet and dance at the Castle Hotel on April 28th. The chief guest was Mrs. M. E. Halliday J.P. who together with the club president Dr. T. Williams and club chairman Mr. Haydn Hudson presented the awards to the various recipients.

The John Halliday player of the year award were presented to the following by Mrs. Halliday J.P.

1 XV Alan Walters; 2 XV Elfyn Jenkins; Youth XV Carwyn Williams; Under 16 XV Eurig Evans.

Llandoverv RFC D. T. Davies Clubman of the year trophy. Mr. Ivor Jackson presented by Dr. T. Williams.

Mr. Hudson presented Mr. Rusty Jones with an inscribed tankard to mark his retirement after loyal playing service of over 550 games for the club. The chairman also presented Mr. Handel Davies with an inscribed tankard as a token of the Easter tour to Tyne and Wear which Handel, through illness, was unable to undertake.

Mr. Hudson, in his speech, praised the success of the 1 XV in gaining promotion to Division C in the West Wales league, and especially congratulated Nigel Clarke in scoring 108 points for the 1 XV Nigel together with Noel Page played all 39 games. He attributed the success of the playing results to some excellent coaching undertaken by W.R.U. Staff coach Mr. Goronwy Morgan and looked forward to even better results next season.

After a first-class meal, dancing took place to the music of the band Radiation. Organiser of the event was Mr. Neville Morgan.

## Llandoverv run in for three tries

Llandoverv 15 pts., Pontardawe 3

LLANDOVERY approached this, their third league game with a degree of apprehension, having lost the corresponding encounter last year but confident after a win over Penygroes in mid-week.

The game was never outstanding in the quality of football played, but aspects of play on both sides gave satisfaction.

The Pontardawe pack was an efficient unit in channeling the ball back to the scrum half, especially from the lines, in spite of the fact that he club has lost the services of several players to first class clubs this season. None did more to keep the side together than captain Roy Pascoe.

duced areas with a 30m penalty following an indiscreet comment by a player. With only four points separating the sides the visitors threw away the best scoring opportunity of the game when the final pass to their left wing was dropped with the line at their mercy. Having held their opponents best efforts Llandoverv gained confidence and in the latter part of the game scored two more tries.

### LEAGUE DEBUT

For Llandoverv the return of Gareth Williams gave greater stability to the front row, and the play of Wyn Williams in the second row was encouraging particularly since he was playing his first league game in his first season in senior rugby.

Within minutes of the kick off Nigel Clarke kicked Llandoverv into the lead following a late tackle on left wing Huw Lewis. And although they were never to lose the initiative the sizeable crowd saw attacking strongly before some loose play allowed Llandoverv to score again.

A loose kick out of defence was fielded by centre Tony Williams, who ran strongly before giving Alun Williams a sight of the line. The winger, however, was forced into touch on the corner flag, but Llandoverv continued to press and from a five yard scrum a brilliant side move by Handel Davies and Nigel Clarke saw Alun Williams score in the corner.

### KNOCK ON

Pontardawe returned to the attack. Pascoe was wide with a penalty attempt and Gary Davies wide with an attempted drop goal.

Several forward drives were inches short of the Llandoverv line, and when the visitors crossed the line the ball was knocked on, so Llandoverv had a 7-0 interval lead.

Pontardawe opened the second half on the attack and nascoe re-

### CLEVER PLAY

With twenty minutes remaining the Llandoverv backs fed the ball along the line to left wing Huw Lewis. His well timed pass allowed full back John Davies to attack on the left. Play was stopped short of the line, but from the resulting line-out Wyn Williams took a fine ball to allow Llandoverv to attack again. Davies ran into the line from full back and Alun Williams did well to score in the corner.

Llandoverv now had a clear lead and used any possession to attack. However, the final try was to come from an indirect free kick. Allan Walters ran strongly and was well supported by Howard Ingram. In the ensuing maul the ball was passed along the line and John Davies ran outside left wing Lewis to take a well judged pass and score in the corner.

