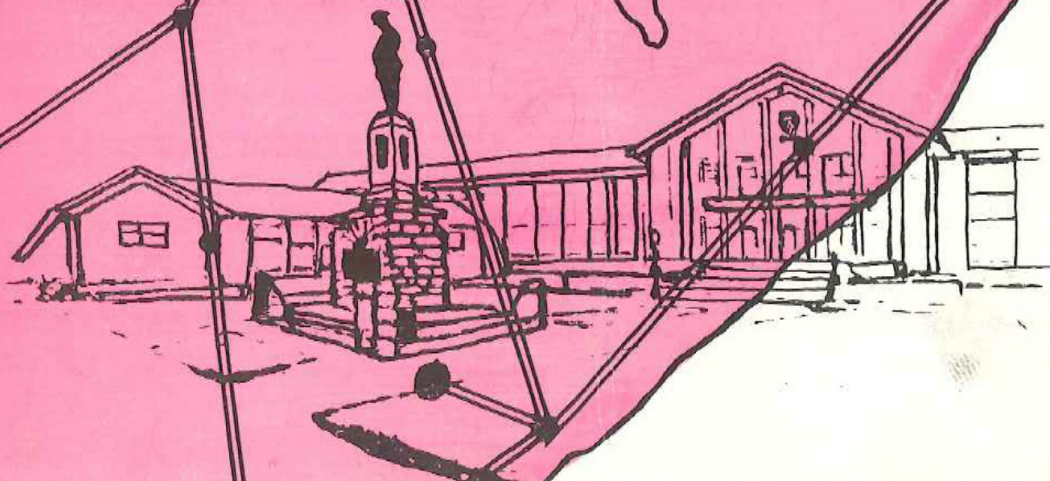
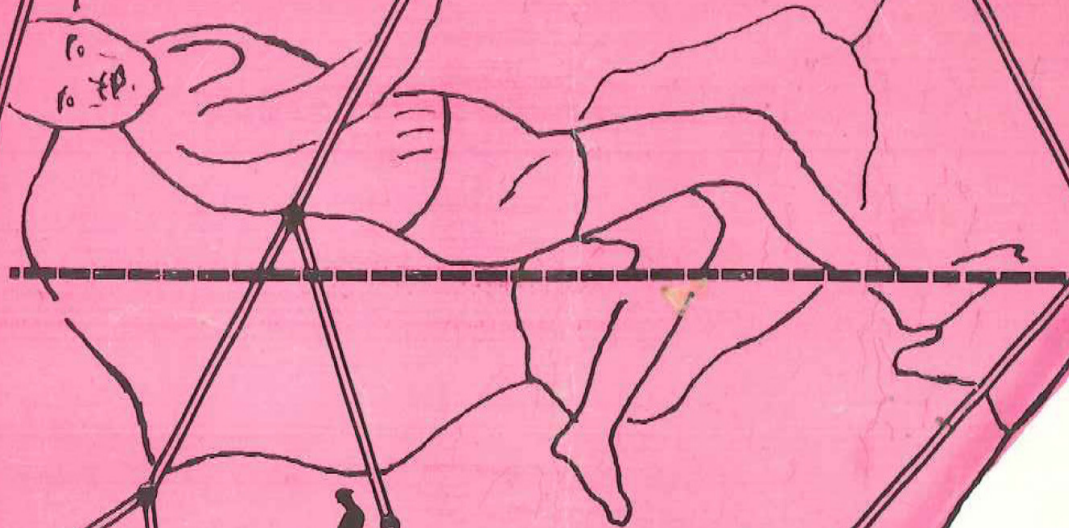


TRANS-DALE

Oct 81

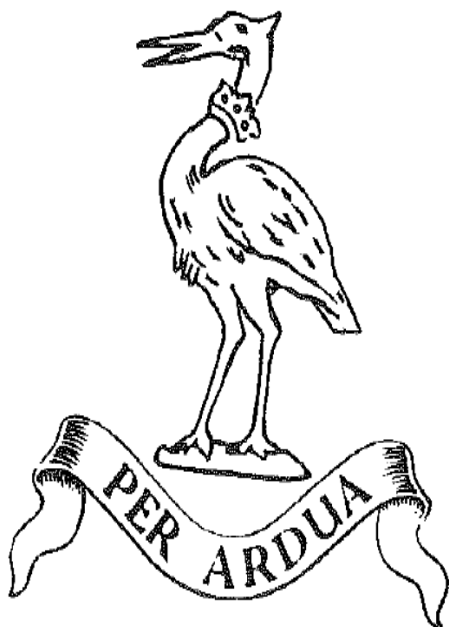
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TRANS-DALE

NEWSLETTER OF
THE TRANSVAAL
PARENTS
ASSOCIATION OF
DALE COLLEGE

No 13
October 1981



Now it's all systems go, Dale

THERE is a new spirit of confidence at Dale College. The air of uncertainty about the future of King William's Town and the school has been dispelled by the announcement that King is to remain part of South Africa.

For the foreseeable future Dale's traditional place as one of South Africa's foremost boarding schools is assured.

Now it's full steam ahead in a drive to consolidate this position and aim at greater development in the eighties.

All this has been clear in messages of hope and determination received from the headmasters of Dale and Dale Junior and leaders of the Old Dalian Union.

