

APR 1985

TRANS-DALE



PER ARDUA



125 years on: Dale prepares for a lift-off

DALE COLLEGE — born in the turbulent days of the Cape's eastern frontier — is preparing to celebrate its 125th anniversary. A year of festivities will start at the 1985 Reunion in August and end in August 1986.

The origins of Dale go back to a Public Undenominational School started in King William's Town in 1861. It was named Dale College in 1877 after Sir Langham Dale, Superintendent General of Education in the Cape, when a new school was built in Queen's Road.

Now anniversary arrangements are in full swing under a committee chaired by Brian Gardner, a Dale parent who has been a good friend of the school for many years. He is Professor of Accountancy at Fort Hare and has been a member of the Dale College Committee and the Parent Teacher Association Committee.

The programme they have drawn up is exciting, but Professor Gardner says it could be changed as the year progresses.

Reunion festivities will start on Thursday, August 22, a day earlier than usual, with a civic function as part of King William's Town's 150th anniversary. The day's programme includes a cadet parade and a civic luncheon.

The weekend will include the usual Friday Reunion Assembly and afternoon activities ending in the Retreat ceremony, the parents' cocktail party and the Old Dalian dinner, with a ball on the Saturday night. The Dale Players will stage a play on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Saturday rugby and hockey matches against Dale's arch-rival, Queen's College, will highlight Reunion 1985. Headmaster Malcom Andrew wants as many Old Dalians and parents as possible to attend the Reunion to give the celebrations a big lift-off.

But he has made a special appeal to Dale supporters not to mar the weekend and the rugby match in particular with boisterous behaviour. "Please, let's have no incidents — no nonsense. It must be absolutely top notch," he says.

At the Sunday Memorial Service in the Hallowed Courtyard additional names will be unveiled on the war memorial.

The Dale prizegiving in the fourth term will have a 125th anniversary theme.

Most of the anniversary events — academic, cultural and sporting — will be concentrated in 1986.

Parents of boys from Dale and Dale Junior are planning a family day in King in the first term. This will include a fun run, a tug-of-war, cricket, tennis, squash, golf and an evening braai followed by a gym display.

The programme for the second term is largely academic and cultural. There will be displays of school work, a hobbies exhibition, an archival display focusing on Dale down the years, chess, choir and play festivals, the staging of a Shakespearean play and special speakers at both schools.

There are plans for tree planting and the opening of extensions to Dale Junior and the college fields.

The anniversary year will wind up with an extended week-long Reunion in August 1986. Dale will play Selborne on the

TRANS-DALE

NEWSLETTER OF THE
TRANSCAAL PARENTS
ASSOCIATION
OF
DALE
COLLEGE



No 17

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Saturday — the first time they have met during a Dale Reunion for many years.

The Headmaster has told of plans to send the Dale First XV on an overseas tour as part of the year-long celebrations. Plans for five matches are being arranged and three staff members are to accompany the team — Lindsay Pearson (manager), Alastair McCallum (coach) and Peter Reed.

"This is the first time a Dale team will undertake such an exciting venture and I hope Dalians, parents and the public will support this venture," said the Head. Wisely, details of the tour are being kept under wraps.

The Transvaal Dale Parents Association is producing special Dale clocks to mark the 125th anniversary (See Page 5 for details).

How can parents help to mark this milestone in the history of one of South Africa's finest boarding schools?

We can attend the Reunion in 1985 and 1986 and join with our sons in the festivities over these weekends. We can also encourage our sons to play their part in the events being planned to mark the anniversary over the next year.

And we can appeal to our Old Dalian sons to keep the peace over the Reunion weekend.

This is also an opportunity for parents to review their support for the Dale Education Fund. Many have given generously and are continuing to do so. Others have given little and some none at all.

We know that parents have found it hard to help because of declining living standards in an economic recession. But Dale itself has suffered from the ripple effects of the drought and the recession.

As costs have soared, Government financial help has been reduced and the price of restoring the drought-ravaged playing fields and maintaining academic and sporting facilities has been sky-high.

For those of us who want Dale to meet the challenges of the future the anniversary year is a time to redouble our efforts to preserve this fine school and maintain its high standards.

At present enrolment in both the senior and junior schools is still climbing, due partly to good publicity work by parents and Old Dalians. To keep up this momentum we can only repeat our old slogan, "Spread the word about Dale." It is a success story worth telling — again and again.

It's a job Worth doing well!

DALE COLLEGE'S Headboy for 1985, Bradley Worth, 17, of Mondeor, Johannesburg, is a credit to the school — academically and on the sports field.