Whilst this game did not achieve a high standard of excellence, Llandoverv now approach the two home games with Penygroes (last night) and Skewen (Saturday) with increased confidence.

EIFTON MORGAN

Ammanford R.F.C. 150 Club

★

### SEPTEMBER RESULTS

1st Prize £50—No. 105

2nd Prize £20—No. 104



# Llandoverey RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Llandoverey won it in last quarter

9/9/78

by EIFION MORGAN

Llangennech 12 pts., Llandoverey 26

LLANDOVEREY progressed into the first-round proper of the Schweppes Cup competition with a well-deserved win.

But the issue was in the balance until the last quarter of a keenly-contested encounter.

During this period Llandoverey captured the initiative with a try by Geraint Williams which Nigel Clarke converted. From there on they were in complete control.

Llangennech kicked off and within a minute went ahead when Elwyn Davies landed a penalty following an offside infringement. And they maintained pressure and Llandoverey only found relief in clearance kicks.

Within ten minutes, however, Llangennech scored again. Their heavier pack wheeled the scrum and allowed the half-backs room which they used to full advantage, outside half, Elwyn Davies breaking through and sending Huw Thomas over for the first try which Davies converted.

### PRESSURE

The game then swung Llandoverey's way, and gradually they forced their way up to the Llangennech line. Following a scrum 20m, out the visitors backs ran the ball at the opposition and right wing Alun Williams reduced the deficit with a try.

Llandoverey maintained the same pressure into the second half and the home side's defence was under considerable strain particularly from well directed kicks. An attempted clearance kick was charged down by outside half Allan Morgan who picked up the bouncing ball and scored near the posts. Clarke converted to put Llandoverey in front.

Nigel Clarke increased their lead with a penalty, but Elwyn Davies reduced the arrears to one point with his second penalty goal of the afternoon.

This signalled a fight-back by Llangennech and only desperate tackling by the visitors prevented them scoring. Keith Thomas and full back Les Davies came close to scoring following good attacking runs. Llangennech had a further opportunity to take the lead but Davies was wide with a penalty attempt.

### LINEOUT

Llandoverey again came back strongly and forced their way into the Llangennech 22m. area. Noel Page won good ball from a line, and it was passed along to Alun Williams cut inside his man, fed Geraint Williams on the loop and Williams was over in the corner. Nigel Clarke converted and this

## Late rally sets cup clash alight

9-9-78

Llangennech 12 pts, Llandoverey 26 pts

In a game of fluctuating fortunes, Llandoverey made this cup tie safe with a try late in the second half which Nigel Clarke converted with a superb kick from the touchline. This gave the visitors a seven point lead and from then on they controlled the game.

Llangennech kicked off and within a minute went ahead when Elwyn Davies landed a penalty from 35 metres following an offside infringement. The home side maintained considerable pressure and Llandoverey only found relief in clearance kicks, but within ten minutes Llangennech scored again.

The heavier Llangennech pack wheeled the scrum and allowed the half-backs more room which they used to full advantage. Outside half Elwyn Davies broke through the centre and fed Huw Thomas who scored. Davies converted.

The game then swung Llandoverey's way, and gradually they forced their way up to the Llangennech line. Following a scrum their backs ran the ball at the wing and Alun

Williams scored.

Llandoverey were unable to make their territorial advantage count. Several penalty attempts were missed, and the score remained at 9-4 at the interval.

Llandoverey pressured into the second half and the home defence was under considerable strain particularly from well directed kicks. An attempted clearance was charged down by outside half Allan Morgan who picked up the bouncing ball and scored near the posts. Clarke converted.

Nigel Clarke increased Llandoverey's lead with a penalty but Elwyn Davies reduced the arrears to one point with his second penalty goal of the afternoon.

Llangennech came back into the game strongly and only some desperate tackling prevented them scoring. Keith Thomas and full back Les Davies came close to scoring following good attacking runs. Llangennech had a further opportunity to take the lead but Davies was wide with a penalty attempt.