Already the school has responded to the new forward looking spirit with remarkable sporting and cultural successes this year.

The Transvaal Parents Association will do its part to encourage this optimism. For if Dale is to advance its

position it needs to increase its roll of pupils.

We who have been closely associated with Dale, through our sons, know that this school offers a special kind of education — a rare blend of the academic, the sporting and the cultural. A spirit of camaraderie and pride in one's alma mater that few schools can match. A teacher-pupil ratio (ranging from one to 17 to one to 24) and a concern for scholastic achievement seldom found in government schools of other provinces.

These advantages should be enough to attract more boys to Dale (now that the doubts about the future have been removed) if more parents are told about them.

The college and the Old Dalian Union are preparing publicity drives and parents can help by encouraging their friends to send their sons to this fine school.

So, as we have urged in the past, spread the word about Dale. It can only lead to even greater benefit for the school and our sons.

Your 1981-82 parents committee

THE new committee of the Transvaal Parents Association for 1981-82, elected at the annual general meeting is:

Alan Naylor (chairman) 57 Second Avenue, Edenvale, 1610 (Phone 609-8147).

Theuns (Serf) Serfontein (vice-chairman) and Michelle (secretary) 108 Honiball Street, Rynfield, Benoni 1500 (Phone 849-1909).

Joe Sutton (editor Trans-Dale magazine) 33 Sheila Street, Edenvale, 1610 (Phone 53-4927).

Sheilagh Pringle, 3532 Ness Road, Bryanston, PO Box 68926, Bryanston, 2021 (Phone 706-3055).

Ailsa de Klerk (treasurer) c/o PO Box 61631, Marshalltown, 2107 (Phone 833-1510, ext 211).

George and Avril Thompson, 47 9th Avenue, Lambton, Germiston. Phone 34-5732.

Errol Korrass, PO Box 1363, Edenvale, 1610. (Phone 36-6185).

Cookie Rouessart, 290 Daubency Road, Mondeor, 2091 (Phone 942-3957).

Neville and Gill Hawkes, 55 Greenhill Road, Greenside Ext, Johannesburg, 2193 (Phone 41-9890).

Leighton and Mandy Rickson, 117 Columbine Avenue, Mondeor, 2091 (Phone 942-3569).

● If you have a problem concerning Dale College you may approach any of these members.

Dale is alive and well ... and still living in South Africa!



Headmaster
Colin
Thomson
looks to the
future with
pride — and
a smile of
confidence

IN 1978 a rumour spread that Dale was to move from King William's Town. This threw some Old Dalians, parents and prospective parents into confusion.

Towards the end of 1980 the recommendation that King should be incorporated into the Ciskei had a similar effect.

If King goes black what will happen to Dale? Will my son be able to complete his schooling at the college?...These were just two of the questions raised.

These fears were allayed by a letter from the School Committee chairman, Mr Neville Woolgar, who reassured parents that Dale, and all it had to offer, would continue unchanged irrespective of what took place.

This year the Government made its decision and at a meeting at Dale in the second term, Dr Lennox Sebe supported this by stating that King was not part of his plan for the Ciskei.

Gold is purified through great heat while steel is strengthened. After these months of indecision King has boomed and Dale has had its best year for a long time. It is almost as though the ranks, Old Boys, parents and boys have closed and the wonderful Dale spirit has grown incredibly.

At the college my young and very dedicated staff has worked at the total education of Dalians. Academically high standards are being maintained and smaller classes are the order of the day.

Culturally we are offering a wide spectrum of activities — in the second term we had 40 cultural meetings and activities. These culminated in a cultural focus at the end of the term in which most societies took part.

On the sportsfield we have had an outstanding year. Our swimmers and athletes have maintained their usual very high standard, our waterpolo teams are unbeaten; our hockey side has played fine hockey, our cross country team went to the SA Championships; our golfers qualified for the national finals (the top eight schools) our junior tennis team won the East London league for the second successive year; our squash teams have dominated the leagues (eight boys in the Border squads); our shottists remain unbeaten, while Russell Kockjeu set a Border

record of 399 out of a possible 400; our rugby team has played the finest rugby seen at Dale for many years.

Thus far we have had about 40 provincial representatives including four Transvalers — Wayne Korras, Chris and David Cumming and Barry Worth. C Cumming and Worth have achieved national honours in the biathlon and baseball.

Six pupil tours have taken place already with a cricket and tennis tour in the offing as I write.

Our facilities are in wonderful shape with three beautiful new tennis courts (another two were resurfaced at the end of last year), the building of two glass-backed squash courts, the development of another hockey field, and the appointment of a professional cricket coach, Mr Peter Morris.

Dale is alive and well!

As I have travelled this year to Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Maritzburg, East London and Grahamstown, the enthusiasm and keenness among parents and Old Boys has been quite exceptional.

Never in my four years have I known the positive and very tangible spirit for Dale that I have enjoyed this year. Gifts, support at functions, and great encouragement have poured into the school. The Old Dalian Executive has motivated its branches, appointed a PRO, Mr Dummy Taylor, former Dale Junior Headmaster, started a fund-raising drive and undertaken many projects to aid us at Dale College and Dale Junior.

With everything going so well I can hear people saying what can I do for Dale?

