

Form V Prize Giving

Brian Basson Memorial Trophy	<i>Chris Marais</i>		<i>Steven Jonker</i>
Alexis Preller Award	<i>Christopher Beukes</i>	Elwyn Davies Award	<i>George Miltiadou</i>
The Design School of Southern Africa Bursary	<i>Seefane Malatjie</i>	Canon Herbert Prize	<i>Phillip Malele</i>
Best Speaker's Award	<i>Donovan Stearn</i>	Malcolm Armstrong Renaissance Award	<i>Gerrit van Heerden</i>
Justine Armstrong Award	<i>Jerry Chen</i>	Headmaster's Award	<i>Kendal Uys</i>
	<i>Wikus van der Hoven</i>		<i>Berk Uys</i>
Trebot Barry Award	<i>Pieter Marais</i>		<i>Mark Riemer</i>
Margaret Theiler Award	<i>Nicholas Ferguson</i>		<i>Ditiro Jele</i>
Gertrud Theiler Award	<i>Mark Willoughby</i>		<i>Gueorgui Gueorguiev</i>
	<i>Petrus Marais</i>	Old Boys' Prize	<i>Thomas Rundle</i>
Ulrich Rissik Prize	<i>Karel Potgieter</i>		

Form V Subject Prizes

English	<i>Michael Bishop</i>	Woodwork	<i>Jake du Buisson</i>
Sepedi 2nd Language	<i>Tshimangadzo Mawela</i>	Art, Additional Mathematics (Shared)	<i>Gueorgui Gueorguiev</i>
French 2nd Language	<i>Arunen Arasen</i>	Accounting, Music	<i>Wikus van der Hoven</i>
French 3rd Language	<i>Stephen Pentz</i>	Additional Mathematics (Shared),	
Biology	<i>Matthew Seigel</i>	Mathematics, Physical Science	<i>Robert Maydell</i>
Business Economics	<i>Donovan Stearn</i>	Afrikaans, Computer Studies,	
Geography	<i>Charles Greyvenstein</i>	German, History & Dux Scholar 2001	<i>André Cilliers</i>

Form IV Subject Prizes

Afrikaans 2nd Language (Shared)	<i>Eduard Pienaar</i>	Additional Mathematics (Shared),	
	<i>J-P Du Buisson</i>	History	<i>Danie Louw</i>
Sepedi 2nd Language	<i>Sipho Nhlengerwa</i>	Woodwork, Business Economics	<i>Hendrik Meintjes</i>
French 2nd Language	<i>Patricio Becker</i> (Left School)	Mathematics (Shared),	
French 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Jaco-Willem Conradie</i>	Accounting (Shared)	<i>Jikku Joseph</i>
German 3rd Language	<i>Herman Van Rooyen</i>	Additional Mathematics (Shared),	
Geography	<i>Shayne Vervoort</i>	Mathematics (Shared), Physical Science,	
Art	<i>Theodore Krynauw</i>	Music, English 1st Language,	
French 3rd Language (Shared),		Computer Studies, Biology &	
Accounting (Shared)	<i>Aiden East</i>	Form IV Dux Scholar For 2001	<i>Jonty Jocum</i>

Form III Subject Prizes

Sepedi 2nd Language	<i>Tshenolo Leola</i>	Accounting	<i>Nicholas Fransolet</i>
French 2nd Language	<i>Quoc Trung Le</i>	Business Economics (Shared)	<i>Garth Liebenberg</i>
History (Shared)	<i>Thomas Mehl</i>		<i>Shaun Frith</i>
Computer Studies (Shared)	<i>Kyle Tee</i>	Afrikaans 2nd Language,	
	<i>Konrad Brandt</i>	French 3rd Language	<i>Gerrit Viljoen</i>
German 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Tobias Nöfjke</i>	History (Shared), English 1st Language	<i>William Randall</i>
	<i>Konrad Blum</i>	Computer Studies (Shared), Music	<i>Jozua Loots</i>
Geography	<i>Richard Livingstone-Blevins</i>	Biology, Additional Mathematics,	
Woodwork	<i>Tristan Bateman</i>	Mathematics, Physical Science &	
Art	<i>Michael Currin</i>	Form III Dux Scholar For 2001	<i>John Mouton</i>



Academic Awards

Front Row(L-R): R Mawela, A Hossain, J Chen, R Maydell, P Malele, M Bishop, G Gueorguiev, M de Gouveia, A Mehl

Second Row (L-R): M Myburgh, M Riemer, J Joseph, S Laenen, D Louw, H Uys, D Stearn, C Currie, A Cilliers

Back Row (L-R): R Moodliyar, N Padayachy, S Fabris-Rotelli, R Switala, C Greyvenstein

Form II Subject Prizes

Sepedi 2nd Language	<i>Thapelo Mampane</i>	Accounting	<i>Ching-Wen (Jacky) Wang</i>
French 2nd Language	<i>Ammanuel Zegeye</i>	Industrial Arts	<i>Stuart Brande</i>
French 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Cornelius Barnard</i>	Additional Mathematics (Shared),	
	<i>Frederick Lubbe</i>	French 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Pieter Cronje</i>
German 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Robert Rip</i>	Afrikaans 2nd Language, Music	<i>Christiaan Basson</i>
	<i>Hendrik Spoomaker</i>	Additional Mathematics (Shared),	
Art	<i>Phillip Johnson</i>	General Science (Shared),	
Mathematics	<i>Christopher Cherry</i>	History (Shared), Geography	<i>Gavin Hudson-Lamb</i>
Latin	<i>Lieb van Jaarsveld</i>	General Science (Shared)	
History (Shared)	<i>Christopher Evans</i>	English 1st Language (Shared) &	
Economic & Management Sciences	<i>Maricus Snyders</i>	Form II Dux Scholar 2001	<i>Steven Hussey</i>

Form I Subject Prizes

Sepedi 2nd Language	<i>Mohale Raphahlelo</i>	General Science (Shared)	<i>Michael-John Acres</i>
French 2nd Language	<i>Louis Lexasseur</i>	Technology, Art and Culture	<i>Brandon van Bergen</i>
Sepedi 3rd Language	<i>Ofentse Matome</i>	Geography (Shared), Mathematics	<i>Wilhelm Dannheimer</i>
French 3rd Language (Shared)	<i>Warren Gregorowski</i>	Geography (Shared),	
	<i>Darren Williams</i>	General Science (Shared)	
Economic Management Sciences	<i>Gys-Reinard Rautenbach</i>	English 1st Language	<i>Glen Oliver</i>
German 3rd Language	<i>Carl Wortmann</i>	History (Shared), Afrikaans 2nd Language,	
History (Shared)	<i>Peter Bolink</i>	Latin & Form I Dux 2001	<i>Henri Dowling</i>
Music	<i>Chen-Wei Tseng</i>		

Staff Notes

We were happy to welcome the following new members of staff to Pretoria Boys High in January: Mr David Brous (Mathematics), Mrs Jane Eiselen (Mathematics), Mrs Annette Floor (Afrikaans), Mr Lincoln Keeton (English – an Old Boy), Mr Chris Klopper (Music), Mrs Tanya Millar (English), Mr Athol Myhill (Geography), Mr Muzi Nkomo (Mathematics), Mrs Yvonne Uys (administration) and Mr Peter Palmer (a GAP student from the U.K., for 6 months.) We also were happy to have Mr Henk Dorlas back on the staff after a period away. Mrs Gill Miller (Mathematics) joined us in a part-time capacity in February and Mr Jamie Barnwell, a GAP student from the U.K. was with us for Terms II and III. Mrs J Simons, Dr M Howden, Mr Hendrik Heyns and Mrs Linda Williams kindly relieved permanent teachers at various times, for which we thank them most sincerely.

Ms Mavis Mahlangu, Mr Wilson Mathibela and Ms Aggie Chokoe have all benefited from in-service training and been promoted to assistant in the Media Centre, assistant in the IT Department and Laboratory Assistant respectively.

At the end of March Mrs Suzette Wilkins retired as the

accomplished teacher, a most congenial colleague and an enthusiastic Head of Tennis who took tennis at this School to new heights. Sadly she will not be here to appreciate the fruits of the new Tennis Pavilion which project she spearheaded. We appreciate greatly Mrs Garbers's contribution and wish her well in her new venture. We were pleased to welcome Mrs Amanda Robinson in her place and the Afrikaans Department, particularly, is delighted she is to remain on the staff in 2002.

Mr Cilliers was an innovative teacher and a colleague whose sense of fun, wit and challenging intellect constantly kept one on one's toes. His contribution to the various roles he filled was immense and will be sorely missed. As a member of the School Executive his opinion was always valued; he was a creative teacher and headed the large English Department with aplomb. His creativity extended beyond the classroom. In mentioning but a few of his contributions, he turned his considerable talent to the School's website, designed numerous programmes and was responsible for the superb layout of the History of the School. We extend our sincere thanks to Steve Cilliers and wish him a successful career in the publishing world. Mrs



Some of the staff get in almost over their heads at the centenary cricket match at Supersport Park. From left: Mr Werner Obermeyer, Mr Peter Kirsten, Mrs Tracey Kirsten, Mr Alan O'Brien.

Steve Cilliers

Laundry Matron. She started at Boys High as a Boarding House Matron and in both capacities proved to be a loyal member of staff. In wishing her a fulfilling retirement, we congratulate Ms Francina Monyemoratho who was promoted to fill this vacancy.

Mr Shane Loseby replaced Mrs Daniela Albers during Term II and in Terms III and IV he remained as the replacement for Mrs Joanna Holliday. His expertise in both the Science and Mathematics Departments was most welcome and happily he is to remain on the staff in 2002.

The end of Term II saw us saying farewell to Mrs Estelle Garbers (Afrikaans) and Mr Steve Cilliers (Head of Department, English, and member of the School Executive.) Both these long-serving, experienced teachers have been lost to the teaching profession. Mrs Garbers was an

Carol Verwayen, who has previously stepped into the fray, once again agreed to fill this vacated English post until the end of the year for which we are most grateful.

We were shocked by the sudden death of Mr Joel Matlala during the July holidays. Mr Matlala was in charge of the Printing Room and a friend more than a colleague to everyone with whom he came into contact. Sadly, we did not have time to say goodbye but were able to extend our condolences to his family at a Memorial Service held at the School. Mr Solomon Mashifane has been promoted into this position and is proving to be a most competent, obliging and pleasant colleague.

Mr John Mathibela retired at the end of October after 41 years of service. Such loyalty to and love for the School while not unique does not often span a lifetime's service.

Mr Mathibela has seen more changes at Boys High than most members of staff and words do not adequately express our appreciation. We hope he will enjoy the rest he surely deserves.

