

## Trans-Dale

NEWSLETTER OF THE TRANSVAAL PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF DALE COLLEGE

No 9 June 1979

## Coming soon a Dale tour of the Transvaal

HERE'S good news for all friends of Dale College in the Transvaal.

A Dale rugby team will tour the Transvaal this month and play four matches. A number of functions have been arranged to entertain the tour party of players and supporters from King.

The tourists are a team of "underdogs" battling to find their true form - and they need all the

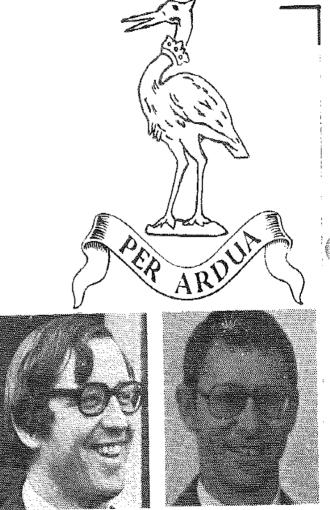
support the Transvaal can give them.

During the tour Dale will play Witbank High School in Witbank (on the morning of June 23) and three games in the Johannesburg area - against Highlands North High School on June 26, Sandringham High on June 28, and St David's College, Inanda, on June 30. Stands will be reserved for Dale supporters at all games.

The Transvaal Parents Association will hold its annual general meeting at the Victoria Hotel, Plein Street, Johannesburg, at 6.30 pm on Friday, June 22. The Headmaster, Colin Thomson, will attend the meeting and parents will be able to interview him

Parents and their friends are welcome to join Old Dalians and Dale supporters from King at the Old Dalian Dinner Dance at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on June 23 and at a number of afterthe-match functions.

The final function will be a braaivleis on the evening of June 30 at the adjoining homes of John de Klerk and Bob Gillanders, 23 Denise Circle and 48 Judy Road, Blairgowrie, Randburg, the scene of last year's most successful braai.



**Colin Thomson** 

Midge Green

Vice-Principal Midge Hilton-Green, Dale's First XV coach, describes his team as " an exceptionally fine group of boys battling against the odds — a young and inexperienced side lacking ball-getters."

The team includes only four players from last year's successful First XV — the captain, Peter Chapman, vice-captain, Gavin Schmidt, Bradley Osborne and Gareth Jones (from Witbank). Several top players have been handicapped by injuries.

But the main problem has been lack of possession, particularly from the lineouts. "If we could get 50 per cent — even 30 per cent — of the ball it would be a different story," said Midge.

In their first nine matches the Dale First XV won

five and lost four, including those against Queen's and Selborne. They come to the Transvaal determined to prove themselves — and keen to avenge their 19-12 defeat by Sandringham in King.

"Sandringham have a well-drilled pack and outplayed our forwards in every phase," said Midge, who hopes the tour will build up his team's strength

and experience for the future.

He said the team had received many compliments for their spirited defence against Queen's. Dale lost this match 4-8 at home, but with the visitors getting 90 per cent of the ball the score could have been much higher.

# Join in...and have a ball!

PARENTS, have a night out in style at the Old Dalian Dinner Dance. The place: The Carlton Hotel Ballroom, Main Street, Johannesburg. The time: 7 30 for 8 pm on Saturday, June 23.

The function will be open to Old Dalians and their wives, partners and friends, parents of Dalians and

their friends.

Tickets will be R20 double and dress formal.

The Carlton Hotel's customary excellent buffet dinner, offering a wide range of dishes, will be available.

Dancing will be to the Esquires Quartet.

Brief speeches will be made by Headmaster Colin

#### The event



#### OLD DALIAN DINNER DANCE

Carlton Hotel Ballroom 7.30 for 8 pm, June 23, 1979 R20 double Dress formal

Thomson and by the Editor of the Sunday Times, Tertius Myburgh, who is an Old Dalian.

Come along, bring your friends and have a ball.

Tables may be reserved and tickets purchased from:

Joe Sutton: Business — 28-1700; home — 53-4927. John de Klerk: Home — 48-5196.

#### THE TOUR — DAY BY DAY

THE FULL programme for the Dale tour of the Transvaal is:

10 am, Saturday, June 23: Dale v Witbank High School at Witbank.

After the match there will be a brazivleis at the home of Mr Ken Jones, of the Witbank Dale Parents Association.

The touring party will leave Witbank about 2 pm for Johannesburg, where the boys will be met by Transvaal parents who have agreed to accommodate them for their week's stay.

The Dale team will be entertained that evening at St David's College ( Marist) 36 Rivonia Road, Inanda, near Sandton City.

That evening there will also be an Old Dalian Dinner Dance at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, to which parents and their friends are invited. (See details above).