While in Johannesburg I interviewed many prospective parents. At the end of one interview the parents asked for some additional prospectuses as they wanted to encourage boys to come to Dale.

This is what we need! Let us talk about the school and encourage others to send their sons here.

I feel very humble when I realise that I head up this great school with its wonderful family.

Thank you, Transvaal parents and Old Dalians and friends, for all the support you are giving me. Never forget I am only the Headmaster, this is your school.

It's a long, long trail a-winding...

THE Exploration Society was off again — 19 Daliens and four masters — with backpacks and optimism, on a three-day mountain hike. Why? Because it's damn good fun!

In the Southern and Eastern Cape it was flood time: Departure day minus one — still raining hard: Worried parents phoning at all hours. All I could say was it was "on" until called off and at 5.30am on Friday we left — in a small bus, a car and in rain.

A forced detour through the "drizzly" Karroo pushed the journey from 550 to 900km, so we reached Plettenberg Bay via the back door — four caravans in a caravan park. We slept dry only because each caravan was a four-wheeled island in the park lake.

Morning: Blue sky. 70km to the mountain forestry camp of Farleigh — very steep and muddy so that some boys had to leave the bus to halt the backward slide — and we are there.

Excitement all round, sorting of backpacks, final trail directions and instructions from the "Pathfinder", and the humping of packs. Mine, with the equipment for my two sons, almost squelches me into the ground up to my knees.

We set out in pairs and straggles. After a few kilometres of climb and descent and sweat and gasp, and deserted by my own "flesh and blood" (aged 8 and 11) and my three colleagues, I logically rationalise that since I have the snake-bite outfit I should bring up the rear.

After 12km our prearranged lunch spot at Jubilee Creek was delightful. A breathtakingly ice-cold swim in the gurgling creek in underpants or otherwise; munching and swapping of sardines or bully or whatever the other guy has — there is no private property on a hike like this — and a leisurely stretch-out in the sun.

● **TERRY LENNARD**, a senior Dale master who is also superintendent of Sutton House, describes an expedition on the Outeniqua Mountain Trail in March.

Two more hours through beautiful indigenous rain forest, past some historic abandoned gold mine tunnels and then haven — Millwood, our first night's rest hut — a wash, a fire, food, relaxing and chatting and bunks all round.

Off early in the morning — a tough day this but obviously a stroll for the boys — steep hills, steep valleys, thick forest, swirling streams to wade, mud to squelch and the acrid bile-taste of exhaustion in the throat.

Exhausted collapse for lunch, a swim and we press on. Backpacks are lighter now because some tinned food has been consumed or generously forced on others. Feel fitter now.

A beautiful cabin that night (Rondebossie), a roaring fire and fellowship (which is what it's about), jocularly; the sharing and swapping of "cordon bleu" slush; a group war cry and then bed by eight.

The final day is the tester — a long and murderous climb up Jonkersberg — but what a view of Knysna Heads. Down, down, then through dank, muddy, dense humid rain forest, stepping over and into mounds of elephant droppings. The 65km are now a joke and a laugh — amid sweaty and muddy clothes and fellowship.

Only the long home now — on wheels! A hike next year? Try to stop us!

That was the (chairman's) year that was

PARENTS and Old Daliens are working more closely in the interests of the school.

This was made clear by the chairman of the Transvaal Dale Parents Association, Alan Naylor, in his report for the past year to the association's annual general meeting at the Victoria Hotel, Johannesburg, on July 4. He said the period had been marked by closer liaison between the association and the Old Dalian Union.

Representatives had attended the Percy Davis dinner and committee members attended Transvaal Old Dalian meetings.

Parents had taken part in the Old Dalian golf day to which the association had given a Dale clock as a prize. (The Old Daliens responded by giving R200 of the proceeds to the association's Trans-Dale fund.)

Many parents had attended a meeting with the Acting Headmaster, Mr Des Leatt, arranged by Transvaal Old Daliens.

Matters raised with the Headmaster during the year included:

- Pupils' manner of dress on the train.
- Liaison in preparation of the prospectus.
- Insurance cover for pupils.
- The collection of pupils by bus from Blaney Station.

The association's annual Christmas party held at Rob and Sheilagh Pringle's Bryanston home was well attended.

New parents Leighton and Mandy Rickson were co-opted to the committee during the year.

The Trans-Dale magazine was published during the year and sent free of charge to all Transvaal and Cape parents and distributed at Dale College.

The magazine was being well received and the chairman thanked Joe Sutton for editing it and those members who had raised advertising revenue at the last Reunion.

The chairman reminded the meeting of the Reunion to be held over August 14, 15 and 16. He said an air charter trip was investigated, but dropped as this proved too expensive.

Regarding train fares, the chairman reminded parents that fares had been raised from April 2, and some adjustments had to be made to the amount to be forwarded due to an incorrect calculation by the South African Railways. He urged parents please to forward their cheques to arrive in time.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The chairman presented the treasurer's report on behalf of the treasurer as follows:

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD.....	R76,10
LEVY INCOME.....	R510,10
CLOCK SALES.....	R390,00
INTEREST.....	R10,33
TOTAL.....	R986,53

An amount of R980,00 was donated to Dale College from this fund.