We were pleased to welcome James Rushton, an Old Boy, to the School in October in a full-time capacity. He has added his expertise to the burgeoning IT Department and also assists with the printing of the various programmes.

Mr Des Sinovich requested leave during Term IV to pursue further studies in Australia and has now decided not to return to South Africa. We hope we will have the opportunity to take farewell of him when he returns briefly at the start of 2002. The syllabus for the most successful Pre-Form I class was evolved by Mr Sinovich and his expertise and knowledge in the field of OBE education is considerable and proved invaluable this year when it was introduced at Form I level. He also made a significant contribution in the pastoral field. We hope he will be very happy in his new environment. Mr Stephen Burrow (an Old Boy) was appointed to commence teaching here next year and fortunately was able to step into the breach for Mr Sinovich – we are most grateful.

Mrs Cynthia MacPherson is moving to Cape Town with her husband and, like Mr Sinovich, was instrumental in the success of the Pre-Form I class and subsequently the integrated English programme. Her gentle interest in and compassion for her students resulted in her earning their respect and these qualities, too, made her a well-liked colleague. We wish her and her husband happiness in the Cape.

Mrs Des Webster (Mathematics) has decided to be a full-time mother and wife after nine years of teaching. She is an excellent and widely respected Maths teacher whose knowledge of her subject matter is unquestioned. The interest she has displayed in her students both in and out of the classroom, particularly during her time while her husband was Senior Housemaster at Rissik, is a tribute to her warm, caring nature. She fully deserves to enjoy a little time for herself and in thanking her, we wish her well.

Mr Tony Wilkes has finally decided to call it a day. In the 1992 Pretorian is a fitting tribute to him on his retirement and here we are nine years later doing it again! The intervening years have seen him keeping an eye on the maintenance of the school buildings, making the Archives an interesting and informative corner in which to delve and still regaling us with Boys High tidbits from past years. We

wish Mr Wilkes not goodbye, for we hope he will visit us often, but a restful, happy retirement.

We also bade Mrs Deirdre Hickman goodbye at the start of 1994 and again, eight years later, we reiterate our good wishes. Her role during the past 8 years has been administrative and included many other bits and pieces most notably, the many beautiful flower arrangements for all occasions, special and otherwise. For Mrs Hickman, too, our wishes are for a healthy and happy retirement and are added to our sincere appreciation.

Mr Chris Vernon also retires after 10 years of teaching budding Boys High 'musicians' how to play the clarinet and saxophone – an awesome prospect! Mr Vernon has been a quiet and most interesting colleague who has been a loyal member of staff. He started teaching as an hourly paid, part-time teacher and leaves as a full-time, permanent member of staff, indicative of how the Music Department has grown. They, particularly, will miss his musical contribution and our good wishes accompany him.

Mr Wayne Rathbone, Mr David Brous, Mr Chris Fowler, Mr Craig Ford, Mrs Gill Miller, Miss

Colleen Gore, Mr Russell Kitto and Mr Hugh Miller all take their leave of us, for one reason or another. Mr Rathbone, with his wife and soon to be first child, return to the Eastern Cape; Mr Kitto is to retire and enjoy his crossword puzzles, although he will continue to coach sport; Mr Ford is joining St Charles College in Pietermaritzburg; and Mrs Miller, Mr Fowler, Mr Brous, Mr Miller and Miss Gore are bound for overseas. We thank them sincerely for their contributions and wish them all much happiness.

Mr Alex Junod is to be away for a year during which time he will supervise progress at Maretlwane. Mr Greg Hassenkamp and Mr Mike Smuts, too, are to take a year's unpaid leave to teach and travel overseas.

A number of congratulations are due. Mr David van Suilichem, Mr Chris Klopper and Ms Gill Wroth successfully completed a BEd, MMus and MA(Classics) degree respectively. The resignation of Mr Cilliers led to the appointment of Mr John Illsley to the School Executive which, in turn, led to the appointment of Mr Peter Franken as Senior Housemaster, Armstrong House.

Mr Sam Manyasha and Mr John Illsley married Miss Anastasia Ndala and Miss Thea Swart respectively. Anli and Gys van Straten, Carl and Joanna Holliday, Brenda Bopape and Danie and Lisa Brink were blessed by the safe arrival of Elrize, Simon, Kopano and Mieke respectively. We wish all these families much joy and happiness.



Talhah Segar

The oldest Old Boy, 103 year-old, Puffy Smokalot, who gatecrashed this year's staff dinner.

2001 Staff

Executive

Schroder, W E <i>BA, BEd, STD</i>	Headmaster
Kirsten, P J <i>BSc, HDE, FDE</i>	Second Master
Sommerville, P O'C <i>BSc, HED</i>	Deputy Headmaster
Webster, W A <i>BA, HED</i>	Deputy Headmaster
Biddulph, J A <i>BA, HED</i>	Director of Sport
Cilliers, B S <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	Head of Communications (to 30 June 2001)
Illsley, J W <i>BA(Hons), HDE</i>	Head of Communications (from July 2001)
Shepperson, E J L <i>Dip Bus Man</i>	Bursar
Sinovich, D J <i>BEd, Dip Teaching</i>	Head of Curriculum Development & O.B.E.
van Suilichem, D H <i>BEd, Dip Datametrics, HED</i>	Head of Information Technology

Heads of Subjects

Black, S Mrs <i>BSc, HED</i>	Biology	Illsley, J W <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	History
Bopape, B Miss <i>HED</i>	Sepedi	Junod, H A <i>BSc(Hons), HDE</i>	Mathematics
Brasler, M J <i>BA, BSc, HED</i>	Science	Obermeyer, B W <i>HED, Dip FE</i>	Industrial Arts
Cilliers, BS <i>BA(Hons), HDE</i>	English (to 30 June 2001)	Segaar, Mrs T <i>ND, NHD, BTech</i>	Computer Studies
Ellinghaus, E I Mrs <i>BA, HNED</i>	German	Smuts, D J S P <i>BA(FA)(Hons), THED</i>	Art
Ewart-Phipps, P H <i>FDE, HED</i>	Guidance	Stuart, H D E G M Mrs <i>BA(Hons) UED</i>	English (Acting from July 2001)
Ferreira, M P Mrs <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	Afrikaans	van der Watt, G D <i>BA(Ed)(Music), DMus</i>	Music
Franken, P E <i>BA, HED</i>	Geography	van Schie, Mrs EBA, <i>HDE</i>	Accounting
Gioia, H Mrs <i>BA, HED</i>	French	Wroth, Ms G <i>MA, HED</i>	Latin
Haskins, JBA, <i>HRD(Hons), HED</i>	Business Economics		& Deputy Head, Academics

Academic Staff

Acres, J <i>BSc(Agric), HED</i>	Jordaan, A P J <i>BA, UTLM, UPLM</i>	Small, Mrs E <i>BCom, HED</i>
Albers, D Mrs <i>BSc(Hons), HED</i>	Junod, H A <i>BSc(Hons), HED</i>	Smuts, M J <i>BSc, HED</i>
Anthony, Mrs L J <i>BA, HED</i>	Keeton, L <i>BA, HED</i>	Snyman, P G <i>BSc, HDE</i>
Anthony, P A <i>HED</i>	Kirsten, Mrs T <i>BSc(Hons), HED</i>	Southwood, M R <i>BCom</i>
Auret, M Mrs <i>BSc(Hons), HDE</i>	Kitto, R <i>BA, BEd, HED</i>	Steyn, J A <i>BA(Hons), BD, THOD</i>
Binsbergen, P <i>MA(Fine Arts)</i>	Klopper, C <i>MMus</i>	Theron, A C Mrs <i>THED</i>
Brauer, T Mrs <i>BA, HED</i>	Loseby, S <i>BSc</i>	Uys, H M <i>BCom(Hons), CA(SA)</i>
Brink, D J <i>BCom, MEd (Radford), HDE</i>	Mansfield, K <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	van Reenen, L J <i>HED</i>
Brous, D <i>BSc, HDE</i>	Manyasha, M S <i>BA, HED</i>	van Straten, J E Mrs <i>BSc, HDE</i>
Burrow, S K <i>BA(Psych)</i>	Matthews, A M Mrs <i>BA, HED</i>	van Wyk, A <i>HED</i>
Donaldson, H S Mrs <i>BA, NATD</i>	McBride, C A <i>BSc(Agric), HED</i>	van Zyl, M V <i>BA, HED</i>
Dorlas, H C <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	McEvoy, Mrs H <i>NDT (Microbiology)</i>	Vernon, C W <i>CA</i>
Eiselen, Mrs J <i>BPrim(Ed)</i>	McPherson, C Mrs <i>BA(Hons), HED</i>	Verwayen, C Mrs <i>BA, HED</i>
Floor, Mrs T A <i>BA, UOD, HED</i>	Millar, Mrs T <i>BA(Ed) DSE</i>	von Brughan, H H <i>PD</i>
Ford, C M <i>BSc, HDE</i>	Miller, Mrs G <i>BSc(Hons), SACE</i>	Webster, D B Mrs <i>BA, HDE(PG)</i>
Fowler, C W <i>BA, HDE</i>	Miller, H <i>BA, Lic ès Lettres & DPFE (Paris), MA (Indiana)</i>	Wortmann, Mrs R I <i>BA, HED</i>
Gore, C Miss <i>BCom</i>	Muller, C J <i>HED</i>	Zimmermann, H Mrs <i>BA, HED</i>
Garbers, E Mrs <i>BA(Ed)(Sec)</i>	Muller, E E Mrs <i>BSc, BEd, HDE</i>	
Grebe, E M Mrs <i>BA, SED</i>	Myhill, A <i>BA(PhysEd)</i>	Part-time Music Teachers
Hassenkamp, G J <i>HED</i>	Nkomo, M <i>BSc, HDE</i>	Joubert, Ms Y
Hendricks, Ms TC <i>BSocSc(Hons), HED</i>	O'Brien, A M <i>BA, HDE</i>	Klopper, Ms L S
Holliday, J D Mrs <i>MSc, Teaching Diploma (Warsaw)</i>	Rademeyer, R B <i>MA, HED</i>	Krog, Ms H
Hornsveld, Miss M <i>BMus, HED</i>	Rathbone, W <i>BSc(Hons), HDE</i>	Melck, Mrs G
	Reyburn, Mrs Y D <i>BMus, UTLM, TTLD</i>	Pauw, C J
	Robinson, Mrs A <i>BA, HED</i>	Prins, Ms M
	Rogers, E L Miss <i>BA, NHED</i>	Roberts, B
		van Zyl, Ms L E
Administrative/Technical	Hofmeyr, Mrs M M A <i>(Finance Department)</i>	Preiss, Mrs D E <i>(Finance Department)</i>
Bloemink, Mrs G <i>(Headmaster's Secretary)</i>	Jeffery, Mrs J <i>(Tuckshop Convenor)</i>	Rushton, J <i>(Computers)</i>
Chauke, Mrs A <i>(Laboratory Assistant)</i>	Katzin, Mrs S J <i>(Reception)</i>	Uys, Mrs Y H <i>(Administrative)</i>
Feather, Mrs J <i>(Clothing Shop)</i>	Kingsley, Mrs J <i>(Academic Secretary)</i>	van Gruting, Mrs J L <i>(Administrative)</i>
Gray, Mrs M <i>(Senior Matron)</i>	Mashifane, S <i>(Printer)</i>	van Loggerenberg, Mrs M <i>(Clothing Shop)</i>
Hattingh, Mrs M <i>(Clothing Shop)</i>	Maree, Sr C <i>(Nursing Sister)</i>	Vermeulen, P N <i>(Estate Manager)</i>
Hickman, Mrs D A <i>(Reception)</i>	Mathebela, W <i>(Computer Technician)</i>	Wallace, Mrs J D <i>(Catering Manageress)</i>
		Wilkes, A R <i>(Archivist)</i>

