



Matric results 2005

As is our custom, we look back into the recent past first. This we do to honour those matrics who have done exceptionally well in their final examination at the end of 2005. All in all, there were thirteen distinctions (with a total of twenty-one examinations), five B symbols, one C symbol and one D symbol. Matthew Lombard obtained two distinctions (Alto Saxophone HG and French Horn MP) as did Jackson Ian (Flute HG and Piano MP 1), Kyle Gregorowski (Double Bass HG and Composition SG) and Christopher Pinto (Guitar HG and Composition SG). Other boys obtained distinctions for Music HG were Warren Gregorowski (Alto Saxophone), David Tseng (Piano), Jacques-Pierre Malan (Cello), Drian Roos (Trombone) and Eugene Pienaar (Trumpet). Congratulations to these boys who have done us proud!

Staffing issues

To some degree the staffing situation was problematic this year. Marc Botha announced early in the year that he would embark on doctoral studies in English at the Durham University, at the end of September 2006. He kindly agreed to see his five matric students through but his teaching load tapered off towards the end of the third term. His departure is a huge loss and his expertise and commitment to his students will not be easily replaced. At the same time we do not begrudge him this opportunity which comes with a full scholarship for three years. We thank him for his five years of excellent service!

We were dealt another staffing blow when Tania Leurquain announced that she had to take up family responsibilities in Belgium at the beginning of July 2006. We thank Tania for her input looking after the Brass students over four years. We hope her return to Belgium will be happy and productive. We have been fortunate to obtain the services of Mr Jeff Cole and he comes with vast experience in military bands and he is also a sought after trumpeter in the JPO and COSA. We welcome Mr Cole into the madhouse Music Department and hope he will survive long enough to enjoy his teaching here at PBHS.

The rest of the music staff is largely unchanged. Here and there an old boy or other student helped out in a temporary capacity. These were Cobus ?? (Flute), Chris de Wet (Saxophone), Wikus van der Hoven (Saxophone), Matthew Lombard (Saxophone), William Bishop (Trombone), Daniel Prozesky (Clarinet), Jozua Loots (Clarinet). Some of the relief teaching was for Mrs Lizet Smith who gave birth to a son in May 2006. The rest of the 'old hands' are Dr Niel van der Watt, Mrs Yvonne Reyburn, Ms Mathilda Hornsveld,

Mr Abrie Jordaan, Mr Philip Loots, Mr Christo Burger who serve in a full-time capacity. Part-time teachers are Ms Lorette van Zyl, Ms Hanri Loots, Mrs Marike Prins, Ms Denise Sutton, Mrs Elmarie van der Vyver and Mrs Gudrun Melck. Thank you to all and sundry for making a difficult year bearable. Even though all the places for 2007 are not yet filled, we live in hope.

Events

The three main events were again the Café Concert, the Musical Production *Pirates of Penzance* and the Four Schools' Concert.

The Café Concert programme reflects the depth and variety of the Music Department's music making. The programme is reprinted on the following page.

The very successful performances of *Pirates of Penzance* continued the proud Gilbert and Sullivan tradition at the school. The performance is documented elsewhere more fully, and so it will suffice to say thank you to each member of the Music Department, staff and boys who were involved. One has to single out Ms Mathilda Hornsveld and the twenty-one piece orchestra for their excellent contribution to the production. The true Boys High character was most evident from the following anecdote. A day or so before the first dress rehearsal our trusty second viola player, Werner Kühn, broke his arm, and concealed the fact for an entire rehearsal just so as not to let the side down. In contemplating a hasty replacement, I called in a younger player, Nicholas Fidler, and casually explained our predicament. To his credit, there was no hesitation in his accepting the appointment. Some quick arrangements were made with the home base and at six o'clock the same evening, he was there doing his thing. These circumstances never make it onto the stage, but they underscore the commitment and sacrifice the boys in the Music Department are prepared to make. Thank you to both boys. A special word of thanks goes to the matrics who played in the production orchestra. They are Obakeng Moatshe (Viola), Ronald Davey (Cello), Helgard Basson (Cello), Willem van den Hoven (Double Bass), Deo du Plessis (Percussion). We appreciate your efforts, commitment and excellent playing in spite of the looming mock matric exams.