MAGAZINE FUND:

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD.....	R223,29
INCOME ADVERTISING.....	R200,45
INTEREST.....	R6,24
OLD DALIAN DONATION.....	R200,00
TOTAL.....	R629,98
EXPENDITURE,	
PRINTING.....	R163,00
VICTORIA HOTEL	
(for Headmaster's visit).....	R13,50
PRESENTATION	
(Mrs Ford and Old Dalian Golf).....	R100,00
ADVERTISING (Headmasters' visit).....	R135,00
POSTAGES.....	R 14,55
R426,05	
BALANCE AS AT JULY 4, 1981.....	R213,93.

The chairman requested a proposal from the floor that the R10-a-term levy be retained or abolished. It was unanimously agreed that the levy would be retained for the ensuing year.

Welcome back, Dale Boks!



BACK TO SCHOOL: Fifteen of Dale's 44 Springboks: Back left: Mike Pautz (angling), Rod Cummings (powerboating), Buster Farrer (cricket and hockey), Hilton Ackerman (cricket). Left middle: Terry

Boucher (angling), Trevor Gee (marathon), Des Torr (athletics), Gary Radue (angling), B McLaren (rowing), Mike Sokolich (angling). Front left: Anthony Wood (clay pigeon shooting), B Howe (rugby), Dr Pat Spence (tennis), C B Jennings (rugby), H O de Villiers (rugby).

ONE OF THE great moments the 1981 Reunion came when an 83-year-old former South African tennis star hobbled up to the Dale College Assembly Hall platform on crutches to head a memorable gathering of ex-Springboks.

He was Dr P D B Spence, of Johannesburg, who won the mixed doubles at Wimbledon in 1928 and played Davis Cup tennis for South Africa from 1922 to 1931. Pat Spence had not been back to Dale since 1918.

From rugby and cricket to angling and clay-pigeon shooting — and others who reached near-international heights — all received a standing ovation.

The rugby heroes included C B Jennings, who played for Border while still at school and toured Australia and New Zealand with Philip Nel's Springboks, Peewee Howe (two Tests in the 1955 Bok tour "Down Under") and H O de Villiers, who played against France in 1967, toured France in 1968 and then went on the "demo tour" of Britain in 1969-70.

Others honoured:

- Powerboat Bok Rod Cummings;
- Clay-pigeon Bok Anthony Wood;
- Marathon Springbok Trevor Gee;

● Athlete Des Torr, who ran the crosscountry for South Africa and was twice chosen to run the mile in international events that did not come off;

● Cricketer Hilton Ackerman, who played for the school first XI from the age of 12 and was selected for the cancelled Springbok tour of Britain in 1971-72.

● Oarsman Brian McLaren, who rowed for the South African Trident crews;

● Gazelles (SA under 24s) rugby player Arnie Kruger.

A last-minute absentee through illness was the veteran Springbok golfer and amateur champion Ben Ryan, 81, who has since died.

Three others who missed the ceremony but were honoured at a dinner that night were:

Terry Landman (Springbok water polo), cricketer Kenny Watson, who played for a South African XI against the Currie Cup champions Transvaal and also for the President's XI against the International Wanderers and was chosen for a shadow Springbok XI; Gary Smith, who represented South Africa under 19 and under 23 squash sides against international teams.

● Dale College has produced 44 Springboks.

Colours for culture...

THE gentler, cultural arts are flourishing at Dale College.

Four Daliens — including two Transvalers — have been awarded colours in dramatic art for their performances in the successful productions of "Twelfth Night" and "Seagulls over Sorrento".

They are Richard Newton of Witbank, Stuart Sutton of Edenvale, Gavin Smith and Andrew Matthews. Ernest Widdicombe was re-awarded half colours.

Produced by Mr Glynn Kenyon, Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" was performed to packed houses in May by the Dale Dramatic Society. "Seagulls over Sorrento", an absorbing human drama by Hugh Hastings, was staged over the Reunion weekend, after a series of setbacks that would have deterred a less resourceful producer than Mr Errol Hort.

Mr Kenyon's production, in which KHS girls took leading roles, was hailed by reviewer Una Graven, in the Mercury. She wrote:

"Shakespeare would have been charmed — his play performed with artistry, enthusiasm, gaiety and colour, and to a large responsive audience ...

"The delightful characters of Twelfth Night romanced, intrigued and clowned their way through the play in a setting which was both lovely to look at as well as being practically effective.

Of the characters, she commented: "Malvolio was brought to life by Richard Newton, who gave a dramatic interpretation of the smug, arrogant servant who fell victim to his own conceit.

"Stuart Sutton, as Feste, the fool, showed remarkable stage presence as well as excellent timing in both speech and movement.

"Andrew Matthews gave an entertaining performance as the likeable but bumbling Sir Andrew Aguecheek.

"The 'hero' of the evening, as far as the audience was concerned, was undoubtedly Sir Toby Belch, alias Gavin Smith, who roistered and roared his way through the role at great peril to his voice and figure."

Ernest Widdicombe as Orsino had one of the smaller roles which, said the reviewer, were "all very adequately handled, each one adding a small but very important contribution to what is, in effect, a team effort requiring the same dedication and discipline as a rugby match."

Among these players were Transvalers Bruce Vorster, Derek Loudon, Ashley Karro and Wynand Serfontein.