Llandoverey forced their way into the Llangennech 22' and from a lineout Noel Page won a good ball which was passed along the line. Alun Williams cut inside, fed Geraint Williams on the loop and Williams was over in the corner. Nigel Clarke converted and this meant that the home side now had to score twice.

Llandoverey increased their lead when Clarke kicked a further penalty from 50 metres. They scored their final try right on full time. Alun Williams robbed his opposite number and ran in from the halfway line.



# Llandover stage a spirited revival to grab cup glory

14.10.78 by EIFION MORGAN

Waunarlwydd 13 pts., Llandover 18

LLANDOVER produced one of their best-ever performances in this preliminary Schweppes Cup match and upset all the odds by coming from behind to beat highly-fancied Waunarlwydd.

With several impressive runs behind them in the competition in recent seasons, Waun were confidently tipped to win this tie by a convincing margin—particularly in view of the fact that they had not conceded a try in five championship matches to date.

And although this record still holds, Llandover from Section C succeeded where Section A clubs have so far failed—they breached Waun's defence not once but four times!

And they did it all after trailing by 13 points in the first 20 minutes.

It was a triumph for resilience and above all, for team discipline. Errors that were apparent in the first half were eradicated in the second, and in this willingness to learn from mistakes lay the foundation of a memorable victory.

## 13 POINTS

Waunarlwydd shot into an early lead with a penalty goal by Paul Clements and Llandover defended desperately against close passing near the scrum and strong runs down the middle of the pack.

None did better to counter such initiatives than blind side flanker Howard Ingram. However further points were soon acquired by the home side.

Brian Roberts scored after a fine work by right wing John Church, and a further try came when full back Paul Clements took an inside pass to score half way out.

Clements converted one of these to give Waun a thirteen point lead after barely twenty minutes.

## SIDE-STEP

Gradually, however, Llandover were finding ways to combat the furious attacking play of Waunarlwydd, and though defending desperately at times prevented further scores in the first half.

Having weathered the latter part of the first half the visitors turned round in better spirits than seemed likely at one stage in the first half.

Their optimism was rewarded when midway through Alun Williams neatly side stepped his opposite winger, cut inside the fullback and scored near the corner flag.

Waunarlwydd lost prop Phill Davies and from this point the visitors found it easier to hold their own in the set pieces, and within minutes went over for another try. An attacking move round the blind side saw flanker Allan Walters score and Handel Davies convert.

## CHARGED

The home side constantly realised that they were up against it and when an attempted clearance kick was charged down the Llandover backs took full advantage. Geraint Williams picked up the bouncing ball and sent Allan Morgan on a diagonal run to the line.

The conversion failed, but Llandover had taken the lead with only a minute left to go. The visiting supporters were jubilant and Llandover's fourth try by Meirion Dyer was the icing on the cake.





# A PROUD DAY LLANDOVERY

by EIFION MORGAN

Llandovery nil, Maesteg 11 pts.

ALTHOUGH Goliath didn't fall, and despite that margin of 11 points, Llandovery did the Davids proud in this Schweppes cup-tie against the holders of the merit table trophy.

For much of the game, which was played in atrocious conditions, they matched their illustrious opponents in the set pieces and in the loose.

And especially in the first half, they deserved to have some points on the Board.

Not at any stage were they over-awed by the fact that Maesteg fielded no fewer than eight County players and had scored 83 tries to date.

In the opening exchanges, however, the Llynfi Valley side threatened to add to their tally as they pounded forward for the vital first score. But it was in this first anxious quarter that Dyfed side's character was seen at its best.

## TACKLING

Time and time again the tireless back row of Alan Walters, Nigel Clarke and Howard Ingram were on hand to stem raid after raid, and all of Maesteg's most threatening moves were stifled by the tenacious tackling of centres Huw Lewis and

Geraint Williams. And behind them, full back Tony Williams was a pillar of strength.

Having held out for 20 minutes, Llandovery took over for the remainder of the first half and were unlucky not to score just before the interval.