Support Staff
BOARDING
 Baloyi, Ms L
 Boikhutso, Mr CP
 Bokaba, Mr J
 Kungwane, Mr E
 Ledwaba, Mr N
 Lefoka, Mr JM
 Legwali, Ms C
 Mathebela, Mr F
 Mathibela, Mr A
 Maubane, Mr D

GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS
 Chauke, Ms J
 Kabini, Mr P
 Kanyane, Mr I
 Kganyago, Mr J
 Komane, Mr J
 Letsoalo, Mr DA
 Letsoalo, Mr J
 Mabunda, Mr P
 Madisha, Mr A
 Mafafo, Mr E
 Mahlangu, Mr J

Mnisi, Ms V
 Mogale, Ms C
 Mogashana, Mr H
 Mokoena, Ms R
 Mokone, Mr P
 Molefe, Mr W
 Moloto, Ms J
 Monyemoratho, Ms F
 Morobane, Mr A
 Morolo, Ms N
 Moselakgomo, Mr T
 Mothwa, Mr A

Mahlangu, Mr P
 Mahlangu, Mr J
 Maila, Mr J
 Mametja, Mr SP
 Mametja, Mr W
 Mathebela, Mr J
 Modiba, Mr A
 Modiba, Mr E
 Mohlala, Mr D
 Mohlale, Mr S
 Moima, Mr M
 Mpedi, Mr J

Mpyatona, Mr A
 Msiza, Ms T
 Napo, Mr J
 Ngubeni, Ms V
 Ngubeni, Ms P
 Nkgudi, Mr A
 Papala, Mr F
 Ramphisa, Mr NE
 Sithole, Mr B
 Tjiyana, Mr S

Munyai, Mr D
 Napo, Ms S
 Napo, Mr P
 Nkadimeng, Mr B
 Nkadimeng, Mr PS
 Nkgudi, Mr K
 Nthabalala, Mr S
 Ramaleba, Mr T
 Ramarada, Mr F
 Shalang, Mr A
 Sibanyoni, Mr A
 Sithole, Mr E



Trevor Langley (Martin Gibbs)

Staff

Front Row (l to r): Mr D Brink, Mr J Acres, Mr P Anthony, Mr C McBride, Mr J Haskins, Mr D van Suilichem, Mr L Shepperson, Mr W Webster, Mr W Schroder, Mr P Kirsten, Mr P Sommerville, Mr A van Wyk, Mrs E Grebe, Mr A O'Brien, Mr J Biddulph, Mr J Illsley.

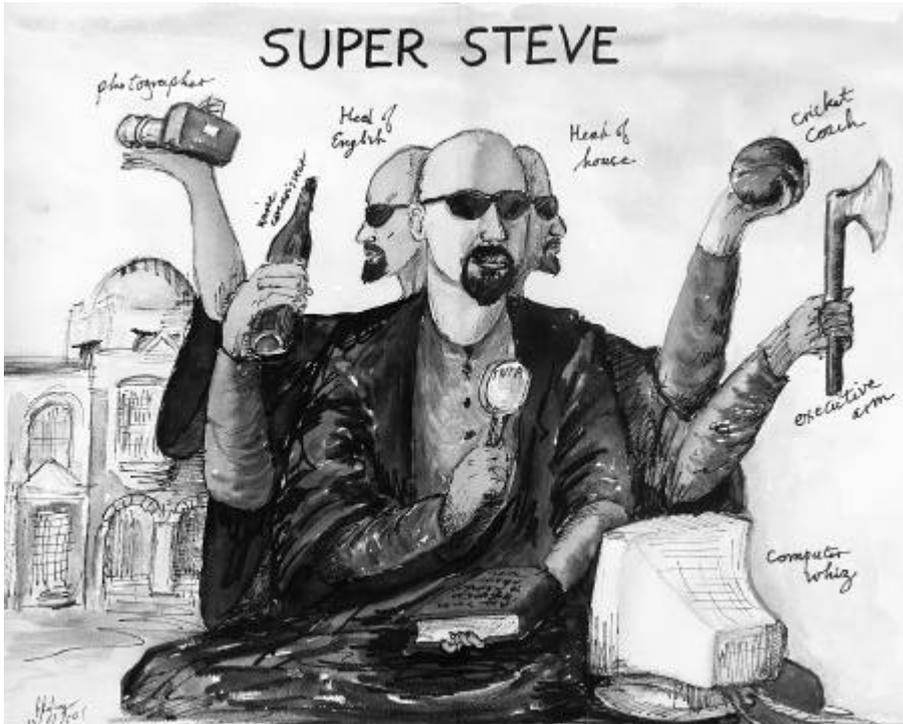
Second Row (l to r): Mr S Mashifane, Ms M Mahlangu, Mr R Rademeyer, Mr A Myhill, Ms G Wroth, Mr D Smuts, Mr R Muller, Ms A Chokoe, Mrs G Miller, Mrs H Donaldson, Mr E Matthews, Ms B Bopape, Ms C Gore, Mrs A Robinson, Mrs T Millar, Mrs A Floor, Mrs E Muller, Mrs L Ferreira, Mrs L Anthony, Mr J Rushton, Mr P Franken, Mr P Ewart-Phipps.

Third Row (l to r): Mr W Mathibela, Mr A Steyn, Mr S Burrow, Mrs S Black, Mr R Kitto, Ms S Napo, Mr M Smuts, Mr P Binsbergen, Ms T Hendricks, Mrs T Segaar, Mr M Bräsler, Mrs S Katzin, Mr W Obermeyer, Mrs M Auret, Mrs A Theron, Mrs D Hickman, Mr K Mansfield, Mrs H Stuart, Mrs T Brauer, Mrs T Kirsten, Ms E Rogers, Mrs R Wortmann, Mrs H Gioia, Mrs E Ellinghaus, Mrs H Zimmermann.

Fourth Row (l to r): Mr G Hassenkamp, Mr M Southwood, Mr P Snyman, Mr C Klopfer, Mrs J Eiselen, Mr A Wilkes, Mrs D Preiss, Mrs J Kingsley, Mrs Y Reyburn, Mrs L McEvoy, Dr N van der Watt, Mrs E Small, Mr C Fowler, Mr D Brous, Mr W Rathbone, Mr L van Reenen, Mr C Ford.

Back Row (l to r): Mr M van Zyl, Mr L Keeton, Mr H Dorlas, Mr M Nkomo, Mr S Manyasha, Mr A Junod, Mrs J van Gruting, Mrs H van Straaten, Mrs G Bloemink.

Steve Cilliers



Rob Rademeyer

WHEN MEMBERS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, of which he was subject head, learnt that Steve Cilliers was leaving Boys High to pursue a career in the publishing industry, they commissioned a portrait of him as a farewell gift. The result was a hydra-headed figure, 'Super Steve', the man of many talents, the jack of all trades, the teacher who indeed wore many caps in his time here. The traditional wisdom may be that no one is irreplaceable, but Steve came to do so many jobs well, that it took several different people to fill the gaps left by his departure!

Steve, himself an old boy of the school, started teaching English at Boys High in 1990. Over the next eleven and a half years he would become Head of the English Department, senior housemaster of Abernethy House, editor of *The Pretorian*, and Head of Communications on the school's executive. This catalogue of appointments does not in itself reveal the full range of Steve's talents, his impressive intellect or the various facets of his engaging personality.

Estelle Garbers

Mrs Estelle Garbers joined the staff in April 1990. Right from the start it was clear that this energetic Afrikaans teacher had a passion for teaching and tennis.

In 1990 we had twelve senior and six junior players in the league. The next years were marked by development and growth due to Estelle's driving force. In April 1991 PBHS won the Wayne Ferreira tournament convincingly. In 1993 we were accepted into the Johannesburg league (the only Pretoria school to date!). One hundred boys are involved on the tennis courts each week and this does not include social tennis.

PBHS is rated as one of the top ten schools in South

Steve is equally at home discussing poetry; pressing an alternative argument on some social issue; mastering new computer software or solving a problem with stage lighting. A seemingly fiery temper disguises a real passion for defending his views, which are both broad-minded and very accommodating of other perspectives. This was very evident in his handling of the variety of fascinating guest speakers he arranged for the Society of National and International Affairs, who presented very widely ranging political and social opinions. No boy taught by Steve could come away with anything but a broader education, for they would,

if they had absorbed everything, have received the full benefit of being taught by a man of considerable knowledge and understanding, not just of his subject, but of much more.

Steve's natural flair for layout and design, was honed by years as editor and designer of *The Pretorian*, the annual magazine of Pretoria Boys High. His efforts turned that publication into probably the most polished magazine of its kind in South Africa. It also culminated in his being asked to design the book written for the centenary of Boys High. The result was a truly magnificent blending of text and illustrations that has won acclaim from across the world.

The publishing world stands to gain much from our loss of a talented member of staff, but the new bench marks that he set in many areas of the school, particularly with regard to any form of publication, will remain for years to come.

JWI

Africa. Mrs Garbers was also instrumental in having a school tennis coach appointed five years ago. Our tennis programme is seen as a model for the development of tennis in schools. Her passion and love of tennis also led to her organising the fundraising for the building of a new tennis clubhouse.

In the Afrikaans department Mrs Garbers' subject knowledge, expertise, sharp intellect and witty comments made her an outstanding teacher.

Her warm, caring personality, hearty laugh and empathy will be missed by many boys and members of staff.