FROM "TWELFTH NIGHT" (left to right): Ernest Widdicombe, Kevin Pengelly, Bruce Vorster and Leslie Bréwis, with Stuart Sutton (front)

In every play the producer has his problems. In "Twelfth Night" Stuart Sutton caught a cold and croaked his way through his songs in the final rehearsals.

"Seagulls" was much harder hit — and this is how producer Errol Hort describes it:

After a scant two weeks' rehearsal at the end of the second quarter, the break of the long winter holiday, daily rehearsals for the first three weeks of this quarter (miraculously sandwiched in between rugby and hockey practices, cadets and cadet band rehearsals, not to mention computer courses, confirmation classes and doctors' appointments), the play was far from ready by Sunday August 9.

On that Sunday (part of the boarders' leave-out weekend!) we rehearsed both in the morning and afternoon, with a break for lunch which was served in the staff-room — shades of a captive cast. It was a taxing day for everyone, cast, backstage workers, the music

Headmasters visit the Rand

THE Headmasters of Dale College and Dale Junior, Mr Colin Thomson and Mr Roy Taylor, attended the annual general meeting of the Transvaal Parents Association on July 4 and a party afterwards at the Benoni home of Serf and Michelle Serfontein.

About 40 parents attended the AGM and interviewed the headmasters privately.

The headmasters and their wives also attended a dinner of the Transvaal Old Dalian Union the previous evening at the Wanderers' Club. Also present were the incoming National President of the Old Dalian Union Mr Mike Russell and the union's newly appointed PRO, Mr Dummy Taylor, and Mrs Taylor.

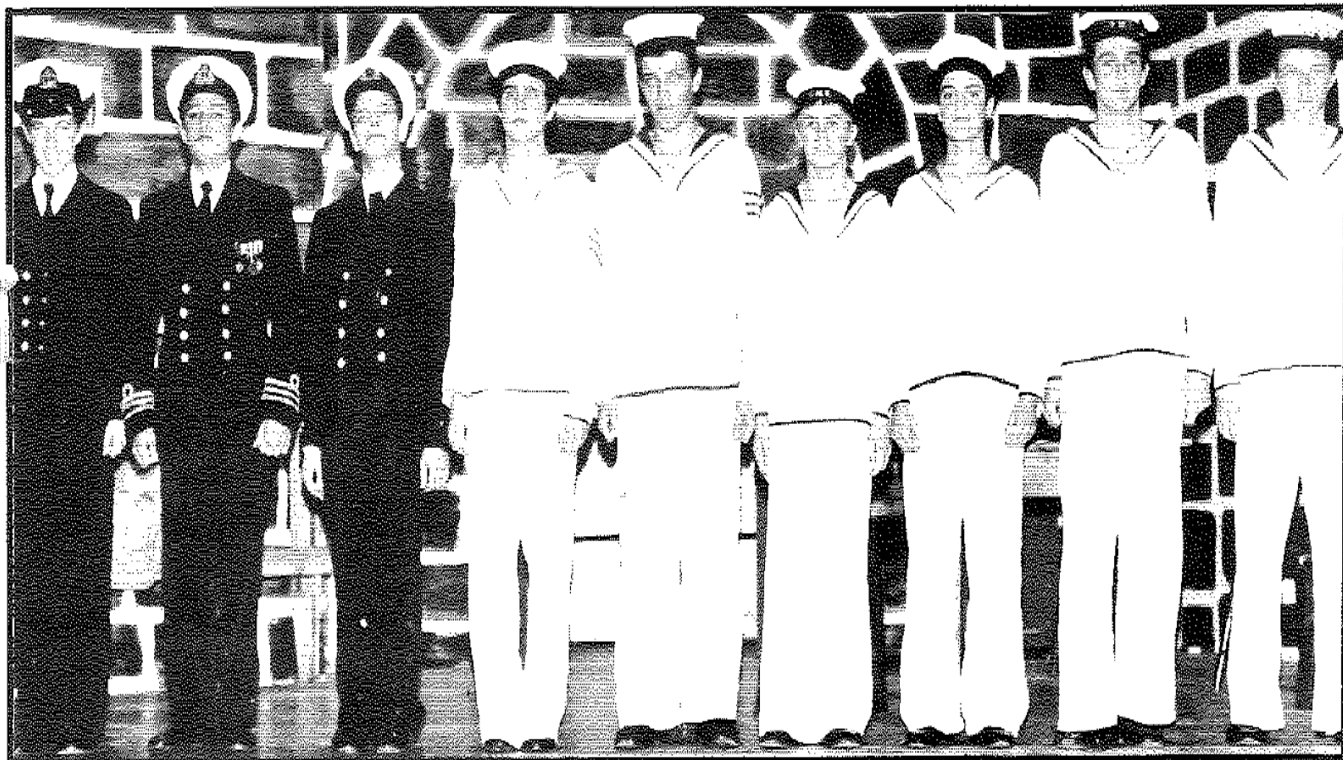
At both these functions the visitors spoke with confidence of the future of King William's Town and Dale College. Sample quotes:

Mr Thomson: ● There has been an incredible change. Housing is at a premium with prices out of this world. New businesses are opening and an influx of whites is expected.

Mr Russell: ● King has been through a trying time. Now we know where we stand and where we are going.