## PENALTY

This attack was initiated by scrum half Handel Davies with an excellent kick deep into Maesteg territory. Llandovery won the line-out, but when the three appeared to have the overlap the ball was hoisted to visiting full-back Ian Hopkins who was caught in possession. It was at this point that misfortune took a hand — Llandovery were penalised at the maul and the opportunity was lost.

## DECISIVE

The first quarter of the second half was to prove the most decisive of the match as Maesteg stormed again into the attack.

Within three minutes they were ahead through an easy penalty goal by Hopkins, and although Llandovery made some inroads into their territory, they stretched their leads with a try made by menacing wing Colin Donovan for centre Robert Stephens.

And within minutes Llandovery were further behind when Hopkins flashed in between his centres and over their line.

From there on Maesteg threatened to take complete control and it is to Llandovery's credit that they did not depart with the expected avalanche of tries.

It was indeed a proud day for ancient borough.



# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

*Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams*



Noel Page, Llandovery line-out specialist, going up for the ball in the game against Maesteg. Llandovery played the game of their lives in heavy underfoot conditions.  
Photo: John Jenkins, Llandovery.



# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

Friday, November 24th, 1978

## Giants jolted in cup thriller

Llandovery nil  
Maesteg 11 pts

For much of this game played under atrocious conditions Llandovery matched their opponents in all phases and were drawing 0-0 at half time. Maesteg who included seven county players as well as Welsh B centre Phil Phillips in their line-up boasted an eighty three try record this season and were unfortunate to lose their last game against Cardiff at the Arms Park in injury time.

From the kick-off Maesteg applied considerable pressure and using their half-backs and back row pinned Llandovery in their own half. Nevertheless the Llandovery back row of Allan Walters, Nigel Clarke and Howard Ingram matched their opponents, and though getting a good supply of ball Maesteg were unable to set up scoring opportunities. When Maesteg did let the ball out wing Colin Donovan looked menacing and Phil Phillips playing his first game after injury ran strongly.

Huw Lewis and Geraint Williams, the home centres, defended admirably and Tony Williams at full back took the high kicks exceptionally well considering the weather conditions.

Having held their opponents for twenty minutes Llandovery had the better of the rest of the first half. Indeed on a couple of occasions they could have scored. Ian Hopkins was under severe pressure during this phase of the game but responded well.

Llandovery had their best opportunity to take the lead just before half-time. Handel Davies drove Maesteg back into their own '22' area with a fine kick. From the lineout Llandovery pushed forward and the threequarters appeared to have an overlap but the ball was hoisted to the Maesteg full back. Hopkins caught cleanly but was tackled in possession. An infringement at the ensuing maul allowed Maesteg to clear their line and the teams changed over without scoring.

The first quarter of an hour of the second half proved decisive. From the restart Maesteg stormed into the attack and only desperate tackling kept them out. However within three minutes they went ahead when Ian Hopkins kicked a simple penalty following a scrum infringement.

Though Llandovery forced play into Maesteg territory occasionally the majority of their time was taken up with defensive play, and from an attacking move Maesteg went further ahead. Donovan moved sharply down the right hand side and made the ball available to centre Robert Stephens who scored far out.

Within minutes the visitors went further ahead when Ian Hopkins ran into the line and scored. Neither conversion was successful.

Although Maesteg were now threatening to take complete control it was to Llandovery's credit that they prevented this and indeed Maesteg were unable to improve on their score.

Though losing this game Llandovery had given a superb performance in front of a sizeable crowd which included Mr. Bill Clements and Mr. Ken Harris (treasurer) of the Welsh Rugby Union.

The Maesteg forwards, particularly in loose play, gave their half backs a supply of good ball which enabled them to dictate play but Llandovery will remember this game with pride and satisfaction.

## Poly fight back

NOV 1978

Bath University 18 pts.  
Polytechnic of Wales 29 pts.

THE Polytechnic pulled back from a 15-6 deficit to overcome a strong Bath University side, who are coached by former Llanelli coach Tom Hudson and have reached the last sixteen of the U.A.U. cup.