10 am, Sunday, June 24: Practice for the touring team at Sandringham High School. George Avenue, Sandringham, Johannesburg.

10 am, Monday June 25: The tourists will meet in the International Arrivals Lounge at Jan Smuts Airport for a guided tour of the airport. The tour is being organised by Theuns (Serf) Serfontein, a SAA jumbo pilot who has a son at Dale.

Plans are being made for the boys to attend a stage show in Johannesburg that evening.

3 30 pm, Tuesday, June 26: Dale v Highlands North High School, 4th Avenue, Highlands North, Johannesburg. After a free morning the team are asked to meet at the school at 2 pm.

After this match a cocktail party will be held at the Capri Hotel, 27 Aintree Ave, Savoy Estate, (just off Louis Botha Ave) Johannesburg, for parents, Old Dalians and supporters from King. There will be a cover charge of R2 per head.

The boys will be entertained that evening to a breaivleis by Highlands North High.

Wednesday, June 27, will be a free day for the Dale team. 3 30 pm, Thursday, June 28: Dale v Sandringham High School, George Avenue, Sandringham. After a free morning the team are asked to meet at the school at 2 pm.

After this match there will be an informal party at Bedfordview Country Club for friends of Dale, while the team are entertained by Sandringham High.

On Friday, June 29, the team will visit Eastgate shopping complex.

**3 30 pm, Saturday, June 30:** Dale v St David's College, 36 Rivonia Road, Inanda, Sandton. As before, the team are asked to meet at the school at 2 pm.

After this match a brazivleis will be held at the adjoining homes of Bob Gillanders and John de Klerk (48 Judy Road and 23 Denise Circle, Blairgowrie, Randburg).

Meat, with salads, will be on sale. Drinks, including soft drinks, will also be available.

We suggest that parents attending the braai arrange to follow a group of cars leaving the St David's ground after the match.

#### The KHS girls are here, too!

DALE'S sister school, KHSG, is sending its first and second tennis teams on tour to Johannesburg this month.

The girls from the Kaffrarian High School for Girls will arrive by train with two teachers on Friday, June 22.

They will play their first matches against

Sandringham High School on the Saturday.

On the Monday they will play Parktown Girls' High School and on the Wednesday their final matches against Bryanston High. All matches will be played in the afternoons.

The teams will return to King William's Town on June 28.



#### The spirit of Presby's lives on in

JOE SUTTON

PATERSON HOUSE boasts the liveliest hostel spirit at Dale College - and other hostels will find this

hard to challenge.

You can see it at inter-house sports meetings where the "Presbites" sing and shout with enthusiasm - and in the hostel itself, which prides itself on a happy, home-like atmosphere.

"We're the best," is the confident cry.
The friendly, "fighting" spirit of Presby is encouraged by its youthful housemaster, Mr C J (Christo ) Crous, who in 18 months has quickly caught the hostel's mood and is already building on its traditions.

For the spirit of Presby goes back more than 50 years to its origins as a Presbyterian Church hostel.

It was founded by the church in 1925 largely through the efforts of the Rev John Paterson, a Scot of deep humanity who came to King as minister of St Andrew's Church and saw the need for a hostel for Presbyterian boys at Dale.

His brother, Mr (later the Rev) Neil Paterson, Latin Master at Dale, became the hostel's first warden with 25 boys in his charge in a converted double-storey home. Apart from the Depression days

Presby has never looked back.

Over the years the hostel has been improved and expanded - in 1938, in 1952 (at a cost of R12 000) and in 1965-1966 a major extension costing R93 000. Further renovations were completed this year.

Presby's early wardens served for long terms. Neil Paterson (known with a mixture of awe and affection as "Bull") retired in 1941 after 16 years. His successor, Mr E C (Shops) Workman, science master and later Vice-Principal of Dale, served for 17 years.

Mr Neil Paterson, son of the first warden, took over in 1959 and launched the ambitious building scheme which was carried on by his successor, Mr R G Russell, and enabled the hostel to accommodate

more than 100 boys.

Since then the reins of Presby have been held in turn by Mr W A Staude, Mr Dudley Schroeder (1968-71), now Headmaster of Queen's College, Mr Ardri Leurs (1972-74), who is still teaching at Dale, Mr

#### THAT'S INFLATION

 IN 1968 boarding fees at Presby were R60 a term. Suggested pocket money was R8 a term.

● IN 1979 boarding fees are R115 a term. Pocket money: Between R10 and R15, plus R1 levy for papers and magazines and R1 for films. Plus extra fees for milk and orange juice. Plus . . .