With full colours for academics, Bradley has been a Junior Springbok baseball player and a South African Schools softball player. He plays Border squash, was chosen for the Nuffield cricket team and has received half colours for tennis. To relax he plays rugby.

His aim for 1985 is to put Dale on top of everything, making it the best school in the country.

"After that, all that matters to me is to get my Old Dalian colours. I wouldn't have gone to any other school in South Africa.

"In my four years at Dale I have learnt the most in my lifetime, to be independent and to look after myself. I am damn sure my sons will go to Dale," he said.

Bradley knows that being Head Prefect and also head of Diocesan Hostel robs him of time that could be spent on schoolwork or sport. But he feels they are duties that require dedication and must be carried out properly. He says he will try to do his job as best he can.

The Worth family have all been interested in baseball. When one's father has been manager of the Junior Springbok team and one's brother has played Junior Springbok baseball internationally, it is accepted that the younger son will take part in the sport.

Bradley played baseball for the Junior Springbok team in Europe when he was 13. He has since changed to softball and has played for the South African Schools' team.

He has played cricket since the age of six and this has obviously prepared him for his four-year "innings" in the Dale first cricket team. With six other Daliens he was chosen for the Border Nuffield cricket team last year. He received half colours for cricket.

At the end of the first term this year Bradley arrived home on a Thursday for just a weekend before leaving again to join another tour.

Squash is the favourite. Currently No 1 in the King William's Town league and playing for the Border men's side, Bradley takes squash very seriously. He has received full colours for squash.

A first team tennis player in 1983 and 1984, Bradley was awarded half colours for the sport.

With all Bradley's sporting commitments, he still finds time to be a committee member of the Wildlife Student Christian Association and the Dale/Kaffrarian High School newspaper, Khale.

The Worths were introduced to Dale College when young Bradley decided he wanted to go to boarding school in Std Six after being Headboy of Mondeor Primary School.

Mondeor friends Frank and Cookie Rouessart and George and Avril Thompson recommended Dale as their sons, Pierre and Douglas, were both at the school.

Bradley entered Diocesan Hostel with excitement in 1981. His most memorable occasion since then, which was also the most frightening, was Sandile's Night when the hostel ghost prowls the hostel haunting standard sixes.

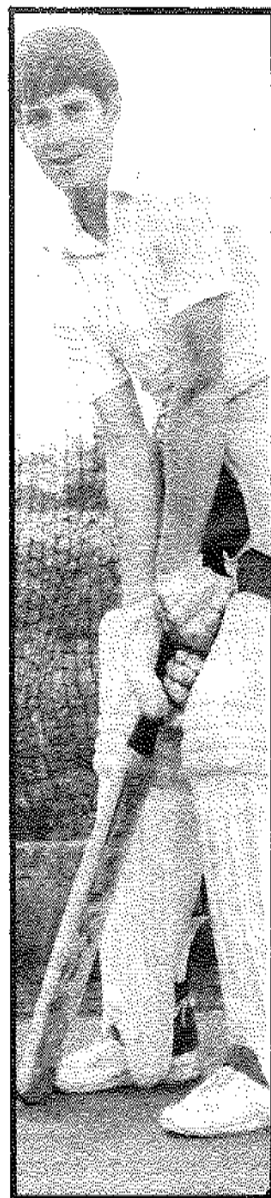
Bradley hopped around Hostel with a broken toe for a few weeks after making a narrow escape from the ghost by jumping down a flight of stairs.

When he matriculates from Dale at the end of the year, he

THAT'S WHAT MONDEOR'S BRADLEY FEELS ABOUT BEING HEADBOY OF DALE



BRADLEY WORTH . . .
student and sportsman



hopes to study at Wits or UCT to become a chartered accountant.

Bradley's father, Mr Bob Worth, is general sales manager for a manufacturing company in Johannesburg. His mother, Desiree (call me "D") manages the family businesses, a dry cleaners and a clothing boutique. Her father, Kenny Holmes, went to Dale before the Second World War.

The Worths are very proud of Bradley's achievements. Says "D", who went to boarding school herself: "I wasn't so keen on the idea of him going away at first.

"I cried my heart out when Bradley first caught the train to Dale but I don't cry any more. I think Dale's fantastic."

Says Bob, who is very involved in the administration of youth sport: "It's a tremendous school and Bradley would not have achieved what he has done anywhere else."

The Worths have two older sons, Gary, 26, and Brent 21.

Don't forget: Sunday, June 23, is Fun Day!

Sir Langham — the man who gave his name to Dale College

A 92-YEAR-OLD marble bust of Sir Langham Dale — after whom Dale College was named in 1877 — has an honoured place in the Faculty of Education building at the University of Cape Town.