Elizabeth Grebe

Deidre Hickman



John Illisley

DEIRDRE STARTED HER TEACHING CAREER at CBC Bulawayo many, many years ago. Having decided that Zimbabwe was not for her, she moved down to Pretoria. When I first met her, Deidre was scoring for CBC Pretoria's 1st Cricket XI.

The next time I saw her she was at a staff meeting at the beginning of 1983. Deidre was a Geography teacher of some note. Owing to a problem with her eyesight, Deidre stopped teaching Geography and began to apply a multitude of talents in many different directions.

First, she became 'the lady with the lamp': in the sick bay, many a boy had his cuts and bruises attended to by 'Sister' Hickman. Others used the 'sick-bay' as a haven when they should have been in class and this included quite a number of rather prominent Rugby and Cricket boys.

Deidre has an uncanny knack of producing an amazing array of flower arrangements for all occasions. From Friday Assembly to Valediction to Commencement Ceremony to many other important ceremonies, Deidre was able to create something really special.

Many a schoolboy rugby or cricket player has had an arm or leg bandaged by 'Mrs H' from her first aid kit; headaches, runny tummies and insect bites were all sorted out from Deidre's box of tricks which she carried around with her while matches were in progress.

Deidre is a 'Travelling Lady' having been all over the world following Boys' High sport – England in 1997 and Dubai in 2000 with the 1st Rugby XV, Zimbabwe in 1995 with Rugby and Hockey; she undertook numerous trips on the train to various parts of South Africa with the sports teams. She has been to Pietermaritzburg fifteen times with the 1st Cricket XI to attend Michaelmas Cricket Week. At this year's Michaelmas, Deidre was made a 'Friend of the School' an award given to very few people by Maritzburg College for her close association with the school over many years.

Without fear of contradiction, Deidre has been Boys

Farewell Boys High

by Deidre Hickman

In majesty upon a hill enthroned,
You've stood in splendour for a hundred years,
Skirted by lush fields of verdant green,
And colourful Bougainvillea that always cheers.
Come October the purple Jacaranda flowers
Carpet the ground, exams are close at hand.
The rhythmic thump of tennis balls is heard,
Back and forth they fly, and in the court they land.
Shouts ring out as a basketball hits the board,
White clad youths playing cricket in the nets.
Afternoon activities at this great school,
These are things no Boys High boy forgets.
And in the winter months upon Brooks Field,
With pride and in their candy-stripes they run,
Could there be more worthy fifteen men
To have found their places in the sun?
On the Astro Turf day in, day out,
Hockey boys are found all hard at play
The pipe band practising among the pines,
The splashing in the pool on a balmy day.
In the hallowed passages for many a year,
Have echoed voices from the distant past,
Haunting footsteps at the dead of night,
Restless spirits in auroral light are cast,
The harmonious sound of music everywhere,
The orchestra, or just a boy with simple tune,
Skills and talents abound for all to share,
Like rose petals so lovingly are strewn,
The stereophonic concourse of boys in motion,
Drifting back and forth across the school,
All have a unique rapport with their teachers,
Who coerce them to remain within the rule.
And now the time has come for us to part,
You've been my life for almost nineteen years,
I've lived for you; you've been my very essence,
My joy, my pride and yes sometimes my tears.
Memories are the wondrous gift of living,
Precious seeds and plants are left to grow,
No matter where I am or what I'm doing,
Boys High I'll always love you so.
In majesty upon a hill enthroned,
You've stood in splendour for a hundred years,
Skirted by lush fields of green,
At our parting, indeed there will be tears.

High's Number One supporter over the past eighteen years. She will be sorely missed by legions of schoolboys, parents and staff.

The School wishes Deidre everything of the best in her retirement. There is no doubt however, even though Deidre is no longer a member of the staff, she will still be Boys High's number ONE supporter.

Go well, Mrs H.

Paul Sommerville

John Mathebela

JOHN MATHEBELA joined the cleaning staff in January 1960 and for the next forty-one years served the School loyally, firstly as a General Assistant and later as head of the cleaning team.

During his term of employment, many staff members, including the past three headmasters, got to know John and he will be remembered as a quiet and helpful person who always got on with the job, no matter what was involved.



John Illsley

Pretoria Boys High School formed a hugely important part of John Mathebela's life. He loved the school and could very often be seen in the background at sports meetings giving his support to the School team.

John has had a very long innings and we wish him many years of hap-

piness in his well-earned retirement.

Tony Wilkes

Cynthia MacPherson

MRS CYNTHIA MACPHERSON joined the staff of the School in January 1994. With her wide-ranging experience and her kind and compassionate nature she was the obvious person to pioneer our programmes to bridge the transition from a severely disadvantaged primary schooling system to a strong traditional academic high school. Much of her previous teaching had been in the area of English as a Second Language which enabled her to assist her boys in an even more meaningful way.

The success of our pre-Form I project which in its time received nationwide acclaim was due totally to this partnership between Cynthia and Des Sinovich. Her innovativeness, creativity, planning, sensitivity to cultural differences, her willingness to learn and be flexible all contributed enormously to this success. Her warmth and infectious enthusiasm attracted a significant group of mothers and outsiders to become involved in the

programme, assisting her on excursions, in reading programmes and with different skills. There are large groups of boys who owe a great deal of their academic, sporting and leadership successes to Mrs MacPherson – they will indeed be her memorial.

Cynthia MacPherson did not confine her involvement to this pre-Form I programme and was always prepared to take on additional tasks. At short notice she agreed to take over and produce a highly successful musical, has been a diligent representative of the NUE and since the cessation of our bridging programme she has willingly spread her influence and expertise over an even wider spectrum of boys.

We are grateful to Cynthia for seven years of committed service to this School and wish her and Rod much happiness

as they begin a new chapter in their lives in Cape Town.

Bill Schroder



John Illsley

Tony Wilkes

In 1941 he started at Boys High,
A bright eyed small Form One,
And so began an illustrious era,
For a special Boys High son.
Thirty-nine years he has served
With a sensitivity that was rare,
To the traditions, standards and ethos
Of this School, which he loves to share.
Titbits of the most fascinating history
Are engraved deep within his mind,
He's part of Boys High's personality
The like of which you will not find.
In sixty-eight he became the Secretary
Of the School he loves so dearly,
He held this post till ninety-two
These years he remembers clearly.
Gail, Paddy, Shirley and Avril,
Clare, both Sandy's and Yvonne,
Moira, Marion, Delicia and Jen,
These were the girls he depended upon,
Secretaries all in his domain,
A privilege it was to know this man.
His loyalty was an inspiration,
In each lady he had a fan!
Nothing was too much to tackle
Broken specs, radios and locks,
Heaters, desks and overhead projectors
And of course his speciality was clocks!
In ninety-three he moved to the archives,
A cause that was very close to his heart,
And one I know that he'll miss sorely
When it comes the time to part.
Before the days of the sanatorium,
In the Sick Room he'd help out
With fainting boys and gruesome wounds.
And those malingerers he would rout!
He could relate ad nauseam
Tales so filled with laughter,
Of scholars, teachers and secretaries,
And even the odd Headmaster!
He faithfully served five of them
Daniel, Polly, Abe, Malcolm and Bill.
If it is in giving that we receive
Then surely Tony Wilkes will have his fill?
For seventeen years he courted Phyllis,
What a very patient lass was she,
Then in April nineteen ninety-seven

Chris Fowler

CHRISS FOWLER, an old boy of the School, started teaching at Boys High in 1997. He threw himself very fully into the various facets of the task and was soon not only teaching history but also acting as a tutor in Armstrong House, coaching a number of extramurals and assisting with backstage duties for School productions. He has assisted with the coaching of the School's shooting team and has also run the fencing team.

However, his biggest impact has been in the History



John Illsley

They tied the knot, Mr & Mrs Wilkes to be.
Gilbert and Sullivan was his passion
Every last verse he could recite,
Those original and some his own
Would bring his audience great delight.
'No one is irreplaceable' they say
An adage in this case I must refute,
For in his mind are facts and figures
Not even the best computer could 'compute'.
Growing old is like a bad habit
Which a busy man has no time to make,
Tony Wilkes every inch a gentleman
This, his school, will never forsake.
So farewell dear friend and colleague
'Hamba kahle' and stay well
Pretoria Boys High salutes and thanks you
Stories of you they will always tell.

Deirdre Hickman

Department where he has been tireless in his efforts to develop innovative teaching material particularly with regard to the use of documents, artifacts and work sheets. This has culminated in the production of two workbooks that will be the basis of junior-level work in future years. His is going to be missed by his colleagues, especially those in the History Department.

JWI

Joel Matlala

(Eulogy for Joel Matlala by Mr Alex Junod)

JOEL WAS A DEAR FRIEND to me and a mentor. He was a man of God but although his Christian belief was unwavering, he had a simple faith. I first met him when I began as a schoolboy here in 1979. As a teacher here for the last ten years we shared many special moments together (including three holidays we spent together in the Transkei).

I have some vivid mental pictures of Joel that I shall cherish forever and I would like to share some of them with you all.

Joel, I have a picture of you which I am sure many of my colleagues share: a picture of you in the printing room, usually with a group of teachers waiting anxiously for copying that they have just given you but that was meant to be done yesterday! You were always polite, even when requests were unreasonable (my own included) – nothing ever seemed a problem and even if it was, you still had a smile. I remember how we would sit in the photocopying room sometimes at lunchtime eating ‘pap en vleis’ with Aggie. Do you remember how we used to tease her? We used to say that we would never take her to the Transkei with us because she was always giving us such a hard time!

Joel, I have a picture – as a housemaster in Solomon I remember walking up to my classroom on the koppie, sometimes late at night and I would hear you in a classroom nearby giving your evening classes, even through the cold of winter. This did not seem to matter. You were there helping your fellow men to read and write and to learn scripture.

Joel, I have a picture – a picture of you at Mnenu in the Transkei, sitting next to a wood fire where Mamkwedini or



Alex Junod

Chigiwe was cooking the midday meal. You would always have a group of people gathered round you. Usually this included bundles of children listening to your stories which you told in your best Xhosa, a language I had helped to teach you. Every now and then you would burst out laughing, that infectious laugh which we grew to know so well and which often could be heard so far away.

Joel, I have a picture, perhaps the most vivid picture of all, of meeting you on the beach as I was returning from my early morning fishing expedition – in your shorts and T shirt coming for your daily bathe in the sea – towel over your shoulder, comb and toothbrush in hand. You would walk a little way into the water and kneel down almost as if you were praying and for half an hour you would remain almost motionless as the waves broke softly against you. This was the way you told me you gained strength and restored your soul.