Bernard Simpson (1974-76) and Mr Tony Selby (1976-77), now Headmaster and Vice-Principal of Cathcart High School, Mr Dennis Scott (1977), the present treasurer of the Old Dalian Union, and since 1978 Mr Crous.

Conveners of the governing committee worked unceasingly in the early years to develop the hostel into the proud structure it is today. Names like Paterson, Allison, Higgs and Milligan come to mind.

And to quote the hostel brochure: "The ladies wardens' wives, matrons and catering matrons have provided the touch that has turned the hostel into a home.'

In January 1974 Paterson House, which had become too heavy a burden for the church, was taken over by the Cape Department of Education. It is now an inter-denominational hostel, but Presbyterian boys are still the largest single denomination represented.

Of the hostel's 69 boys, 23 are Presbyterian, 18 Methodist, 16 Roman Catholic, 11 Anglican and one

The traditions and spirit of the old Presby live on. Old boys come back to visit, reliving their memories

of schooldays long past.

In 54 years from 1 100 to 2 000 boys have passed through the hostel. They have gone on to become doctors, lawyers, schoolmasters, teachers, engineers, surveyors, accountants, farmers, architects, chemists and business men.

Some are at present studying at university and many are on national service before starting their

Many "Presbites" served with distinction in the Second World War earning decorations like the DSO,

DFC, MM. Eight died for their country.

Today Paterson House is flourishing under Mr Crous and his team. His wife Charmaine is chief matron, assisted by Mrs Sonia Birkholtz and Mrs Nelda Rheeders.

Other masters living in are Mr Duncan Meyer, with his wife Morag and baby daughter; Mr Alf Stanford; Mr Clive Connellan, who recently moved into the new flat behind Presby with Mrs Connellan; Mr Ben Terblanche; and Mr Percy Davis, cricket coach at Dale for 25 years.

The Crouses have two daughters, Michelle, 4, and

Janet 2.

Christo Crous, who is 29, came to Dale last year with an impressive academic record (BA, STD (Stellenbosch) and B Ed (UCT) and teaching

## proud Scots pioneers Paterson House today



Presby's ''new'' wing. . . building on old traditions.

Presby's Christo Crous and his wife Charmaine, with daughters Michelle and Janet... a family man in a homelike hostel.

experience at Grey High School, Port Elizabeth, and Wynberg Boys' High. He is head of the Afrikaans Department at Dale and coaches cricket and rugby.

He is intensely proud of Presby and his boys.
"Presby is definitely the hostel with the best spirit and warmest atmosphere," he says.

"The boys have good facilities, a fine games room, big grounds to play on and get more than enough to eat."

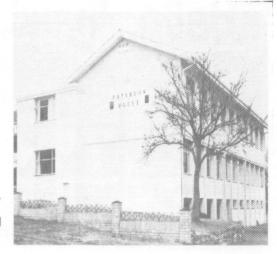
The hostel buildings, he believes, are looking "first-class" after renovations and he compliments the boys for their "excellent behaviour and spirit" while building work was going on.

"The boys are first-class chaps and Presby has a fine future with a strong nucleus of juniors coming up."

What is his philosophy in dealing with boys and running the hostel?

"We aim to make our hostel as homely as possible, realising that the boys spend most of the year away from their homes and families," he says.

"The boys are encouraged to become involved and to co-operate whenever they are needed. This



has created a tremendous house spirit and house pride.

"I also believe that the boys should have some say in house matters and that they should have enough opportunity to speak to the masters to help them sort out any problems.

"I do not believe in 'prison-type' discipline, but rather that boys should be taught to be honest and to abide by the house rules. If everybody co-operates the problems are few.

"We provide ample opportunity for supervised prep (study time: 7 pm to 9 pm) and emphasise that all our boys take part in one form of sport, as well as belong to a school society.

Presby got off to an excellent start this year, coming first in the swimming gala, the under 14 cricket, the English evening "centres of interest" and gaining a second place in the standards athletics meeting.

This term it came first in the play competition.

Several Paterson boarders have been chosen to represent Border this term: D Burdette, D Edwards (swimming), R Beadon (swimming and biathlon), C Cumming and A Ball (biathlon).

At the "King Willy Waddle" fun run Presby showed their excellent house spirit with a 100 per cent turn-out.

Mr Crous comments: "At inter-house sports meetings Paterson always shows the best spirit. All Presby boarders must be complimented for this."

"Presby makes the effort in all fields and is well represented in all first-team sports as well as on the academic side.

"The homely atmosphere we have tried to create

at Presby has benefited everybody.

Of the school itself, he says: "Dale has impressed me right from the first day I arrived in King. After teaching in two large boys' schools one tends to be a bit critical, but I can honestly state that Dale can be proud of what it stands for, for its traditions, facilities, sport and its teaching.