It was moved there in 1983 after spending many years in the university's Jagger Library and a year in safekeeping during building alterations.

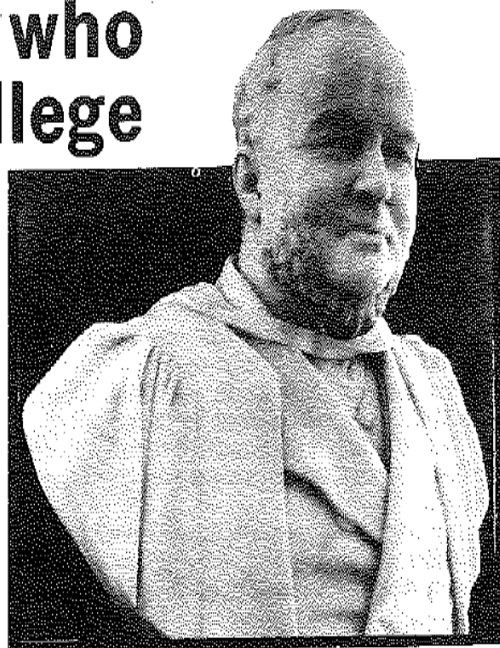
Dale College would dearly like to have the bust, but it was bequeathed to the university by Sir Langham's sons — and at his request.

Sir Langham, who was born in 1826, was Superintendent-General of

Education in the Cape from 1859 to 1892 after being Professor of Classics at South African College, the forerunner of UCT, for 11 years.

The bust was sculpted by FJ Williamson of Esher, England, in 1893, five years before Sir Langham's death. It was presented to Sir Langham by the South African Teachers' Association and handed over to the university by his sons at the opening of a building.

● Dale College will have to be content with its own Sir Langham — the school mascot, which is prominently displayed at rugby matches.



DALE COLLEGE enters its 125th anniversary year bursting at the seams with a record enrolment approaching the 600 mark.

This year there are 566 boys at Dale, including 307 boarders, compared with 525 and 270 boarders last year. Enrolment has risen steadily in the past three years, from 422 in 1982 and 485 in 1983.

Two more classes have been added making four classes in every standard except Standard 7 where there are five.

The four hostels — Joubert, Diocesan, Paterson and Sutton — are crammed and the school must now decide whether it can afford to buy and run another hostel.

The Education Department has refused to provide another hostel because of insufficient funds and because it says so many Dale boarders come from outside the Cape.

To cope with the increased numbers the department has added one teaching post, but Headmaster Malcom Andrew says: "We need six more."

Dale is suffering from the effects of the country-wide recession and applications for additional staff have been rejected as there are no funds. Essential repairs to Sutton House and the College have been delayed.

The Headmaster has spelt out his views on the growth and tremendous strides being made at Dale. "Why are Dale's numbers increasing so dramatically?" he asks.

"The answer is that Dale is offering a saleable commodity: a philosophy, an ideal and a set of values which are not easily found in other schools; a saleable commodity being sought by parents and boys all over the Republic."

Outlining progress at Dale, the Headmaster made these points:

● Continuing attention is being given to improving academic standards, with encouraging results.

● The Advanced Study programme launched in 1984 has paid dividends. "We and the 20-odd boys involved have learnt much." Marius Garbers has taken over from Geoff Kieswetter, who left for the Cape at the end of last year after devoting much "time, effort and dedication" to the scheme.

● The Lower Grade course has paid dividends for the eight boys in the three lower standards.

● "With lower, higher and standard grades, plus the ASP course, it offers a fuller range than most schools and, by so doing, caters for all intellectual abilities."

● Afrikaans first language has been extended to Standard 8 — under Mr Garbers helped by Paul Giliomee. "It is most pleasing to see about 50 boys achieving so successfully in both official

Dale is busting out all over

languages."

● Three new vice-principals have been appointed, subject to confirmation. They are Alastair McCallum, Lindsay Pearson and Marius Garbers, who have joined existing vice-principals Peter Reed and Len du Pisanie.

Charles McGill, who came to Dale in 1982 and became Acting Deputy Head last year, left at the end of last term to become Deputy Headmaster of Selborne College.

Mr D Gendall, of Alexander High School, Port Elizabeth, has been appointed Deputy Head of Dale.

● Gareth Crossman has taken over from Mr Reed as superintendent of Paterson House.

● The Dale sports fields have recovered magnificently from the ravages of last year's drought.

Praising the hard work, dedication and forethought of grounds manager Cliff Greeff, Mr Andrew said: "He has transformed our sports facilities from a desert to their present condition — described by many as the best the fields have been in for many years."