Mr Joel Matlala is no longer with us. We mourn his death. When someone we love is taken from us so suddenly, it leaves us with a feeling of

emptiness and I guess we inevitably begin to ask the question, ‘Why was he taken from us so suddenly?’ To this I have no answer but there is one thing I know for sure: Joel has joined his Maker. So strong was the faith of this man that there is no doubt in my mind that Joel is now with his Father in Heaven. For this reason I pray that God will give you all, and particularly those who were very close to him like Miriam, his wife and Adam, his son, the courage to overcome your grief and rejoice in the simple fact that Joel is now happy where he is!

Joel you taught us so much. Your memory will live in our hearts forever.

(Eulogy delivered by Mr Tony Wilkes at the Memorial Service held in the first week of the third term.)

SADLY JOEL MATLALA is no longer with us. He died early on Wednesday morning the 27th June at his home near Pietersburg. His family was with him at the time. Joel’s sudden passing touches not only all of us at this assembly but also hundreds of Old Boys and teachers who got to know him while they were at the School.

It’s impossible for me to encapsulate adequately the more than thirty years Joel was employed at Boys High but he had certain qualities which endeared him to those who knew him. Joel was a man of deep sincerity, he was humble, decent and never bore grudges.

I remember well when he, as a young man, was

appointed as a handyman at the School. He was most versatile and could fix anything from a broken window pane to some quite complicated electrical appliances. Joel never moaned about the amount of work he was given to do and if need be would work late into the night until he accomplished what he set out to do.

Twenty-six years ago he was transferred to the Printing department. In those days we had a rather old hand operated Gestetner duplicator, but as the School grew, this important section was upgraded several times and each time the duplicating machines became more and more sophisticated. Joel always met the challenge and kept things up to date and running smoothly.

Joel was loyal to his employers. He loved the School and

James Hale

(Eulogy read at the funeral of James Hale on Thursday 19 July 2001. Born 1/3/1984 – passed away suddenly 16 July 2001 of Cerebral Meningitis)

AS A RESULT of his untimely death we are writing with broken hearts and unfathomable sadness this tribute to our son and brother James.

James seemed to be given to the world to teach each and everyone whose life he touched in some way or another. It took twelve years for him to decide to join us, and then he only stayed sixteen. Enough to enhance all our lives, each in a unique and special way. We are proud to have been his family – parents and brother – during that time.

Throughout this time with us he achieved many 'earthly' things. His peers at Parkdene Primary decided he should be their leader in his final year, and his teachers agreed. He was appointed head boy. On the sporting front he enjoyed team sports at primary school. And although his batting left a lot to be desired, it was on the soccer field where he earned provincial colours as a goalkeeper. At Boys High he was known to grace the D rugby team with his ballet steps, but they will miss him for his kicking. This year he captained the 'Skollie' team. He also enjoyed spending his time pursuing a more individual sport, in skate boarding. This was probably an outward manifestation of James' individuality growing and maturing.

It was at Pretoria Boys where this individuality seemed to come to the fore more and more. James' boss, Rowan Eva, must have seen this first hand, and was an incredible influence on the young James. And for this positive influence, which had such an important impact of James' life, Rowan must be given the highest praise and credit. We are sure no boss – skiv in the history of PBHS had a better relationship than James and Rowan.

James' sporting interests were replaced by those of



music, friendships, partying and then inevitably girls. Which brings us to his collecting habits.

Young Jubie had an affinity with people of all ages and walks of life. You only need to look around this room to see the range of people whose lives he touched. Young people enjoyed his wit and sense of humour and his playfulness and sense of having a good time. Older people could relate to, and understand him. His honesty and integrity were there for young and old to see. He told it like it was. We often cringed and wished he would leave out some details. But not our James: he gave it to you 100% – as it happened. James was James. He lived out his Christian beliefs in his daily life.

He was incredibly loyal to his family and friends. Once you had been taken under James' wing, you were

there for life. He would go to the ends of the earth for others, but yet if he did not want to do something, he refused, and that was that!

The youngest in the James Hale trilogy developed an interest in art to such an extent that if he had stayed with us, he would have liked to pursue this as a career.

In conclusion, one thing is clear to all that knew this young man. He would be very disappointed in all of us if we did not continue to hold him dear to our hearts for the rest of our time on earth and if we did not forever remember the individual lessons he taught us all.

We would like to quote what one of his friends told us: 'James was the kind of guy who every other guy wanted to be like, and that every girl wanted.'

May James Hale forever remain a part of our lives and may he rest in peace. We know he is safe in the hands of the Lord and can honestly say that he was not afraid to die. We consider his parting as a temporary stop-over. To us he was special. A special child, young brother and friend.

James, we love you – Dad, Mom and Brad

would voice his opinion vehemently against anyone who dared make disparaging remarks about Pretoria Boys High.

Joel was a religious man. He studied the bible, passed through bible college with flying colours and was ordained as a Minister in his church. Many folks have him to thank for the sound advice and solutions to their particular problems offered by him during counselling sessions.

Joel and I were friends and on many occasions we would chat to each other on a host of different subjects. I recall one day some years ago when he came to me with a rough sketch plan of a house he intended to build. He said although he had tried he was unable to get it right and asked for my advice. I suggested that he keep the living quarters and kitchen separate from the sleeping quarters

and bathroom, which he did and on numerous occasions he expressed his gratitude to me for his was one of the best designed houses in the neighbourhood.

Joel had a number of hobbies, he was clever with his hands and made several unusual electronic clocks. One which I remember well had small pictures of the members of Kaiser Chiefs soccer team instead of numerals and as there were only eleven players and there are twelve numerals on the clock face, he solved the problem by placing a photo of the coach at twelve o'clock.

We will all miss Joel Matlala. His death has left a vacuum at the School which will be difficult to fill. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Miriam and his family and may he forever rest in peace.

An Overview

IT HAS BEEN THE MOST WONDERFUL YEAR and certainly all that we had hoped for and more. From the launch by President Thabo Mbeki through all the sporting and cultural festivals to the Old Boys' Dinners and social events, there have been the common threads of excitement, enthusiasm, love for and support of the School in the most overwhelming way. The theme of the Centenary – thanksgiving, celebration and re-affirmation – lived through all these functions and events and brought people together in a spirit that transcended distance and age.

There is an undoubted magic at our School that brought the crowds of boys, parents and Old Boys to so many of the events at the School and the same magic that brought nearly 1300 Old Boys to Pretoria for the main dinner and enabled me (accompanied by my wife on most occasions) to address Old Boy Centenary functions in London, New York, San Diego, Tel Aviv, Durban, Cape Town, Middelburg, Perth, Sydney and Hamilton in New Zealand. The pride in and love of the School by Old Boys was overwhelming and was a truly humbling experience for us both.

The other encouraging and rewarding aspect of the Centenary Year has been the accolades accorded the School by so many visitors – staff, boys and parents of the top schools around the country – who attended and participated in our various festivals. They were generous in their



praise of the organisation of the events, our beautiful facilities and perhaps most exciting of all the behaviour, sportsmanship and general demeanour of our boys. The boys of 2001 have truly done us proud in our Centenary Year and I am so grateful to them.

To all the academic, administrative and support staff, thank you for having gone the extra mile this year. To the legions of parents and friends of the School whose support both materially and morally for our various festivals and functions was invaluable; to the Parents' Association, Memorabilia Committee, Andrew and Jacqui Auld, John Illsley and Steve Cilliers for the wonderful History of the School, the Director of Sport and all the Heads of Sport, thank you too. And finally to my secretary, Gail, and my wife, Cherry (whose Centenary rose has been quite stunning) thank you both for your support in the workplace and at home respectively – without it I doubt whether I would have made

it through the year.

The celebration is over; the thanksgiving is always there and the challenge for the next century lies in the re-affirmation.

W E Schroder
HEADMASTER
12 December 2001

Gatherings in England, the USA and Israel (13 June - 4 July 2001)

We were extremely fortunate to be given the use of a flat by Mick and Jocelyn Gioia in Kew which made the first leg of our trip easier and relatively inexpensive.

The first of four Old Boys' Dinners was held at the Lansdowne Club in Mayfair on 16 June. It was very well attended – men only – with 97 attendees. Of particular significance to me was the fact that half of those present were 'my boys' i.e. those who had matriculated since 1990. Michael Capra, who bore the brunt of the organisation, was a gracious host and an excellent master of ceremonies. Roger Herbert spoke on behalf of the Old Boys' Association and George Lawrence Q.C. proposed the toast to the School. The power point presentation that I used to illustrate my speech seemed to go down well with all ages. A highly successful, memorable, nostalgic evening ended with Ian Hay leading the gathering in 40 Years On. Congratulations to Michael Capra and his team.

The following day was also an Old Boys day. Ian and Heather Hay took Cherry and me and Roger Herbert to lunch at the delightful Hertfordshire home of Greg and Louise Boustead. We were joined there by Leo and Wendy van Ginkel and a really relaxed if somewhat cold and rainy Sunday was enjoyed by all.

The next leg was New York and we arrived at JFK International Airport on Tuesday 19 June at 9.30 in the evening. Our New York host was Alan Hutchinson (son of Tony) who is the assistant manager of the Regent Hotel on Wall Street. The Regent, a five star hotel, has only been open for two years. The owners bought the old New York Stock Exchange and turned it into a spectacular hotel. For the few days we stayed at the Regent we certainly had a glimpse of how the other half live.

Alan Hutchinson was a most generous and thoughtful host. He gave us five star accommodation at a quarter of the price and was always very concerned about our welfare. The New York dinner was attended by 17 people in all (9 Old Boys) and held on the balcony of the Regent, overlooking Wall Street. I did not use the presentation that night a made a more formal speech – probably the most difficult I have ever made – with Frank Sinatra crooning quietly from the restaurant and the cabs in Wall Street being considerably less quiet. A memorable evening, finishing very late, with some still having to face a two-hour train journey.

On Sunday 24 June we were off to San Diego and the incredible hospitality of Aubrey and Judy Burer. They

Gatherings in Australia and New Zealand

OUR FIRST PORT OF CALL was Perth where we were royally hosted by Neville and Diane Holmes in their lovely home in the delightfully named suburb of Peppermint Grove. The dinner, held at the Nedland Golf Club, was a successful and happy event attended by twelve Old Boys and their wives. Vernon Benjamin assisted Neville with much of the preparatory work and the actual dinner was organised by Eggie, the wife of Robbie Boggs who operated the power-point presentation.

One of the many highlights of our stay in Perth was a visit to Peter Thiel (Rissik House 1924-1926.) Peter, aged 91, was unable to attend the dinner so Neville and I visited him at the retirement centre in which he lives and presented him with a History of the School. His memory is phenomenal and he regaled us with his memories of Boys High for well over an hour. He presented me with a cheque for the School and we have purchased a bench in his name which will be placed close to Rissik House.