Bath had first use of the wind and were soon six points ahead through the deadly boot of outside half C. Willis. The Poly. hit back with a fine try by centre Geraint Williams after a storming run by prop Phil Davies, who converted the try.

However Bath went back into the lead through an opportunist try by wing Dave Bradnock after winning the race to the line following a kick ahead. Willis converted from the touchline, and landed a huge penalty from inside his own half to make the half time score 15-8.

With the wind behind them in the second half the Poly began to play with more assurance. Dai Johns and Geraint Davies won good line out ball and John Morgan took six strikes against the head. They were duly rewarded when wing Keith Gibson scored a try after a neat break by centre Julian Bracey.

But Bath were not to be denied and Willis kicked a fine penalty against the wind. Phil Davies cut the deficit with a penalty and No. 8 David Pearce, the game's outstanding forward, scored a try from a back row move near the Bath line to bring the score to 18-17.

The Poly took the lead with a smartly taken drop goal by outside half Mkie Baker. The Poly forwards got stronger towards the end of the game and further scores came from another Pearce try, a penalty and conversion from Davies. This was a fine win for the Poly, who remain unbeaten and they hope to progress into the quarter final of the Polytechnic Cup when they play Kingston Polytechnic on 6th December.

The second XV beat their Bath counterparts by 3-7 and the third XV won 34-





# COSTLY ERRORS

Pontardawe arrived at Llandovery in a confident mood having won the previous encounter at home and with some good recent performances to their credit, notably their big win last week against Cwmgorse.

Their play fully justified their optimism and they ran out winners by two tries to one, although Llandovery scored first.

The visitors completely dominated the lines-out where John James repeatedly outjumped the opposition, and with prop Roy Pascoe tidying up Pontardawe enjoyed unlimited ball from this phase of the game.

## ADVANTAGE

This allowed Julian Bracey at outside half to kick Pontardawe into strong attacking positions and foil many promising Llandovery attacks.

Whilst the Llandovery forwards did well to hold their heavier opponents in the set scrums, the visitors gained an appreciable advantage in the loose play where Roy James was conspicuous.

Though territorially outplayed Llandovery had their opportunities to win this game but were unable to successfully effect the final move that could have altered the final result.

In rapid succession, in the first half, two forward passes prevented certain tries and on another occasion Jeff Augustus was over the line only to be recalled for a 'foot in touch'.

The home side's backs were also guilty of handling errors when the situation looked promising. Such errors were particularly unfortunate when the home side attempted to run penalty awards from within their own

## Llandovery 4

### Pontardawe 8

22m area.

Once again Geraint Williams was the pick of the home side's backs in both attack and defence.

## ON TOP

Territorially Pontardawe were on top and only some good clearance kicks by Alan Morgan at outside half relieved the pressure.

Llandovery were unable to gain substantially from several penalties awarded to them during the early phases, but after 20 minutes with the home side coming more into the game they went ahead through an unconverted try.

Tony Williams, the home full back, gathered a kick ahead and ran around the Pontardawe threequarters who were caught stretched and unprepared.

When the cover defence arrived, Williams hoisted a high kick on to the Pontardawe line and the Llandovery forwards were quickly on the scene.

## CRUCIAL

Martin Phillips the flanker, for the second Saturday in succession, scored a crucial try. So, having weathered considerable pressure, Llandovery were in the lead — a lead they could have improved almost immediately.

Twice within a minute a Llandovery player crossed the line only to be recalled when the referee adjudged the final pass to be forward, and the chance to increase the lead was lost.

Right on half time Pontardawe levelled the scores. Roy James charged down an attempted clearance kick and the ball was moved out along the Pontardawe line.

The home side's defence was in some disarray and Nigel Preece on the right wing made progress, passed inside to Julian Bracey who ran up to the fullback before giving Preece a return pass, leaving him to score and level the score at half time.

With both sides striving for a win the play followed the

pattern of the first half.