● Mr Andrew described the food at Dale hostels as the best on the Border and Eastern Province. "Doodgooi is out," he said.

The Headmaster visited the Transvaal twice last year and made a fervent plea to Old Dalians and parents to help the school over its financial difficulties by supporting the Dale Education Fund.

"The only factor hindering the growth of Dale to the finest school in South Africa is lack of ready cash," he said.

"We have the right boys and the right staff (a new blend of teachers are begging to come to Dale)."

So far R427 165 has been pledged by parents and Old Dalians in the drive for R1 million and money has already been used to develop the two new fields above the school.

"The message the Government is giving us is very bluntly to look after ourselves as far as possible without their financial support," he said.

"The days of milk and honey are over and possibly, in the field of education, will not reappear."

Fun Day set for Sunday, June 23

ROLL UP FOLKS ... for a day of fun with Transvaal Dale parents, Old Dalians and your friends.

The time: Sunday afternoon, June 23, 1985, the weekend that Transvaal boys return home for the winter holidays. So bring your boys with you.

The place: Kyalami Country Club, north of Johannesburg, only a few kilometres from the Kyalami race track.

The events (in aid of Dale College and Dale Junior):

A golf tournament, an afternoon of bowls for those who prefer this less robust game, a knock-up for tennis enthusiasts (The court is not up to Wimbledon standard but the club has offered it free).

There will also be table tennis and a putting competition.

The swimming bath will be available, too, but we doubt if there will be any takers as winter sets in.

Those who prefer to walk around and watch are welcome, too.

The golf competition will be a two-

GOLF, BOWLS TENNIS (AND LOTS MORE) FOR DALE AT KYALAMI

ball betterball stableford played in fourballs, from 11.30am.

Fees will be R15 for men, R12.50 for women and R10 for schoolboys. This will include green fees, playing or caddy fees, but not caddy tips.

Refreshments, meals and snacks will be available at the half-way house and in the club lounge after the game at players' and guests' expense.

Bowls fees will be R5 a player. Please bring your own woods and suitable shoes. Tennis will cost R2 a player.

The Headmaster of Dale College, Mr Malcom Andrew, will attend the Fun Day and present the prizes. The Headmaster of Dale Junior, Roy Taylor, is also expected to be there.

Last October's Dale parents' golf day at Parkview Golf Course raised more than R2 000. A cheque for R1 981.40 was handed to the Headmaster at the Old Dalian end-of-year party in November. Half of this has gone to the Dale Bursary Fund and the other half to the Friends of Dale.

If the 1985 tournament is to be as successful, sponsorships (at R50 per hole) will be urgently needed — plus prizes to draw a big field.

We know that 1985 is a hard year and that money is tight — but this has made it even harder to maintain standards at Dale College.

Please think about prizes and sponsorships NOW.

All offers and inquiries may be made to: Joe Sutton, Phone 710-2602 (work) or Buntz Sutton, 53-4927 (home).

Dale headmasters will be here in June

STAND BY for a visit by the Headmasters of Dale College and Dale Junior to Johannesburg in June.

Mr Malcom Andrew, head of Dale College, and Mr Roy Taylor, of Dale Junior, will attend the annual general meeting of the Transvaal Dale Parents Association on Saturday, June 22.

This will be held at the Devonshire Hotel, Jorissen Street, Braamfontein, at 2pm. The headmasters will address the

meeting and interview parents privately afterwards.

They will arrive in Johannesburg on Thursday night and interview prospective parents at the Devonshire on Friday morning, June 22. Those wishing to see the heads may phone Michele Serfontein (849-1909) or Sue Boggett (803-1562).

Mr Andrew and Mr Taylor will be joined by the National President of the Old Dalian Union, Mr Trevor Balzer. The Transvaal ODU is organising a function on the Friday night to which parents are invited. Details will be announced later.

KEEP TIME WITH DALE — A NEW CLOCK TO MARK THE 125th ANNIVERSARY

WATCH OUT for a new-style Dale clock! Stocks of a special model to mark the 125th anniversary of Dale College will be available soon from the Transvaal Dale Parents Association and from the Old Dalian Union in King William's Town.

The clock will carry a plaque, "Dale College 1861-1985".

If you would like a clock please order one as soon as possible from Joe Sutton, 33 Sheila Street, Dunvegan, Edenvale, 1610, (Phone 53-4927).

If you are near King William's Town phone Mrs Hazel Fick at the Old Dalian Union (0433-21343).

This will give the association an opportunity to gauge the overall demand and supply you promptly.

Production costs have risen sharply. The price for a battery-operated Dale clock with wooden-type frame and anniversary plaque is now R50.

Those who already have Dale clocks may buy the plaques separately at R5.