The Four Schools' Concert, hosted by Pretoria High School for Girls was presented at Pretoria Boys High School. Though the concert was, as usual, an unqualified success, some dark moments preceded the event. The details are complicated but it boils down to interference with the selection of items for the combined performance. One may well ask if this concert which has grown out of all logistical proportions, has not run its natural course?

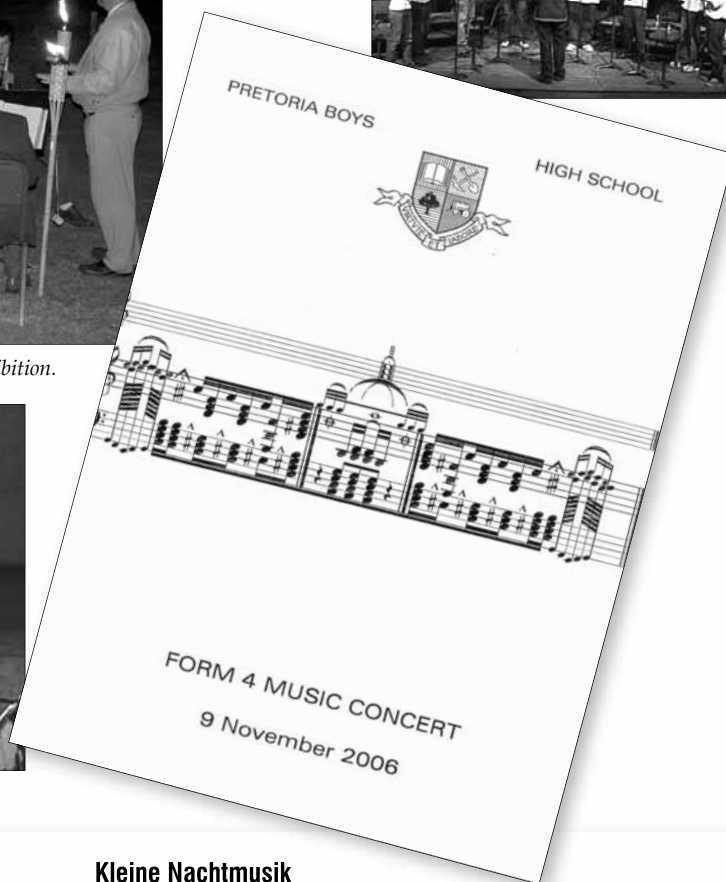


Dixie Band playing at the opening of the photographic exhibition.



String quartet at the Cafe Concert.

Big Band,
conducted by
Tania Leurquain.



Kleine Nachtmusik PROGRAMME

BIG BAND – Ms Tania Leurquain

Tequila Traditional, att. T Leurquain
I Could Have Danced All Night F Loewe and A Lerner

STRING QUARTET – Mrs Gudrun Melck

The Easy Winners S Joplin, arr. N van der Watt
Memory A L Webber, arr. L Osborn

BRASS ENSEMBLE – Ms Tania Leurquain

Rondo Alla Turca W A Mozart, arr. T Leurquain
Sonatine R Simpson, arr. T leurquain
Danse Du Sabre A Khatchaturian, arr. T Leurquain

JAZZ COMBO – Mr Marc Botha

Wapango P d'Riviera
I Wish I Knew How N Simone
Guest artist: Megan Kahts
Night In Tunisia D Gillespie

CELLO QUARTET – Mrs Gudrun Melck

Canon W A Mozart
Don't Sleep In the Subway P Clarke, arr. N van der Watt

MARIMBA SOLO – Deo du Plessis

Yellow After The Rain C Peters

DIXIE BAND – Dr Niel van der Watt

Tishomingo Blues S Williams, arr. B Amstel

Tin Roof Blues L Rappolo, arr. B Howard
Livery Stable Blues R Lopez, arr. N Paramor
Punini's Kwela N van der Watt
Jazz Band Ball N la Rocca, arr. N Paramor

SCHOOL CHOIR – Mr Christo Burger and Mrs Yvonne Reyburn

Moon River H Mancini
Clarinet – Jeremy Pitman
U y'Nkosi Traditional
Ke Neya Morena N van der Watt
Winternag N van der Watt
Evoe! J Linkola
Piano Due : Yvonne Reyburn and Paul Ferreira

SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – Dr Niel van der Watt and Mr Christo Burger

Air from Indian Queen H Purcell, arr. J Ployhar
Eine Kleine Nachtmusik – Allegro W A Mozart, arr. N van der Watt
Military March F Schubart, arr. N van der Watt
Themes from the *William Tell*
Overture G Rossini, arr. K Whitcomb
Cazrdas
Soloist: Deo du Plessis
Themes from *James Bond 007* M Norman, arr. C Custer

an die MUSIK

The String and Woodwind Ensembles of Pretoria High School for Girls will be the continuity artists.

Conductors: Valerie Hohls, Nadine van Wyk

The Pretoria Boys High School Dixie Band is making a guest appearance at the beginning of the proceedings.
Conductor: Niel van der Watt

Pretoria Boys High School Choir Conductor – Christo Burger Accompanist – Yvonne Reyburn

Winternag
Composer – Niel van der Watt

U Yi’Nkosi
Traditional
Arranged by C Burger

Pretoria Boys High School Orchestra
Conductor – Christo Burger

Themes from 007
Composer – M Norman
Arranged by C Custer

Afrikaanse Hoër Meisieskoolkoor
Dirigent – Hannelize du Plessis
Begeleier – Gisela Scriba

’n Keuse uit die volgende werke: Reën in die Voorwinter/Omiša, ea Pula

’n Klankeksperiment op die komposisie van S Hendrikse
Verwerk deur C Burger

Kekatu Dziezma
Komponis – P Vasks

Hallelujah
Komponis – B Derksen
Verwerk deur N van der Watt

Blou
Komponis – A Swiegers
Verwerk deur P van Zyl

Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool Simfoniese blaasorkes
Dirigent – Floris Smith

Temas uit Fantasia
Verwerk deur J Vinson

Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskoolkoor
Dirigent – Hannelize du Plessis
Begeleier – Gisela Scriba

’n Keuse uit die volgende werke:

Eden
Komponis – P van Zyl

O Holy Night
Komponis – A Adam
Verwerk deur C Kirkland

N’kosi Sikelel’ iafrika
Komponis – E Zontonga
Verwerk deur J van der Sandt
Find me Somebody to Love
Komponis – Queen
Verwerk deur P van Zyl

Afrikaanse Hoër Seunskool Simfonieorkes
Dirigent – Naudé Burger

Een van die volgende werke:

Overture uit Impressario
Komponis – WA Mozart

Faust-suite: nr. 7
Komponis – C Gounod

Swing When You’re Winning
Verwerk deur P van Zyl

Pretoria High School for Girls Senior Choir
Conductor – Michael Barrett

One of the following:

Jikelele
Traditional

African medley

Pretoria High School for Girls Orchestra
Conductor – Valerie Hohls

Hungarian Dance no. 5
Composer – J Brahms
Arranged by V Hohls

Pretoria High School for Girls Mass Item
Conductor – Bea van der Sandt
Accompanist – Paul Ferreira

Hail Holy Queen from Sister Act
Arranged by A Lamken/V. Hohls

Combined Programme

Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (3 Movements)
Conductor – Niel van der Watt
Composer – WA Mozart

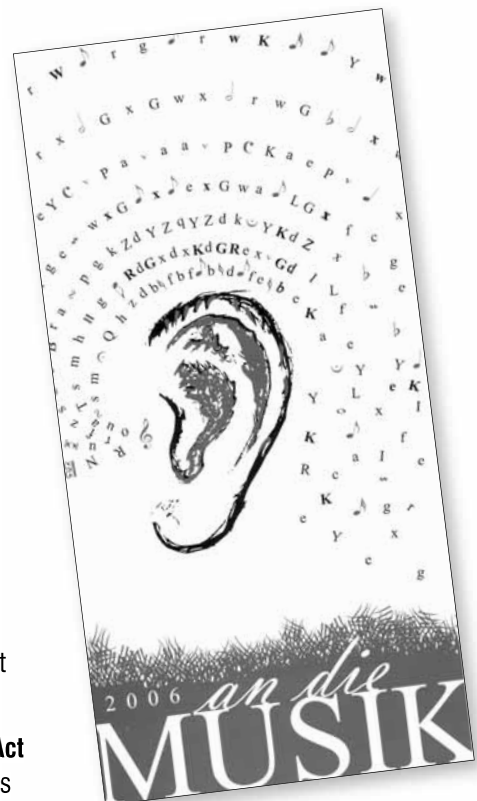
Eye of the Tiger
Conductor – Naudé Burger
Composer – B Conti
Arranged by C Burger