Neville and Diane were wonderful hosts and took three days out of their lives to host and entertain us. We are most grateful to them.

On Friday 8 September we flew to Sydney and were met at the airport by Julian Ginsberg who took us to our hotel. We stayed in Novolet at Brighton le Sands with a stunning view over Botany Bay and the very busy Sydney Airport. Howard Kaplan is the General Manager of Novotel and was a gracious and very generous host. We are most grateful to him.

The dinner was attended by 68 Old Boys some of whom travelled considerable distances to be there. Michael Sonnenberg was the urbane and articulate master of ceremonies and he will give more detail of the various speeches in his report to the Phobian. The wives of Gordon Ehrens and Ron Durrant kindly took Cherry out for the evening. Great tribute must also be paid to Mike Keeny who did much of the

spade work to ensure the evening was the success it was. The last Old Boy (who shall remain nameless) left our suite at 2.00 a.m. – a really wonderful evening.

We spent three further days in Sydney – a real holiday as we were able to see friends and do some of the tourist things. Left for New Zealand on Wednesday 12 September and were shocked to arrive at Sydney Airport to be confronted with the horrific news of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. Home suddenly seemed very far away and one had a strong desire to get home to be among family and friends. Our hotel in New York (only two months previously) was a couple of blocks from the World Trade Centre which made the whole scene even more real to us.

We were met at Auckland Airport by John Kothe and spent a pleasant evening with John and Wendy (ex staff) and Bill and Pat Lown at their home. John had booked us into a B & B in Devonport, a village suburb of Auckland – a 10 minute ferry ride across the harbour to the city. John, Bill and a friend took us sailing the next day, we did our tourist bit on the Friday and then drove down to Hamilton with the Kothes on Saturday for the New Zealand dinner.

The dinner was splendidly organised by John Oehley and held in a beautiful entertainment venue in the Student Centre of St Paul's College where John is the Senior Master in charge of academics and boarding. There were in excess of 20 Old Boys present, plus wives – many of whom had travelled some distance to attend. Toasts were proposed by Clayton Christie, John Kothe and John Oehley.

As with the previous trip we were overwhelmed with friendship, hospitality and a real passion for and interest in the School. Our grateful thanks to the Old Boys' Association and the Centenary Committee for making this trip possible for Cherry and me and enabling Old Boys from around the world to share in the Centenary experience.

opened their beautiful home to Old Boys and wives from all over the United States and hosted a fabulous barbecue. The presentation once again proved highly successful and amazement was expressed at how the School had expanded in so many ways. There must have been over 50 present at the function with the youngest Old Boy being Timothy Perkins who left Boys High last year in Form IV. The next five days were pure Burer hospitality ranging from a day visit to Sea World, a trip around Sand Diego Bay, even to a baseball game between the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Sand Diego Padres – what an experience! We had dinner one night in one of the most exclusive restaurants in San Diego – our host, Connor Adair, an Old Boy from the '80s.

We left San Diego on Friday 29 June and after 35 hours in the air or in airports, we arrived in Tel Aviv via Memphis, Amsterdam and London. Once again we experienced the most amazing hospitality, warmth and generosity of spirit. We stayed with Hillel Faktor who took us to Jerusalem and the Holocaust Museum on the Sunday, Celsarea with Jon Freedman on the Monday and Haifa with Selwyn Myers on the Tuesday. The dinner, held on the Monday evening, was attended by ± 60 people and was again an unqualified success. Perhaps the most moving moment of the entire trip

was at the conclusion of the dinner when Col. Maxim Kayan, a highly respected military man and citizen, aged 84 but not looking a day over 60, blessed me with a traditional blessing – there was hardly a dry eye in the room.

From a financial point of view, I have a strong impression that we have a significant group of Old Boys who are prepared to give generously to the School provided that we have the correct structures in place. The US Old Boys have suggested the establishment of a trust or attaching Boys High to an existing charity. In this way they are able to enjoy significant tax relief. I have already taken up this issue with the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency. All the documentation was handed out at the various functions and much interest was shown in the Draft Business Plan for Maretwane. Once the last five dinners are over, the personalised appeal plus pledge forms must be sent to all Old Boys on our data base.

On a personal note, a very warm thank you to the Governors and the Directors of the Old Boys' Association for giving Cherry and me this wonderful opportunity. Your enabling Cherry to be with me and ensuring that we were not out of pocket, made an enormous difference to me, both personally and in dealing with Old Boys.

The Centenary Year in a Flash



Top left: Roger Cameron, Headmaster of St John's College at the donation of a bench to mark the Boys High Centenary.
 Top right: The oldest and youngest old boy attending the gathering in San Diego.
 Centre right: More than twelve hundred old boys attended the Centenary Dinner held in the University of Pretoria Sport Centre.
 Right: One hundred – the perfect score.



Thanksgiving service

(Text of the homily delivered at the Thanksgiving Service by his Grace, Archbishop George Daniel on Sunday 3 June 2001 to celebrate one hundred years since the establishment of the School.)

I AM VERY GRATEFUL TO THE HEADMASTER for inviting me to conduct this centenary service. I hardly thought myself worthy, as I had spent only one of my high school years here. However, my two uncles matriculated here before the Second World War. When war broke out in 1939 my father, who was in the South African Air Force, was transferred to Kimberley, and two of my elder brothers had to leave this school to be enrolled at Kimberley Boys High. They were not happy about leaving this school.

When the family returned to Pretoria, another brother and I had the privilege of enrolment at Pretoria Boys High School. But when my father retired from the Air Force at the end of the war, we had to continue our schooling elsewhere. I can tell you honestly that my year at this school was the happiest in my entire school life. For the first weeks at Grey College my brother and I risked being lynched by wearing the Boys High blazer while we sang with nostalgia, 'We are entering life together', with its refrain 'Twas here we learnt to live. Twas here we learnt to live.'

Today is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost marks a climax in the history of salvation, a high point in God's intervention in human history. By intervening in human history God has

made all history sacred, for God is involved in bringing about our salvation in contemporary history. He uses every event for the fulfilment of his good purpose. God brings good out of evil, and he gives meaning to what seems meaningless, through the presence of his Holy Spirit.

The life of Pretoria Boys High School covers the most eventful century in history, a century that saw more changes than at any other time in human history. When this school was established in 1901 during the Boer War, Colonialism was at its height, and the mighty British Empire covered vast areas of the globe. The first challenge facing the new school, then housed in the old 'Staats Model' building in Van der Walt Street, was to reconcile the sons of the victorious Brit with those of the defeated Boer. The first attempts were perhaps not very successful, but efforts were intensified with the amalgamation with Eendracht School in later years.

The names of those from our school who made the ultimate sacrifice from 1914 to 1918 are engraved over the main entrance. Then followed the depression and the rise of National Socialism in Germany, which led to the Second World War. This was the time of bestial anti-Semitism in Germany, which resulted in the extermination of six million Jews. Man had reached a most shameful hour in history. It included the bombing of Dresden, surpassed in horror only by the nuclear attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.



Above left: Mr Schroder, Mr Gordon Hay, Chairman of the Old Boy's Association and the guest speaker, Mr Clem Sunter.

Above right: Mr Dudley Ford, Rector of Michaelhouse and the School's Head Prefect at the presentation of another of the benches commemorating the Centenary.

Left: The gathering of the old boys in San Diego.

These events were bound to affect human relationships even down here in South Africa. More names were added to the School's Roll of Honour.

In 1950 the father of two close friends at this school, Ian and Kenneth Carpenter, died on his way to Korea to engage with fellow South Africans in the fighting there. His name appears on the Post World War II plaque of our school with eleven others. This was the first indication in the second half of the century, that we were being involved in the struggle to stop the spread of Communism. While young Americans were becoming disillusioned after the war in Vietnam we were preparing to have our 'Boys on the Border' fighting a losing battle against SWAPO to quell the 'Total Onslaught'. So, our Roll of Honour includes those who lost their lives in that struggle too.

The tensions between the Boers and the British, with which the first Headmaster had to cope in the early days of the school, and which continued long after Union, were showing signs of abatement when South Africa became a Republic. But there was another struggle going on in our country, which began with the establishment of the African National Congress in 1912, when black South Africans objected to their being overlooked in the political dispensation.

After the violence of Sharpsville their struggle also became violent, a political struggle which ended in 1994, which saw the birth of a new South Africa. Today the polit-

ical struggle has become an economic struggle. This is where we are today, in a land where unemployment is close to 40%, and with joblessness there is crime and violence, while even among the employed there is bribery and corruption.

Where has God been for the past hundred years? He had created us in his image and likeness and had given us the intelligence and free will which raises us above the animal state. Our creator respects our intelligence and our freedom, and he will not take these his gifts from us because that would reduce us to the status of mere animals. He allows our wrong decisions and the mess we sometimes make of our world. Lest we destroy ourselves he reveals to us the way we should live, he presents us with the truth, and he gives us a share in his life so that we can live better lives.

Because there are those who are open to the grace of God, human history is not all doom and gloom. The twentieth century was also a century of material progress. The intelligence with which we have been endowed by our Creator, has resulted in enormous material progress which has been to our benefit. We have seen progress in the areas of transport and communications. Motor and train travel became air travel and even space exploration. Armstrong and his team walked on the surface of the moon. Radio developed into television, and today we have computers, faxes, and e-mail. Unfortunately, we have the capacity to

damage life through these things and destroy the world we live in by pollution. Material development is not against God's will as long as it is combined with a concern for human development.

I believe that the establishment in the 20th century of structures which promote understanding, reconciliation and peace are far more pleasing to God than is material development. Of equal importance are institutions which promote education and develop character, like the Pretoria Boys High School. For one hundred years this school has tried to provide a holistic education not only to form personal character, but also to promote community life and team work. That is why sport is of such great importance.



Archbishop George Daniel (right) in conversation with Mr Roger Herbert, Secretary of the Old Boy's Association.

Steve Cilliers

Pentecost is fifty days after the Festival of the Passover, and fifty days after Easter. The Jews celebrate the revelation to Moses and the Hebrews, recently released from slavery, the decalogue of ten commandments. Christians celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the infant Church on Mount Zion. God had intervened in human history. He had made it clear to us that he is concerned about the way we live and behave. In the ten commandments he spelt out what is expected of us in our relationship with himself and with our fellow human beings. Christians see the Gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost as part of God's plan to unite everything in Christ. We believe that Christ came not only to unite us with God, but to unite us with one another. We see Pentecost as the reversal of Babel, where people were divided from one another through language. They could not continue with the building of the tower, a purely human effort, because they could no longer

understand each other.