At the Old Dalian dinner: parents Bob and Claire Tandy.



FROM "SEAGULLS" (left to right): Gerald Boden, Pierre Rouessart, Gavin Smith, Richard Newton, Ernest Widdicombe, Stuart Sutton, Andrew Matthews, Andrew Bowles and Kim Harvey

and sound effects man and a more than usually demented producer.

By Monday morning, two of the leads had lost their voices; on Tuesday, Pierre Rouessart took to his bed. Richard Newton persevered in a sotto voce Cockney whisper, but Ernest Widdicombe was completely voiceless.

So the producer (now the alter vox) read Lofty's lines, while Lofty mouthed and mimed on stage. Linda Scheckle, who had achieved wonders in costuming the play, took on the added responsibility of doctoring the sick and ailing, and arrived nightly laden with Tupperware containers brimming over with revitalising concoctions.

By Thursday, the final dress rehearsal, I was not sure how many parts I would be reading or playing — where I would hide myself on the stage, or whether I should head for the distant Amatoilas!

In true Dalian tradition, however, the rehearsal went on, both Badger and Lofty using their own voices, albeit tentatively, and

somehow the play had pulled together and become quite presentable.

The performances on Friday and Saturday were a credit, I think, to a tremendous team effort from both the cast and the small but highly efficient backstage crew, who worked hard to present what is a difficult and involved play.

Critic Una Graven paid tribute to the players' "excellent teamwork — not only visible in the fine pace and smooth execution throughout the play, but also in the less definable cameraderie between the players." She wrote:

"The four able seamen, A Matthews, R Newton, S Sutton and E Widdicombe gave a delightful team performance while at the same time successfully projecting different individual characters.

"Richard Newton must be congratulated on his natural, easy manner on the stage and on the way he captured the brash humour of Badger; Ernest Widdicombe on carrying off the difficult role of the fatherly Lofty; Andrew Matthews and Stuart Sutton on particularly sensitive performances as the young orphan seaman and the reserved intelligent McIntosh respectively. Success in such totally different from those they performed in 'Twelfth Night' confirms their talent.

"The conflict in the play was embodied in the suitable nasty and cowardly Petty Officer Herbert, played by Gavin Smith. Pierre Rouessart, Gerald Boden, Kim Harvey and Andrew Bowles fulfilled their smaller roles with credit."

Mrs Graven concluded: "Dale College is fortunate to have members of staff like Mr Hort who are not only talented, but, what is more important, are willing to give up much time and energy to involving schoolboys in a cultural project where hard work and discipline are as important as talent."

● "Seagulls over Sorrento" was first produced for the Dale Dramatic Society by Mr Ray Godden in August 1952 after being postponed at the last minute for a week because of the illness of one of the principals, M Bircham.

Among the cast were Tertius Myburgh, now editor of the Sunday Times and the Rand Daily Mail, and Ray Radue, now MPC for King William's Town.



Left to right: Sue and Roy Taylor (Headmaster of Dale Junior), Roy's mother, Mrs Dummy Taylor, and Transvaal parents Mossie and Gill Hawkes.

My task — and how parents can help

By DUMMY TAYLOR

OF COURSE I was delighted to accept this challenging post without hesitation and I shall endeavour to serve the Old Dalian Union and the college to the best of my ability.

After considering the priorities, I presented these to the Executive Committee for its "go-ahead" so I could get into full stride. One of these was to visit all branches as soon as possible to exchange information and ideas and to draw up specific plans.

I consider Old Dalian fellowship and comradeship throughout the country as a priority. Every effort will be made with the assistance of the branches and the media to trace and contact every Old Dalian whether registered or not.

The idea is for us all to find common ground and build on it, to create the true and right image of Dale and to support the Old Dalian Union loyally and enthusiastically. Just as the game is greater than the player so is the school greater than the individual.

I want to stress at every opportunity that the uncertainty of King William's Town and Dale at the time of the Van der Walt Commission which perturbed so many is now past.

King William's Town is not included in the Ciskei and Dale will remain one of South Africa's famous boys' schools with exciting days ahead. In my promotion work I shall try to repair the damage done.

King is booming and a long period of prosperity is predicted. Dale will share in that prosperity and, we hope to infuse new life into all who belong to Dale in one way or another.

Dale turns 120 next year but I had better not tell you what we have in mind before our exciting plans have been finalised.

With the two Headmasters and the President, I have visited Cape Town, Natal, Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, East London, Queenstown and Grahamstown and from now we will be visiting the smaller branches.

Fellowship and support is what we are after, not only while Dale is enjoying a fantastic year of achievement, but always.

The continued keen interest and backing will surely encourage the staff and boys and urge them on to greater efforts.

We are aware of the amazing interest of the parents, friends of Dale, the Supporters' Club and admirers of the school. The ODU

Mr D V (Dummy) Taylor looks to parents of Daliens to help him in his task as public relations officer of the Old Dalian Union.

He is well known to parents of the sixties and seventies as the first principal of Dale Junior and head of Taylor's Hostel for juniors. His new task will be to promote Dale College and Dale Junior and to help plan the college's 125th anniversary celebrations.

Mr Taylor is an Old Queenian. He was head boy at Queen's College and later taught there for 25 years. He coached the First XV and was president of the Queen's Old Boys' Association when the Queen's Trust was launched.