Jerusalem
Conductor – Valerie Hohls
Composer – H Parry
Arrangement & lyrics – N van der Watt

Royal Falcon
Conductor – Michael Barrett
Composer – P Parrish
Arranged by N van der Watt

Mama Temba’s Wedding
Conductor – Christo Burger
Composer – B Egnos & G Lakier
Arranged by N van der Watt

The Toreador’s Song
Conductor – Hannelize du Plessis
Composer – G Bizet
Arranged by N van der Watt



Performing groups

The Symphony Orchestra had an active and successful year. The main performances were at the Café Concert, the Four Schools' Concert and on the tour to the Manna Fellowship Church in White River. Our annual concert in the Musaion was unfortunately cancelled due to potential rioting on the University of Pretoria campus. The orchestra consisted of sixty-three members and all symphonic instruments except the Oboe were represented. There were thirty-three string players including eight cellos and four double basses, thirteen woodwind players, fourteen brass players and three percussionists. There were a large number of matrices and we would like to thank them for their amazing musical contribution: Abraham Mennen (Clarinet), Ross Cameron (French Horn), Jason Hinch (Trumpet), Dylan Smith (Trumpet), Bernard Linström (Trumpet), Deo du Plessis (Percussion), Obakeng Moatshe (Viola), Ronald Davey (Cello), Helgardt Basson (Cello), François Scholtz (Cello), Willem van der Hoven (Cello), Charl van Rooyen (Double Bass), Daniel Pretorius (Bassoon) and Wesley de Villiers (Viola). The devastation left in the wake of their departure is self-evident. I have on occasion referred to 2006 as being the end of an era. Losing seventeen excellent musicians at once must have an effect but such is the nature of all school-based activities!

The Dixie Band has, as always, been extremely busy. The performances spanned the entire spectrum from the Commencement Ceremony, the New Parents' Braai and the Phobians Marathon to the tour to White River, playing at the Battissphere and the Hatfield Christian Church's Spring Festival. Some of the long-serving members informed me that they have performed close to one hundred times in the Dixie Band over the past number of years. Again a word of thanks to the matrices. Their input into the Dixie Band has raised the standard of playing to a level that will be difficult to emulate. The leaving members are Abraham Mennen (Alto Saxophone and Clarinet) who served a full five years, Deo du Plessis (Drums) and Ronald Davey (Trumpet) who have been in the band for four years, Johan van Biljon who has in the band for three years and Hickley Hamman who has been there for two years. Losing five members from a group which only consists of eleven members is a significant loss. It does on the other hand

create new opportunities for other boys and it tests the resilience and depth of the Music Department. The new band has already had three rehearsals ...

The three other instrumental groups which have performed fairly regularly in and outside the school are the String Quartet, Cello Quartet and Jazz Band. The Big Band only performed at the Café Concert and their activities were curtailed by the departure of the teacher in charge. The Big Band has already been revived under the guidance and leadership of the new trumpet teacher, Mr Jeff Cole. He has also started rehearsing a Wind Band where all and sundry are welcome. The Cello Quartet included three matrices, Ronald Davey, Francois Scholtz and Willem van der Hoven and will therefore not continue next year. The String Quartet loses Helgardt Basson (Cello) and Obakeng Moatshe (Viola) but we have been able to replace them and the group will continue. We are also in a process of establishing a junior String Quartet. A word of thanks to Mrs Gudrun Melck for all her efforts in training and organising the string groups. The Jazz Band was organised by Mr Marc Botha, and their activities also tapered off with his imminent departure. The matrices leaving with him are Abraham Mennen (Alto Saxophone), Daniel Pretorius (Piano) Jason Hinch (Trumpet), Charl van Rooyen (Double Bass), Willem van der Hoven (Double Bass) and Deo du Plessis (Drums). In spite of the fact that there are only one or two members left, there seems to be enough interest to reconstitute the group as we have a teacher available to do the training and organisation.