At Pentecost there were gathered in Jerusalem people from every nation of the then known world. They heard those who were filled with the Holy Spirit proclaiming in foreign tongues the wonderful mercies of God. Those who heard them were bewildered when they heard these Galileans speaking languages which they could understand. Even the visitors from Rome, could understand their Latin! The process of mutual understanding had begun.

This is what inspired the setting up in our time of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which under the able leadership of Archbishop Desmond Tutu may have prevented a blood bath in our country. We still have a long way to go in that direction. The Holy Spirit urges us on to repentance, forgiveness, healing and reconciliation. Much of the bigotry in our land has disappeared, but with the influx of refugees xenophobia has reared its ugly head.

We must continue the process of bringing people together, and for this we should try to learn as many languages as we can. If every South African could have one Nguni language and one Sotho language as well as English and Afrikaans, we would get to know each other a lot better. It is not just a matter of learning languages, but of appreciating other cultures. The challenge which faces this school after a hundred years is no longer to do with bridging the gap between Boer and Brit, it is rather to promote an even wider unity between the many races, languages and cultures which make up our society.

We are part of this society and we should ask ourselves why God has placed us in this context. Have you ever asked yourself why you have been brought into being at this time in history and in this part of the world? God

creates every human being for a purpose. You could have come into existence in the Sudan or Outer Mongolia, but no, God has placed you here. You could have been born in prehistoric times as a cave man; or in the days of the Roman Empire, or in the Middle Ages, but he brought you into being during the final decades of the twentieth century. Why? Is it not because you have a part to play in making South Africa better right now and right here? How do we do this? We can start by opening our hearts to the influence of God's Holy Spirit who will enable us to keep the two commandments which sum up the ten which were given at Pentecost, to love God and to love others, as we love ourselves.

St Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians is appropriate for us today: (1 Thess. 3.13)

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you.

The last half century - a perspective

IN JANUARY 1956 A GROUP OF SMALL BOYS, recently graduated from Irene Primary School, boarded the train which would be their daily transport to school and set off for Pretoria Boys High, to begin their standard six year.

In comparison with the small, red brick primary school that they had attended, the great domed structure of Boys High and the vast number of very much larger pupils (all of 750!) were daunting sights. This was the beginning of my association with this School.

It was a place of strong (and sometimes eccentric) personalities. Walter Battiss had his art room in what is now room 6. In the fifties his passion was chess. While the rest of the class drew or painted, Battiss would engage the best player of the group in a game, having posted someone at the door to warn him if the Headmaster was 'doing an Abernethy' – i.e. strolling around the school to see that all was in order and gathering a train of any boys who had been sent out of class. They would be questioned later in his office.

Another passion which Battiss had in the early 50s was inculcating good manners. To this end he constructed a 'hand-shaker' – a wooden device ending in a carved wooden hand which all those who entered his art room were required to greet by shaking the hand.

The other members of the art department then were the 'gentle giant', Larry Scully and a Scotsman, McKillop, who had a particular dislike of boys whistling. Rumour had it that he had been a spy during WW II. Scully's passion was the art history of the Italian Renaissance. His admiration for the fountains in the piazzas of Rome, Florence and other Italian cities led to the construction of the fountains in the east and west front quads. The murals (in non-representational style) which covered the walls of the quads at one time have fared less well. After some initial damage and flaking off, they were obliterated on one of the periodic renovation and repainting campaigns. Scully's art room was a large upstairs area which was later transformed into rooms 15 and 16 and the corridor to their north.

Among the activities in the English classes was the acting of Shakespeare in the open air theatre (misnamed the 'amphitheatre') which now lies under the garden of the Headmaster's house, and 'nature rambles'. The latter were walks through the grounds, led by Bob Fair who described and identified plants and other interesting phenomena to a gradually diminishing group of pupils.

Burridge Spies gave gripping history lessons, dramatically recounting the battles at Stamford Bridge and Hastings in 1066, or the French revolutionaries ripping up paving stones and park railings to construct barricades.

Afrikaans teachers at this time seemed to be mostly psychopaths. They ranged from one who used obscure agricultural metaphors in his discussions to another who declared that his heroes were 'swart Hans' Strydom and Hitler. (He went on to become a lecturer in child psychology). The first civilised Afrikaans teacher I met was Heine Dittberner, in 1960.

All those were left behind when I left for university to study for a BA Fine Arts degree and an HED. Contact was maintained with the school during those years, in which

occurred such momentous changes in the building of the new hall.

In 1966 I returned to teach as part of a group of young teachers. 'Chalky' Sommerville is the only other teacher still here. By 1966 Battiss, Scully and Spies had left for positions in tertiary education.

Teaching in the late sixties had a far more amateur (in the sense of non-professional enthusiast) quality about it than that which became the rule later. Boys High was in many ways then a sort of 'gentlemen's club.' There were few women on the staff, and the positioning some years later of a full-sized billiard table in the staffroom (it had been left to the school) only strengthened this impression. A teacher was expected to teach anything that was required. There were few subject specialists. In my first year of teaching I taught English, History and Geography (which I had last done at primary school). The rooms assigned to the new staff were on the koppie, numbers 48 to 50. In 1966 these rooms were wood and corrugated iron structures. Rumour (or legend) had it that the buildings had been Anglo-Boer War concentration camp structures which had been condemned as unfit for human habitation. Within a few years they were demolished and the present 'temporary' structures were built.

The early seventies brought a greater emphasis on professionalism and subject specialisation. Apart from a few years of teaching some art classes when the circumstances necessitated it, my teaching had been devoted to English. Changes in the wider world have impacted on PBHS and the rigid racial requirements for entrance were relaxed and then abolished altogether.

An aspect of the increased professionalism was the increase in the number of departmental meetings. In the sixties, one meeting per year sufficed for the English department under Bob Fair. By the mid seventies this had changed to one a week. Many more words were spoken, but this did not always result in any improvement in what was subsequently to be done.

The acquisition (or more accurately, the return) of what is now called Pollock Campus gave the school the opportunity for some extensive changes to the use of part of the older main building. Several classrooms behind the hall, including two art rooms, were changed into a new media centre/library and computer room. Other rooms have subsequently become computer rooms, while new laboratories have been built. The former library in the front of the school became two rooms (as it had been in the fifties) one being a music room, the other the archives. Pollock campus itself has undergone changes and rebuilding to increase the number of classrooms as required.

Other changes to the physical appearance of the school which have taken place over the last few years are the construction of staff houses (which altered an entire way of life for the frequenters of the koppie). The water features including the loch with its wild birds – definitely a positive development – as well as the new water polo pool, have offered new opportunities to all who work and live here.

Rob Rademeyer

Remembrance Day

(Address by John Illsley at the School's annual Remembrance Day service, held on 10 November 2001.)

THIS YEAR HAS BEEN A YEAR OF CELEBRATION for Pretoria Boys High. It has been a year in which we have celebrated and commemorated a century of this fine School. It has been a centenary year in which we have given thanks for all that this School has meant and given to generations of pupils. Today is somewhat different, for we are here in a moment of solemnity to remember those who gave their lives in times of war.

It is a sad reflection on mankind that in the hundred years of this School's existence, South Africans have fought in no fewer than five major wars. Indeed when the School began in the Staats Model School building in 1901, the Anglo-Boer war was still being fought. The second headmaster, Harold Atkinson, himself taught teenagers who had not been to school for three years because they had been with commandos on the veld.

Over the next eight decades old boys from this School would fight in two World Wars; the war in Korea and in the border conflict, in what is today Namibia.

The buildings and traditions of this School came in different ways to reflect that sad fact – from the bells in the east tower to the eternal flame to the two memorial plaques in the old entrance hall. More recently the playing of the last post each evening has been added.

In a moment the headmaster will be reading out the names of old boys and masters of this School who died in two world wars and in conflicts since then. There are 28 names on the World War One roll of honour and 95 for that of World War Two. The list of names seems to go on and on. The mere length of the list holds its own lessons, but many of you who are pupils here today, may hold the mistaken view that the men we remember today belonged to the generation of your grandfathers and your great grandfathers and that therefore this service holds no real significance for you.

Some may believe that anything that happened in the past, especially before you were even born, is ancient history. After all, few of these men are even likely to be distantly related to you. Since most of you assembled here today have, mercifully, been spared the horrors of war at first hand, you may think and hope that wars belong in other times or at least in other places.

Even I, with my great love of history would agree that without knowing something about these people, we cannot truly identify with them. When I began research for the history of the School, the names of the fallen were, for me, also simply names.

And yet nothing can erase the fact that every single one of the people we remember here today, was, like you, once a schoolboy or a member of its teaching staff. It has often been said that 'ordinary men do not make wars but that they do end up having to fight them'.



And that is why, this morning, I wish to briefly give you an idea of the people behind just two of these names, to show you that they were ordinary young men who chose to be part of extraordinary events.

Herbert Johnston was an old boy of Rissik House in its



very first years. When the First World War broke out he volunteered for service in the British army and by the end of 1914 he was serving in the trenches on the Western Front. He narrowly escaped death when a bullet creased the front of his head, something which, when asked about the welt across his forehead, in his youthful enthusiasm he brushed off with the cheery remark, 'yes that's the path of a bullet-close shave wasn't it?'

In the Rissik House diary, which has been kept since 1909, there is a letter written in pencil by Johnston in January 1915 to his ex-housemaster, Mr Thomas. In the letter he relates how the Germans were entrenched only about two hundred metres away, how rifle bullets sounded like the buzzing of bees and how, as he quaintly put it: 'bursting shells give a fine effect and would be rather interesting if they were not so beastly dangerous'

He also related how on Christmas Day of 1914 he was involved in an episode, which probably better than any other illustrated the folly of war from the point of ordinary soldiers. Johnston and hundreds of thousands of other troops from both sides met out in the middle of 'no man's land' to exchange Christmas greetings, play impromptu soccer matches and swap news. Johnston wrote: 'some of our fellows went out and gave [the Germans] cigarettes in exchange for cigars.' When that spontaneous and unofficial truce ended, the armies went back to slaughtering each other for another four years.

Five months after he wrote the letter, Johnson was

dead, killed in the second battle of Ypres fought in the Flanders region of Belgium. His body was never recovered, and he is one of nearly 58 000 men with no known grave whose names are carved into the Menin Gate memorial. He was twenty years old.