Pontardawe pressed hard and only good tackling, notably by Geraint Williams, prevented further scores.

Half way through the second half Pontardawe scored the decisive try. From a loose Maul outside the 22m line the visitors gained possession and Gordon Williams, the Pontardawe centre, ran through a gaping hole in midfield to score.

Llandovery came back strongly and the game was in the balance right up to the final whistle. The left foot of Bracey however continued to push Llandovery back and the game ended with no further scoring.

With promotion virtually assured Llandovery travel +



# Llandover RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

## Alun's try won it for Llandover

by EIFION MORGAN

Llandover 7 pts., Bynea 3

AN AGGRESSIVE performance by their pack and fine tactical kicking by outside-half Allan Morgan gave Llandover the edge in this closely-contested game.

The Bynea pack as expected was heavier than their opponents and well-led by Hyndeman, but Llandover managed to give their backs a good share of the ball.

Gareth Williams did a lot of valuable tidying-up work at the lines-out, and John Davies fielded and kicked well at full-back.

Llandover applied pressure from the start but 20 minutes went by before Handel Davies gave them the lead with a penalty.

### SUPPORT

Within minutes, the home side had gone further ahead. An attempted clearance by Bynea was fielded near the halfway line by right-wing Alun Williams, whose diagonal run took him into the visitors' 22m area where he made the ball available to his forwards.

Receiving from the maul, Handel Davies kicked high to the corner and in following up quickly charged down the clearance kick. Alun Williams was up in support, picked up the bouncing ball, evaded several tackles and scored in the corner.

Bynea made a determined start to the second half, but missed chances to reduce the arrears with penalty attempts before Dennis Gravelle landed a penalty from just outside the 22metre line.

The game continued to excite with first Bynea and then Llandover having scoring opportunities. Midway through the second half Davies hit the post with a long-range penalty for Llandover—a score then

would have given them a comfortable points margin.

### DEFENSIVE

The last quarter saw Llandover on the defensive. Bynea backs were able to get up on their threequarters with remarkable speed, and on several occasions the visitors forced play onto the Llandover line.

Gradually, however, one came to the conclusion that Bynea had run out of ideas and this impression was verified when the final whistle went with Llandover victorious by 7 points to three.

se, interesting match.  
ious games would suggest  
ly in the league. These  
genneth won at Llan-  
on in the Welsh Cup,  
en them previously this  
score to settle. Having  
genneth with something  
ldover play away at  
(Saturday)  
us.  
ent with Llandover vic-  
this impression was  
ed when the final whis-  
as had run out of ideas  
e to the conclusion that  
ually, however, one  
lay to the Llandover line.  
on several occasions forc-  
ters remarkably quickly  
on the home side three-  
ea backs were able to get  
ry on the defensive. The



## Llandover RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

### Williams score swings victory

Llandover 7 pts,  
Bynea 3 pts

An aggressive forward performance and five tactical kicking by outside half Allan Morgan gave Llandover the edge in this closely contested game.

The Bynea pack as expected was heavier than their opponents and well led by Hyndman, but Llandover managed to give their backs a good share of the ball. Gareth Williams did a lot of valuable tidying up work at the linesout whilst John Davies fielded and kicked well at fullback.

From the start Llandover kept their opponents under pressure but it was 20 minutes into the game before Handel Davies gave them the lead with a penalty. Within minutes they went further ahead.

An attempted clearance kick was fielded near the halfway line by right wing Alun Williams. His diagonal run took him into the visitors' '22', and Williams did well to turn and make the ball available to his forwards. From the maul Handel Davies kicked high to the corner and in following up quickly charged down the clearance kick. Alun Williams was up in support, picked up the bouncing ball, evaded several tackles and scored in the corner so Llandover changed over with a seven point lead.

Bynea started the second half strongly and missed chances to reduce the arrears with wide penalty attempts before Dennis Gravelle in the unusual role of place kicker converted from just outside the 22 metre line.