DADS WILL RIDE AS ESCORTS ON TRAINS

A TRANSVAAL Dale father will now travel as an escort with the boys on the Johannesburg-Blaney train after school holidays.

The aim: To see bookings and conditions are in order and to improve discipline. There have been complaints about behaviour on the downward journey.

Committee member Neville Patience, who took the first train duty after the Easter holidays, will be followed by vice-chairman Jim Truscott and Old Dalian parent Alan Davis.

Rail bookings are now between Johannesburg and Blaney and back. The boys are fetched by a school bus from Blaney and taken there on the homeward journey.

Long waits at Blaney have been a bone of contention among Transvaal parents and the presence of a parent escort on the train should help to avoid problems in future.

A Dale master will continue to travel with the boys on homeward journeys from Blaney to Johannesburg.

● Return rail fares have gone up — from R92 to R112 under the block booking discount scheme.

I'm so glad we went to King for the Reunion . . .

By JIM TRUSCOTT
(Vice-chairman of the Transvaal Dale Parents Association)

MY Dalian son insisted on it and his mother backed him up. I agreed to visit Dale to attend the 1984 Reunion weekend — and was very pleased I made the effort.

We arrived on the Thursday afternoon to take the opportunity of talking to my son's class teacher as the boy had just completed his first year at Dale.

The Friday assembly was lots of fun with about 20 delegates of the class of '74 being presented to the present pupils.

Each delegate was introduced by his school nickname (the South African schoolboy excels at this) plus a review of his generally infamous past and then his status in the world of 1984. A most amusing event. There was some excellent singing by the Dale Junior choir.

After tea parents were shown over the school facilities. I marvelled at the extremely well-equipped woodwork room.

Friday afternoon was taken up with events such as the Under 10 rugby — total enthusiasm at its best, a superb gymnastic display, a parade of "drummies" who clearly enjoy their association with Dale. The final event was a Retreat Ceremony of great precision by the Cadet Corps.

For us the day ended with a cocktail party in one of the halls. This gave us the opportunity of meeting staff members, King William's Town parents, old boys and other friends and supporters of Dale. It was interesting to see such a large contingent of Transvaal parents present.

Saturday was largely a day of sport in which it seems every boy took part. We watched games of rugby and hockey in the main against visiting Cambridge. The well-drilled under 15a rugby side was a pleasure to watch.

The 1st XV match against Cambridge was played at the Victoria Grounds and it appeared as if the whole of King was there. The standard of play by both teams was very high.

I noted, with considerable pleasure, the discipline of these two opposing teams and the unconditional regard for the judgment of the referee.

On Saturday evening we were entertained to the live show "Roar like a Dove" staged jointly by the dramatic groups of KHS and Dale. A really super performance.

Sunday morning was, I think, the high point of the weekend. This took the form of the Memorial Service in the Hallowed Courtyard. A most moving ceremony which surely has a profound effect upon Dalians past and present.

It certainly had a profound effect upon my wife and myself as parents of a Dalian.

The Roll of Honour was read out by the Headmaster. This roll listed 197 Dalians who made the supreme sacrifice in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the Rhodesian Bush War and the present South African War.

A college such as Dale that has made a contribution of this magnitude can indeed be proud of its 125-year heritage.

It gladdens me that my son is proud to be a Dalian. I was very pleased that I visited Dale for the Reunion weekend.

FORGET THOSE SCHOOL REUNIONS



Headmaster Malcom Andrew, Pam Gordon, Ailsa de Klerk

Cheer up! It's all for the cause of Dale

IT's been a busy year socially for friends of Dale in the Transvaal.

The Headmasters of Dale College and Dale Junior visited the Rand twice and were entertained by Dale parents and Old Dalians.

They came last June for the Old Dalian red-and-black dinner and the parents' annual general meeting.

In November they attended a braai organised by Transvaal Old Dalians Dave Ellwood and Kim Copeland.

Parents organised a successful fund-raising golf day at Parkview in October and ended the year with a bring-and-braai in November at the home of chairman Tony Boggett and his wife Sue.

These pictures were taken at Drew and Inez Turner's braai in Kensington after the AGM. The serious matters of the meeting, term reports and interviews with the headmasters were happily thrust aside.

Parents now look forward to the school heads' next visit in June.