Ivo van Uitvanck is an old boy on the World War Two roll of honour. He was born in the Netherlands and attended Boys High in the 1930s. His story is probably one of the saddest of any of our old boys. When the war broke out he volunteered for service and was initially trained in South Africa. Holland was invaded in 1940 and after this, the free Dutch forces were based in Britain. So in 1942 Van Uitvanck and other Hollanders serving in South Africa, nicknamed the 'Springbokken', were shipped to Britain and became part of a unit of the Dutch army called the Princess Irene Brigade. He was soon promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and taken into the Special Operations Executive or SOE, where he was trained as a secret agent for work in Holland. SOE agents carried out some of the most dangerous missions in Nazi occupied Europe and van Uitvanck soon found himself on a mission back into the land of his birth. On the night of 21-22 April 1943 he was parachuted into Holland. Unfortunately under 'Operation Northpole' the Germans had infiltrated the SOE network in Holland and van Uitvanck together with two other agents were immediately captured. He and 46 other officers were later transported to Mauthausen Concentration camp in Austria. Unbeknown to them, all of these men had been sentenced to die under the so called 'Aktion Kugel' or 'Bullet Decree'. Some of the officers were beaten to death by SS guards in a stone quarry while others were shot close to the fence to make it appear as if they were escaping. Van Uitvanck became one of an estimated 71 000 people, mainly Jewish inmates, who died in this camp alone.

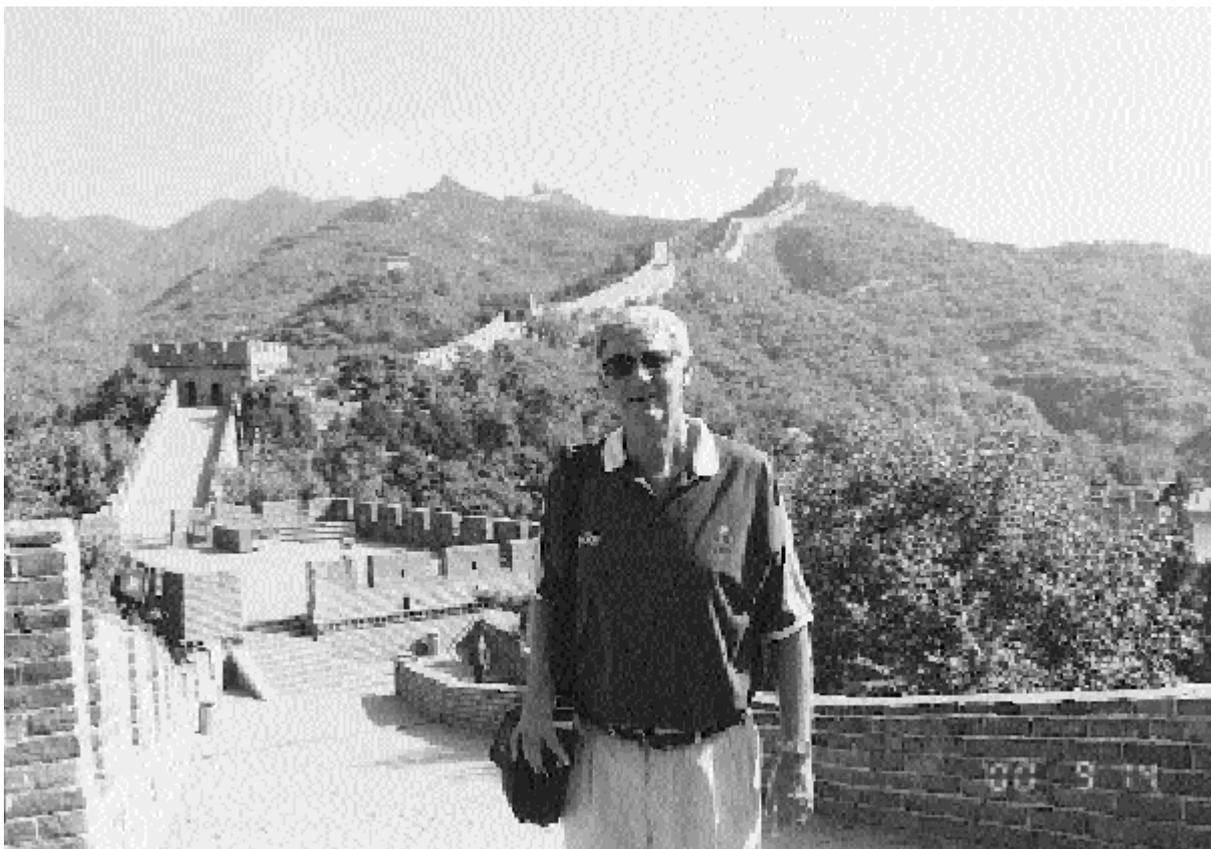
And so we could carry on. So many young men. How very sad a part of our Boys High history. Old boys of this School are buried in cemeteries from Ypres in Belgium and the Pas de Calais in France to El Alamein in Egypt and Castigliogne in Italy. They are commemorated in Malta and in Singapore and here in Pretoria. They occupy places on the rolls of honour of the armies, navies and air forces of several commonwealth countries.

It is a sacrifice that I believe should be remembered, alongside all the other fine achievements of this School, with great pride. But it is equally a lesson of history that should be taken to heart. As Winston Churchill reminded us, 'if we do not learn from the mistakes of the past, then we are surely destined to repeat them in the future'. For this reason, our remembrance service today is more than simply a way of remembering those who died, it is a reminder of what we stand to lose if we do not heed Churchill's warning.

I would like to conclude with the words of Lawrence Binyon:

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We shall remember them.*

The Chinese Connection



IN SEPTEMBER 2000, I was extremely privileged to visit Beijing, the result of an invitation by the Ministry of Education to visit their key school in Beijing, the Second High School attached to the Normal University of Beijing. The purpose of the visit was to explore the possibility of twinning our respective schools with a view to a teacher and pupil exchange programme in the future.

The warmth, courtesy and concern for my welfare was legendary and evident from the time I was met at Beijing International Airport by an entourage of officials. From a tourist point of view I was given a driver, guide and interpreter (the latter a different one every day) and taken to all the top tourist spots as well as having huge lunches and dinners daily (in most cases not being terribly sure of what I was eating – other than vast quantities.)

I visited Tianamen Square, Mao's Tomb, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the Ming Tombs and, of course, climbed the Great Wall of China.

The Second High School is co-educational with roughly the same number of students as we have (1500.) It resides on a campus about a 10th of Boys High with the main teaching block being a six story high-rise (with no lift!)

Technologically, they are significantly ahead of us with enormous computer facilities, excellent laboratories and even a TV and film studio. English is compulsory and they have one entire foreign student stream in each grade. The academic work ethic is undoubtedly superior to ours. On the other hand, from an holistic point of view we are streets ahead.

Although they are a state school, they obtain significant funding from the private sector and admit students on merit as they are viewed as a prestige (key) school. They are highly prized as a flagship by their Education Authorities and have already forged links with key schools in the United States of America, Canada, Australia and Japan.

On the strength of this memorable and enlightening experience, we hosted a reciprocal visit by Mr Lin Fuhzi, the Principal, and an interpreter, in March this year. I organised a two day visit to Cape Town for them kindly hosted by Rondebosch Boys High and locally Steve Cilliers acted as a courier to visit places of interest in Gauteng.

My wife and I gave them a bushveld experience with a two day visit to Madikwe Game Reserve at a lodge owned by an Old Boy. This was the undoubted highlight of their visit. At a dinner attended by Governors, senior staff and officials from the Education Department we signed a formal twinning agreement between our two schools. On that last day, Mr Lin (through his interpreter) addressed the School at a Friday assembly and was most complimentary about his visit to Boys High.

The twinning arrangement received the blessing of Professor Kadar Asmal, the Minister of Education, and the first tentative step will take place next year when two of our Form V boys will spend a month in Beijing as guests of the Second High School. This connection was an unforgettable experience for me and hopefully will prove a similar experience for both boys and staff in the years ahead.

Bill Schroder

From the Old Boys



Photographs: Jeff Geffen

am still active, coaching at club level, playing 'for fun'. I am also active at national level as Vice Chair and sometimes manage the Israel team in international tournaments overseas. Enough about myself!

I recently received the magnificent history book about the school. It is a fantastic piece of work and means a lot to a person like myself who after so many years still has the school in his blood.

I am enclosing some historic photographs that I believe will be of interest. They were taken by me using a 'Brownie' box camera. In 1941 I photographed the pavilion (our tuckshop). Little did I realise that one year later the building would be gutted due to sabotage.

I remember my shock and dismay the morning after the fire and recorded the tragic event with the same 'Brownie'. Of course, if I knew then what I know today about photography the results would have been much better! I also have a photograph of the tuckshop part of the pavilion after the fire.

In 1944 I tried to imagine what the school badge might look like 20 years hence, taking into consideration technical progress.

This effort appeared in the school magazine in 1944. I substituted the book with a movie projector as we had seen a few educational films at that time. The bulldozer replaced the pick and shovel. The ossewa was replaced by an aircraft of 1944 vintage. As a boarder I replaced the orange tree with marmalade jam. The motto is supposed to mean SPEED and COMFORT. My Latin was not good because I gave up Latin after Form II and switched to Art.

Now, 57 years later I feel that another update is overdue. The book is replaced by the computer. The ossewa is replaced by a space rocket. The pick and shovel by atomic power. I had a problem with the orange tree and as I am a pharmacist I made an ampule of Vitamin C. I think the motto is OK. The artwork is not so good because I stopped drawing a long time back. These days I only draw my National Insurance every month as a pensioner!

I have taken up enough of your time so will end. Fortunately in my life I have had many wonderful experiences – being at Boys High was one of them!

Most sincerely
Jeff Geffen

Dear Mr Schroder

We met briefly (30 seconds!) at the very memorable Centenary dinner in Israel. I was at Rissik House from 1941 to 1945. As a boarder, Rissik House (and of course, the School) was my second home for 5 years. Besides the 3 Rs (reading, writing and rugby) I learned many values at school that have stood me in good stead to this very day: values in addition to a great love for sport and art (my everlasting gratitude to Walter Battiss!). Incidentally it was also my privilege to have had Mr Pollock as Housemaster and English master.

My best achievements at school were receiving a third team rugby scroll and being Drum Major. I acted in a few plays, English and Afrikaans and passed my matric!

My rugby improved a bit after leaving school, but I had to pack up after falling ill with TB! However, I made a complete recovery and took up refereeing. I refereed in what was the Eastern Transvaal (Springs, Brakpan, Benoni, etc.) and handled a number of first league games.

I arrived in Israel in 1961 and helped a bit in school athletics. In 1976 I initiated the founding of the Israel Badminton Association and was chairman for 10 years. I



The School Badge, 1944



The School Badge, 1964



The School Badge, 2001