The game continued to excite with first Bynea and then Llandover having scoring opportunities. Midway through Davies hit the post

with a long range penalty for Llandover — a score then would have given them a comfortable points margin.

The last quarter saw Llandover on the defensive. The Bynea backs were able to get up on the homeseide three-quarters remarkably quickly and on several occasions forced play to the Llandover line. Gradually, however, one came to the conclusion that Bynea had run out of ideas and this impression was verified when the final whistle went with Llandover victorious.

Tomorrow (Saturday) Llandover play away at Llangennech with something of a score to settle. Having beaten them previously this season in the Welsh Cup, Llangennech won at Llandover in the league. These previous games would suggest a close, interesting match.

st quarter saw Llan-  
the defensive. Bynea  
able to get up on  
quarters with re-  
speed, and on several  
the visitors forced  
the Llandover line.  
lly, however, one  
the conclusion that  
ad run out of ideas  
impression was ver-  
in the final whistle  
with Llandover vic-  
v 7 points to three.

#### DEFENSIVE

can gave Llandover  
ve given them a com-  
points margin.





## Llandoverly RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

21.10.78

# Unhappy return for Llandoverly

**Llandoverly 4 pts    Morryston 13 pts**

Llandoverly returned to league rugby and produced an insipid display against Morryston. The urgency of the previous week at Waunarlwydd was sadly missing and although scoring first they allowed the visitors to get back into the game.

**EARLY EXCHANGES**

From the kick off Morryston pressed and maintained territorial advantage but gradually the home side settled and worked their way into the visitors half.

The visitors gave a good account of themselves in the lines-out where Edgar Evans was prominent. At this stage Llandoverly had the initiative in the scrums. Midway through the first half they went ahead. Fly half Allan Morgan put in a fine attacking kick which caught the Morryston backs flat. From the lineout on the corner flag the ball was passed along the threequarters and Jeff Augustus cut inside to score in the corner.

Morryston however came back and a dropped goal by outside half Keith Evans reduced the arrears.

Right on half-time Morryston took the lead. Fine tactical kicking by Evans forced Llandoverly to defend desperately and loose play by the forwards at a lineout saw Steve Dickerson pounce on a rolling ball.

Llandoverly have often come from behind to win but not this time. Morryston continued to have the better of the lines-out exchanges and what ball Llandoverly had was inaccurately tapped back. Indeed only a good performance by Handel Davies at scrum half allowed the home side to make anything of untidy ball.

Morryston equalled Llandoverly at the scrums and got unlimited ball from the rucks and mauls. Outside half Evans with good kicks and attacking runs kept Llandoverly at full stretch. Fullback Steven Harwood dealt effectively with several high up and unders to return the kicks with interest.

A dropped goal by Evans and a penalty by Harwood stretched Morryston's lead to the extent that Llandoverly would have to score twice.

The home side failed to make the most of their opportunities — one penalty awarded in front of the posts was run back into the Morryston forwards when three points were there for the taking.

So Morryston captured two league points and Llandoverly enter a testing period in the league with games against Bynea (home) on Saturday and Ystalyfera, to come.

performance at Waun-  
ampionship campaign  
on 13  
N

Ystalyfera to come.  
Bynea (Home) on Saturday  
in the league with games  
Llandoverly enter a test-  
Morryston captured two league  
the taking.  
the when 3 points were  
run back into the Morryston  
warded in front of the  
their opportunities — one  
the side failed to make the



## Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

# Llandovery disappoint

by EIFION MORGAN

Llandovery 4 pts., Morriston 13

**LLANDOVERY** returned to the championship campaign with an insipid display.

The urgency of the previous week's performance at Waunarlwydd was missing.

Morriston got the better of the early exchanges, but it was Llandovery who went in front midway through the first half after fly-half Allan Morgan had caught the Morriston backs "flat" with a fine attacking kick to the corner.

Llandovery won the line out and wing Jeff Augustus cut inside his man to score in the corner.

Morriston however came back and a dropped goal by outside half Keith Evans reduced the arrears.