He was headmaster of Dale Junior from 1967 till he retired in 1976. His son Roy is now headmaster.

will go all out to stimulate this even further and I hope parents will join me in my task.

Dale, with its wonderful facilities, is something which the whole country must know about. There are many ways of doing this. These are being carefully worked out by the Executive and knowledgeable Old Boys.

Smaller branches — the creation of "cells" or "off shoots" in the big towns — are being considered to make contact and fellowship easier and less expensive.

A new approach to fund-raising is being considered. The use of professionals with expertise and experience on a commission basis instead of individual or branch efforts is what we have in mind. Advertising will be done on a larger scale.

I shall be at your service always. I shall be there to listen, to interview, create, liaise, report, formulate, call it what you like, but always in the best interests of Dale College and the Old Dalian Union.

Per Ardua

HEWITT & PALMER

APPOINTED STOCKISTS OF DALE SENIOR
AND DALE JUNIOR UNIFORMS

* SPORTS SPECIALISTS *

- ACCOUNTS OPENED
- CASH DISCOUNTS
- OUTFITS MARKED
- ALTERATIONS TO CLOTHING



- TUCK SUPPLIED
- DRY CLEANING
- SHOE REPAIRS
- TOILETRIES

The Best Place In Town

Bravo, the Dale Marathon men!

THEY drove 1 000km from King William's Town to the Transvaal, ran a gruelling 50km on a cold winter's morning — and then drove back to King.

The intrepid runners were Daliens Wade Lombard and John Heath and Vice Principal Des Leatt. And the event was the Johannesburg Stock Exchange Marathon from Pretoria to Johannesburg on August 8.

But there was no loneliness for these long-distance runners. Altogether 2 186 took part.

The King trio weren't able to run officially for Dale, but perhaps Dale can claim some of the credit for their success.

Wade, running for the KWT Athletics Club, completed the race in 3hr 46min — only one minute outside the silver medal time and 252nd out of the 2 100 to finish.

He is one of the fastest schoolboy marathon runners on the Border with a trail of successful events, ranging from the Buffalo Marathon to the Allied King to East London run, to his credit.

John Heath, running for the Ciskei Joggers, finished 756th in 4hr 34min and Mr Leatt was the 1 019th runner home in 4hr 58min. It was John's second JSE run — last year he completed the Johannesburg to Pretoria event in 4hr 28min.

Des Leatt, 38, has been running anything from fun runs to full marathons for 15 months — and it seems he's only warming up!

Why did he run the JSE?

"For Dale", he said. He wanted to run the EL Masters Marathon from Berlin to East London on August 1 - but was chosen instead to go on a course for vice-principals. And he couldn't join in the Hogsback Harriers run on August as Dale was playing Selborne that day.

So he decided to have a crack at the JSE. "My wife thinks I'm round the twist," he said.

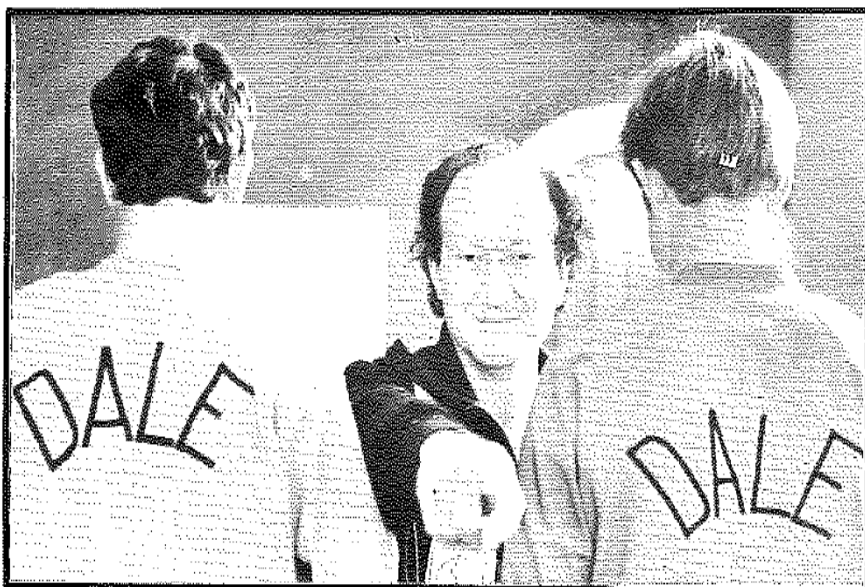
Well, perhaps she could be forgiven for feeling that way...

Just after 4am, when many South Africans were rising to watch the Springboks play Southland in New Zealand, Des, Wade and John were on their way from their Edenvale hosts to the Wanderers Club.

There they caught a bus to Pretoria for the tough run to Johannesburg.

Later that afternoon they were on their way south by car again, weary but content and looking forward to the night's stopover in Welkom.

Some people climb mountains instead. Others prefer to watch TV...



My wife thinks I'm round the twist



ABOUT TURN: Runners Wade Lombard, Des Leatt and John Heath

Pictures: JAMES SOULLIER

Chris and Doug took that SATV race in their stride



TRANSVAAL Daliens Chris Cumming, 17, (left) and Douglas Thompson, 16, ran the 21km SABC TV Road Race in Johannesburg on July 11 with ease.