Tony and Sue Boggett with

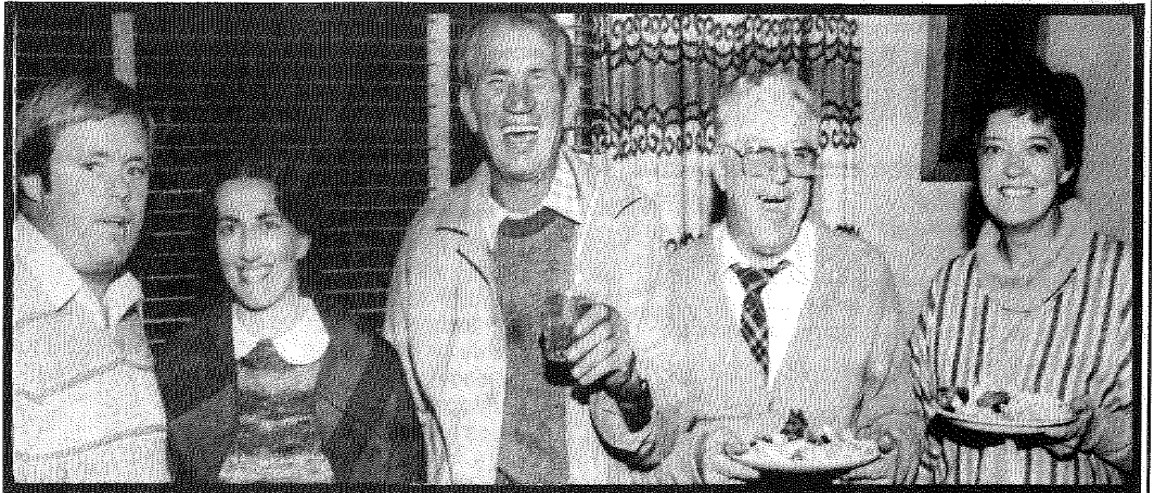


Hostess Inez Turner

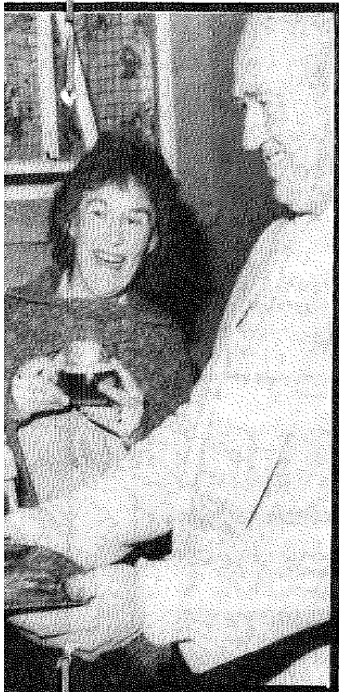
REPORT BLUES... IT'S TIME TO LET ONE'S HAIR DOWN



erk and Doug Gordon



Parents Ted and Claudia Hogkinson, Drew Turner, George and Avril Thompson

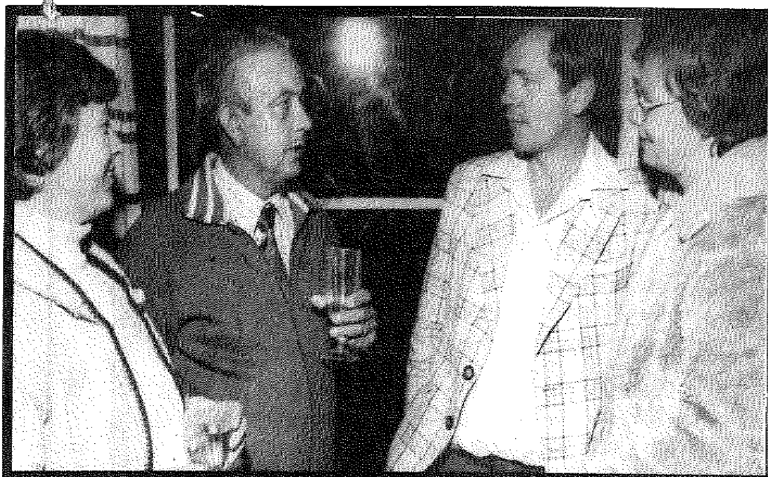


th Charlie Simpson (left)



Priscilla Lowe and Margaret Switala

Pictures: HERMAN PAINCZYK



Cookie and Frank Rouessart with Tex and Judy Alexander

The parents committee for 1984-85

A NEW committee of the Transvaal Dale Parents Association will be elected at the annual general meeting on June 22. Here is the 1984-85 committee:

Tony Boggett (chairman) and Sue Boggett, 32 De la Rey Road, Rivonia (Phone 803-1562). PO Box 415 Rivonia 2128.

Jim Truscott (vice-chairman) and Maureen Truscott, 28 Cresta Road, Sunward Park, Boksburg 1460 (Phone 896-4427).