"Dale can only look ahead."

It seems that Paterson House and its boys are in good hands.

## Hello, 'new' parents ...

TRANSVAAL parents of new Dalians were welcomed by the parents' committee at a party on Saturday, May 13. In all about 30 people attended the gathering, hosted by Ron and Audrey Begg at their home in Glendower, Edenvale.

Two of the "new" parents present are fliers — and another is the daughter of a retired airman.

Theuns (Serf) Serfontein is a SAA jumbo pilot and Barry van Niekerk, a private pilot — he owns a four-

seater Piper Tripacer.

Serf and Michelle Serfontein sent their 13-year-old son Wynand to Dale largely because of a family connection — Michelle's father, Barry Wiggett, is an Old Dalian. He spent five years at Dale, was a member of the unbeaten 1938 Dale first rugby team, and then spent 40 years in the South African Air Force.

Barry joined the SAAF early in the Second World War, becoming a major at 21, and retired last December as Director of Planning, with the rank of

brigadier.

Young Wynand appears to be following in his grandfather's rugby footsteps — he is an enthusiastic member of the Dale Under 14c team — the equivalent of the Under 13a team now that the two age groups have been merged.

The Serfonteins live in Benoni. Grandfather Wiggett has retired to Saldanha Bay, not far from Langebaanweg air base, which he once commanded.

Also flying high, Barry van Niekerk is looking for three passengers to fly with him to King for the Reunion in August.

Everything would depend on the weather, but he would probably fly down early on the morning of Friday, August 10, and return to Johannesburg on the Sunday.

Anyone interested may phone Barry at his home (943-1573) or leave a message by day with his wife at her business number, 23-3981.

Barry started flying in 1961 but was grounded soon afterwards — when he got married. He resumed seriously ten years later and has logged 300 hours.

Barry and his wife Prudence, whose son Michael, 15, is also at Paterson and in Std 7, live at Kibler

Park, Johannesburg.

Frank and Louise (Cookie) Rouessart, whose son Pierre is in Std 7 and at Diocesan Hostel, settled in South Africa two-and-a-half years ago after 27 years in Rhodesia. They live in Mondeor.

Pierre, 13, has already established himself on the cricket field as a left-arm spinner of promise — he took six wickets for 11 runs (including a hat-trick) for the Under 14a team against Queen's in his first term at Dale. The ball, mounted on a souvenir board, was presented to him at school assembly.

While at school in the Transvaal he played in the provincial primary schools' cricket trials and represented Transvaal B in this section in 1977.

Both the Van Niekerks and the Rouessarts sent their sons to Dale on the advice of George Thompson, of Mondeor, whose son Douglas is at Diocesan and a friend of the boys.

The joker of the parents' party was Roy Brassington, with a fund of good stories in an accent straight from Stockport, Cheshire. He and his wife Marlene came to South Africa eight years ago and now run a carpentry business in Northcliff, Johannesburg.

They have sent their son, Phillip, 14, to Diocesan Hostel and are delighted with his progress. He is in Std 6, has excelled in athletics and is a patrol leader in the 2nd King William's Town Scout Troop.

Roy is Scoutmaster of the 1st North Hills Troop in

Johannesburg.

Heard the story about the "new" Dale parent who tried hard to educate her son about the value of money? He came back later with this reply: Yes Mom, I've learnt the value of money; now I like it so much that I want some more . . .

#### Calling all golfers

MAKE a long-term date for Sunday afternoon, September 23, when a golf tournament will be held at Glendower Club, Bedfordview, to raise funds for Dale College. It will be open to Old Dalians, parents and your friends — men and women.

Some exciting prizes — including runaway weekends at a city hotel and a country resort — have

already been arranged.

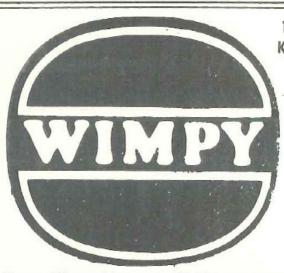
Further details will follow, but please note the date in your diary. Non-golfers will also be welcome—to watch and celebrate. And as the date falls in the September holidays present Dalians will be welcome, too.

#### A bus ride to King

JOIN a party of Old Dalians and parents on a trip to King by SAR luxury bus for the Dale Reunion weekend (August 10-12). Save petrol and enjoy this fun trip, tentatively leaving Johannesburg on Thursday evening, August 9, and returning immediately after the Memorial Service on the Sunday. Back in Johannesburg by midnight.

If interested, please make your own arrangements for accommodation in King and phone Bob Gillanders 48-4028 or Peter Skinner 975-8575 during evenings to reserve seats in the bus. Bus fare: R44 a head return.

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