Chris made the excellent time of 1hr 20min and Douglas was home in 2hr 6min. The two boys were seconded at one of the watering points by Dalian "Pikkie" Glynn. After the race both boys said they weren't very tired and could easily run it all over again!

Show me the way to the squash (via the N1, M1, M2 and don't forget the N3)

DURING the first term holidays the 1st and U-15A Dale squash teams toured the OFS and Transvaal. The tour got off to an amusing start when Bradley Osborne's hat caused a traffic jam in Bloemfontein during the 5pm rush!

Throughout the tour we were treated with kindness and friendliness. Bloemfontein, where we were hosted by the parents of our opponents, Grey College, was no exception.

The match against Grey was a disappointment for the 1st team, which threw the game away at No 3, 4 and 5. Bradley Osborne and Michael Farrer had excellent wins at No 1 and 2.

We left Bloemfontein at 8.30am on Friday, March 27, and were met by Bob Gillanders about 80km out of Johannesburg. Bob proved to be of excellent assistance to us and without him I doubt whether the tour would have been such a great success.

On Friday evening we played a team of Old Dalians and because one of their players could not continue after the third game, we claimed victory. They claimed victory because he was leading 2-1 at the time.

A very entertaining evening was spent at the Tandys' Northcliffe Ridge home. Our thanks to Bob Tandy for entertaining us so well. We'll never forget his jokes!

Our first game in the Transvaal was against Pretoria Boys' High, one of the strongest squash playing schools in the Transvaal. The opposition was very strong and the 1st team was beaten 4-1 (Bradley Osborne won 3-0 at No 1) and the U-15A lost 0-5.

The next day (Sunday) we received our second hiding — from St Stithian's, the strongest of our opponents. Both teams lost 0-5.

Over this weekend our boys stayed with Bob and Gene Gil-

By GEOFF KIESWETTER

landers in Blairgowrie, Ron and Audrey Begg and Joe and Bunty Sutton of Edenvale. From the Monday, four of the boys at the Gillanders' home moved to Florida to be hosted by Robbie Bretagne and Kenny Mourant.

From then I was on my own in finding venues all over Johannesburg, from Parkmore in the north to Southern Suburbs and also to Germiston and Springs in the east.

I studied the massive road map given me by Bob Gillanders and listened carefully to his advice. I dreamed about that map all night. I had nightmares in which yellow roads with route markers saying N1, N2, M1, M2, N3 and Eastern Bypass were flashing across my brain.

We were to meet at the Carlton Centre at 9.30am and I wondered where I was going to find parking for a 25-seater Nissan bus. About 5.40am I had a brainwave — we'd meet at the Johannesburg station. And how relieved I was to reach the station via the N3, M2 and Rissik Street, and there to greet me was an open parking bay!

Throughout the week we were treated excellently by our hosts, and this with the good squash played made this tour a wonderful experience.

Some of the opposition was very strong and some was rather weak. But by the end the improvement in our all-round play was evident. I must pay special thanks to Buster Farrer for his advice and encouragement. It was pleasing to see the players taking heed of this.

Our boys are to be complimented on their excellent behaviour on and off the court and the wonderful spirit that prevailed throughout the tour. This probably did much to enhance the prestige of the college as nothing but favourable reports came in to me wherever we went.

My most sincere thanks must go to:

Bob Gillanders — for his never-ending support and invaluable assistance; for putting up five boys over the weekend and for 101 other things.

Kenny Mourant — for fetching and carrying better than Rob Louw, Boland Coetzee and Morné du Plessis in their prime.

Gordon McEwan — for running around like a spring chicken looking after Roland and Mark!

Ron and Audrey Begg — for putting up with the nonsense of Colin Farrer and Ian Goodwin, and still being able to tell me with a straight face, "It was an absolute pleasure!", also for putting up four extra bodies for the last night.

Joe and Bunty Sutton — for putting up and putting up with Peter Crossman and myself! For making us feel so at home that even Castle Lager began to taste like it does in King!

RESULTS

vs Grey (Bloemfontein): 1st lost 2-3, U-15A won 4-1
vs Pretoria Boys High: 1st lost 1-4, U-15A lost 0-5
vs St Stithian's: 1st lost 0-5, U-15A lost 0-5
vs Hill High: 1st won 4-1, U-15A won 5-0
vs Sandown High: 1st won 4-1, U-15A won 3-2
vs King David, Linksfield: 1st lost 1-4,
vs King Edward: 1st won 4-1
vs Germiston High: 1st won 5-0
vs Eastern Transvaal: U-15A lost 0-5
vs St John's: 1st won 3-2, U-15A won 3-2.

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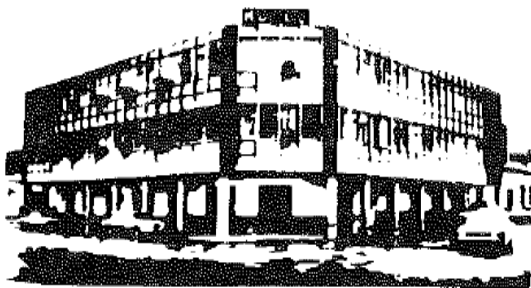
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