Drew and Inez Turner, 4 Lemur Street, Kensington, Johannesburg (Phone 615-2490). Inez is the association's secretary.

Neville and Coleen Patience, 17 Margaret Street, Meredale (Phone 942-4325). Colleen is treasurer and runs the block booking service.

Theuns (Serf) and Michele Serfontein, 108 Honiball Street, Rynfield, Benoni, 1500 (Phone 849-1909).

John and Ailsa de Klerk, 16 Amalinda Road, Eastgate, Sandton (Phone 440-7106).

Frank and Cookie Rouessart, 25 Orpiment Drive, Mayfield Park, Johannesburg (Cookie's bus. phone 716-3623).

George and Avril Thompson, 15 Juno Ridge, Juno Street, Kensington 2094, Johannesburg (Phone 614-9301). Also PO Box 66337 Broadway 2020.

Fred and Margaret Switala, 7 Theron Avenue, Libradene, Boksburg, 1460 (Phone 896-2054).

Martin Hartigan, 74 Brazos Street, Berario, Johannesburg, 2195 (Phone 786-2523).

Keith Greenway, PO Box 125, Gallo Manor, 2052 (Phone 972-6944).

Tex and Judy Alexander, 20 Windermere Drive, Fararmere, Benoni (Phone 849-6971).

Arthur and Maureen Simpson, 13 Valk Street, Meredale Ext.2 (Phone 942-1836).

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

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

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

The English village home that breathes the spirit of Dale . . .

STEP into Percy Davis's home in an English village and you'll feel the atmosphere of Dale College, more than 6 000 miles away.

Everywhere there are tributes to his 28 cricket seasons in King William's Town and memories that "Sparrow" will always cherish. The Harrow connection is there, too, but Dale has pride of place.

Three years ago Percy retired as professional cricket coach at Dale to spend the twilight of his life with his wife "Midge", who kept the home fires burning through the years of his professional career. They live at Houghton-on-the-Hill, six miles out of Leicester

Percy spent 32 summers in Southern Africa — two in Port Elizabeth, one in Rhodesia and the rest at Dale.

The English summers he spent at Harrow, the great public school. And he is still there even though he retired at the end of the 1983 season. Harrow asked him to stay on till Middlesex professional Clive Radley takes over.

The walls of "Halfway House" are lined with memories, mostly of Dale. Samples:

● Paulette Wheatley's paintings of the Dale A field ("I'm so proud of this," says Percy.) and of the red-brick old Dale College building now Dale Junior ("It's marvellous. I really feel I'm

By JOE SUTTON

back there when I look at it.")

● Illuminated addresses to Percy Davis from Dale College and Dale Junior hang side by side in his lounge with a farewell tribute from the Transvaal Old Dalians, marking the time Percy made a "pair of specs" before lunch for Northamptonshire against Sussex in 1942. It is signed by Dale parent Garth Phillpot of Randfontein.

● A Dale clock ticks away on a wall next to a dozen or more beer mugs from Dale and other Border schools and clubs. There are also Dale ashtrays and a presentation badge from the Albert Cricket Club (founded 1878).

There are reminders of Harrow School, too. They include early scenes of this famous public school dating from 1816. There is a picture of the original school classroom where Winston Churchill's name is carved on a desk.

The man whose life until three years ago was one long summer misses the South African sun and his friends at Dale College. He would like to pay a last visit to King William's Town one summer in the future — and this time he'll bring Midge with him.



PERCY DAVIS and Trans-Dale friends at Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire.

THINK

NICK'S
FOODS

FOR QUALITY



Eagles Ridge
Forest Resort

Paradise on the edge of the Forest
Paradys op die rand van die Woud

● Eagle's Ridge, at the foot of the Amatola Mountains, lies about 800 metres above sea level.

● On-the-spot attractions include beautiful walks, delicious food, horse riding, swimming, tennis — and games for the children.

● Not far away are facilities for trout fishing, golf, squash and bowls.

● These attractions, with personal service from your hosts John and Fiona, will make your holiday a dream come true.

● Sunday lunches — booking essential.

Phone: 04362-324

Write: PO Box 127, Stutterheim 4930.

DALE JUNIOR is alive and well and extremely happy, reports its enthusiastic Headmaster, Roy Taylor.

"Goals are being achieved, standards are being maintained and the school is going ahead at an incredible rate," he told parents and Old Dalians during a visit to Johannesburg.

"Everything is being done to give each child a balanced and enriched education and for this reason schooling at Dale Junior is being sought by many from far and wide."

"With a drastic cut in the school's financial allocation, it is difficult to stay abreast of the ever-increasing and developing field of education."

But the Headmaster added: "We have to and we are. Academic achievement is of paramount importance."