Right on half time Morriston took the lead. Fine tactical kicking by Keith Evans had forced Llandovery to defend desperately and loose play by the Llandovery forwards at a line out saw Steve Dickerson pounce on a rolling ball and dive over.

### TAPPED BACK

Llandovery have often come from behind recently to win, but not this time. Morriston continued to have the better of the line out exchanges and what ball Llandovery had was inaccurately tapped back, and only a good performance by Handel Davies allowed the home side to make anything of such untidy ball.

Morriston had equalled Llandovery in the scrums and were getting unlimited ball from the rucks and mauls.

Excellent kicking by Evans kept Llandovery at full stretch and full back Steven Harwood dealt effectively with several high up and unders to return the kicks with interest.

A drop goal by Keith Evans and a penalty by Steven Harwood stretched Morriston's lead to the extent that Llandovery would have to score twice.

The home side failed to make the most of their opportunities — one penalty awarded in front of the posts was run back into the Morriston forwards when 3 points were there for the taking.

So Morriston captured two league points and Llandovery enter a testing period in the league with games against Bynea (Home) on Saturday and Ystalyfera to come.

Ystalyfera, to come.  
t (home) on Saturday  
e with games against  
a testing period in the  
e points and Llandovery  
Morriston captured two  
there for the taking.  
rds when three points  
back into the Morriston  
front of the posts was  
es — one penalty award-  
the most of their oppor-  
the home side failed to  
have to score twice.  
extent that Llandovery  
had Morriston's lead to  
penalty by Harwood  
ropped goal by Evans  
with interest.  
nders to return the  
with several high up  
Harwood dealt effec-  
ll stretch. Fullback  
g runs kept Llandovery  
with good kicks and at-  
mauls. Outside half  
ted ball from the rucks  
at the scrums and got  
iston equalled Llan-



# Llandovery RFC Team Records Late 1970s CGW03

Courtesy Carwyn and Geraint Williams

4-11-78

7, 1978

## Last gasp slip-up sinks Llandovery

### Llangennech 12 pts, Llandovery 10 pts

In a game punctuated by handling errors Llangennech won their only try ten minutes from the end. Both sides attempted to run the ball but invariably promising situations were spoiled by dropped passes or 'knock ons'.

Llandovery started well but the first scoring opportunities went to Llangennech but they missed several kickable penalties during the first quarter. Only a Dylan Jones attempt was successful.

The same player missed a glorious opportunity to set-up a try late in the first half. He broke through the middle and if he had drawn the fullback a try would have been inevitable.

It was nearly half time before Llangennech increased their lead. Scrum half Raymond Jones ran away from the scrum without the ball and Llandovery were caught offside. Jones made no mistake with the kick.

Llandovery came back strongly and on several occasions were held up within inches of the line, and only interference stopped Geraint Williams dribbling towards the line.

Within ten minutes of the restart the visitors had drawn level. Allan Morgan, outside half, tackled his opposite number strongly and the ball bounced loose. Geraint Williams, who worked tirelessly all afternoon, picked up and set up a try for Handel Davies. Davies converted.

The Llangennech forwards were getting more and more into the game. Although Dai Thomas the recent addition to the side was a good ball winner in the loose. Llandovery were being pushed in the scrums. Their lack of height at the back of the line-out was also a decisive factor.

A scrum following another knock-on saw the visitors break through the defence and wing Meirion Dyer, scored in the corner.

With ten minutes remaining it would have been prudent for Llandovery to defend this lead carefully. However slack play allowed Llangennech back into the game. A Llandovery attack with the full back in the line and a further dropped pass allowed Llangennech to force play from their own half right up to the line.

Indeed, only a desperate tackle prevented Huw Thomas scoring but a line-out led to a scrum where Llandovery unexpectedly were awarded the 'put in'. Robert Woollock took a decisive strike against the head and No. 8 and Captain Keith Williams crossed for a try close to the posts. Jones converted and although Llandovery attacked again Llangennech ran out winners.

(Eifion Morgan)

## Honours