Paying tribute to his "dedicated and enthusiastic staff" Headmaster Taylor asked: "Where else would you find a staff who return on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon to give extra lessons in English, Afrikaans and maths free of charge? This is available to all pupils."

"The extra-mural programme starts later and there are extra study periods at hostel."

"You can take a horse to water, but you cannot make it drink" is the saying, but we are even trying to disprove that."

An extra remedial teacher and media centre teacher and a teacher for the gifted had been provided.

"Our new media centre is magnificent and it is marvellous to note the pupils' increased involvement in learning through discovery and research."

Mr Taylor said 1984 had been a demanding year on the sportsfield, but Dale Junior pupils had achieved incredibly well, particularly in rugby, cricket and tennis.

The school had produced three Border primary schools chess players and won the inter-schools festival, beating 18 Border and Eastern Cape schools.

Both choirs had performed at a number of functions. The Senior Choir had appeared live on TV and performed in "Oliver" with the KAMADS. In music, Dale Junior had obtained the highest marks in the area for UNISA examinations.

"Our hostel, a most important part of the school, is in the capable hands of Mr and Mrs Mike Hosty, who have tried to make this a home for your children. I don't think two people could be more involved than they are."

What a staff I've got, says Taylor

Mr Taylor said it had not been easy to achieve the school's aims, but there was much to be grateful for. Money had been provided and spent on hostel improvement — the opening of DV Taylor House — the media centre and the swimming pool. A Johannesburg parent had provided a computer worth R6 000.

"We can no longer depend on the department or we will stagnate. We must go ahead," he said.

Appealing to Old Dalians and parents for financial support Mr Taylor said more money was needed for staff quarters, a pavilion, additional labour, a professional coach, and for sending teachers on courses to keep abreast of educational trends.

Future plans included development of the administrative block, sports grounds, the computer centre and a remedial centre. Better staff facilities had to be provided "if we are to attract the best."

Mr Taylor estimated the money needed at R300 000 — and this would be conservative. "As you can see much has been achieved and there is an urgency for the future," he said.

"Dale will get there, I know, and I would like to thank you all, as part of the Dale family, for your support in helping us to achieve our goals."

"Dale is yours. Mr Andrew and I are merely trying to steer the ship on course. Without you we can achieve nothing. We need you and I urge you to continue to support and keep Dale and its wonderful traditions at the top."

"What we have done and intend doing are not luxuries but necessities which will enhance the academic, cultural and sporting opportunities of our pupils and contribute to the smooth and efficient running of the best school in South Africa."

Farewell Liz, the hostess with the mostest

ELISABETH MEYER — staunch Dale parent, secretary to headmasters and charming hostess — has moved to Port Elizabeth after eight years in King.

While secretary to two heads of Dale Junior (two years with Ken Schaefer and four-and-a-half with Roy Taylor) Liz saw the school enrolment grow from 280 to 460.

She will be missed by Transvalers and other visiting Dale parents who enjoyed her Reunion weekend parties and braais at her Queen's Road home. For some families over the years this was a "home from home."

As the mother of two sons and a daughter she served on the PTA committees of Dale College for five years and KHS for three.

In his 1984 annual report Roy Taylor paid a farewell tribute to Liz ("a tower of strength") for her "patience and for the manner in which she manages to cope with her many and varied duties."

"Thank you for your love of Dale Junior," he said. "We shall miss you."

Liz Meyer moved to King from the family farm near Adelaide in 1977 after the death of her husband Andrew (Porky) Meyer, an Old Dalian.

Their sons Adrian and Colin excelled at Dale. Adrian was Dux Scholar and Vice-Headboy in 1979 and founded the Dale

Agricultural Society. At Rhodes he has since obtained his BCom, BCom (Hons) and CTA, and last year he came third in South Africa in the Chartered Accountancy board examination. He is now completing his articles with a firm of auditors and accountants in East London.

Colin Meyer, who was runner-up to the Dux Scholar and Vice-Headboy in 1981, when he played in the Dale First XV, is now in his last year of study for a civil engineering degree at the University of Cape Town.

Daughter Jillian, who was head of her house at KHS, is now in her first year at Natal University, Maritzburg, studying social science.

Liz Meyer has left King with sadness. She describes her time there as her "educational years" and there can be few better places to watch one's children grow up.

Now that they have done so she felt the need to move on and make a fresh start in Port Elizabeth, where her elderly mother has lived for many years.

Liz became engaged last year to Alan Taylor, a widower and King William's Town civil engineer.

She is now working in Port Elizabeth for the Department of Health and Welfare as a nursing sister in its mobile family planning clinic.

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