Two other groups of boys deserve a special musical thank you for the amazing but often thankless task that they perform continually. First the Bass Choir under the auspices of our organist, Mr Philip Loots, who perform at almost every Friday Assembly. This loosely constructed group accompany hymns and songs sung by the congregation. The other group is the trumpeters who play The Last Post. This special feature of the school is kept alive by a number of dedicated boys who simply appear at 17:30, often at great inconvenience to themselves and their parents, to the play The Last Post from the West Tower while the flag is being lowered. We salute and thank you all.

The choir had an amazingly productive and successful year under the able guidance of Mr Christo Burger. They achieved national honour by being one



Deo du Plessis leads the percussion section.



School orchestra at the Cafe Concert.



The Dixie Band under the baton of Dr vd Watt.



of seven high school choirs to be invited to perform at the Final Gala Concert of the ATKV Applous Choir Competition. Sporting commitment and financial implication prevented the choir from availing itself of this opportunity. Congratulations to the choir. The rest of their activities are detailed elsewhere.

Individual Excellence

Apart from the high level of musicianship achieved by the different performing groups, a large number of boys also achieved superb individual excellence. The following boys passed a Royal School of Music Grade VIII examination: Emile Conradie (Alto Saxophone), Ivan Jenkins (Tenor Saxophone), Obakeng Moatshe (Viola), Lourens Terblanche (Violin), Gavin Evans (Flute), Karabo Ditsebe (Trumpet) and David Sun (Clarinet). In addition, Stuart Graham passed the Trinity College Grade VIII examination playing Bass Guitar. A further six boys passed the Royal School of Music Grade VII examination. Thirty junior boys, (mainly Form IIs) also passed the Royal School of Music Grade V Theory examination. Abraham Mennen also passed the Royal School of Music Advanced Certificate Examination with distinction. This achievement allows him to play an audition for the Royal College of Music, where he intends to study music next year.

During the July holidays a number of boys auditioned for the National Youth Orchestra and three were selected for the 'A' Orchestra which toured Germany in September. They are: Willem van der Hoven (Double Bass), Obakeng Moatshe (Viola) and Alexander Urban

(Trumpet). Congratulations on this fine achievement. Morné Kahts was selected to represent South Africa as co-winner of the Yamaha Young Musician Competition in Japan, also in September.

During the October break, David Sun (Clarinet) participated in the ABSA Youth Music Competition in Port Elizabeth. After three vigorous round of competing with South Africa's best bona fide school going musicians, he was judged to be the best woodwind player for 2006. David is the third PBHS student in three consecutive years to win this prestigious award.

The highlight of the individual excellence achieved during 2006 must be the two boys who were invited to compete in the UNISA Grade VIII Bursary Competition. They are Deo du Plessis (Percussion) and Ronald Davey (Cello). This competition has no age restriction and they competed against eighteen of the best young musicians in the country including two old Boys Christiaan Basson (Cello) and Steven Hussey (Piano). Congratulations on an excellent achievement!

The variety of activities and achievements bear testimony to the well-being of the Music Department. The challenge remains for the staff and the boys to make the most of each opportunity. The opportunities are created by the interaction between the staff and boys and the music and as long as all three sides of the triangle remain intact, music will continue. It is also clear that the responsibility of maintaining the standard of music at the school is shared by the staff and the boys.

Dr Niel van der Watt

Orchestra



Front Row L-R: T Masters, C Erasmus, M Loubser.

Second Row L-R: D Smith, W de Villiers, R Davey, F Scholtz, W van der Hoven, J Pitman, I Jenkins, A Mennen, Dr N van der Watt (Conductor), Mr C Burger (Conductor), J Hinch, B Linström, D du Plessis, H Basson, D Pretorius, O Moatshe, R Cameron.

Third Row L-R: T Ditsebe, J Shih, B Nixon, A Wang, H Delen, W Jenkins, W Yates, I Tsai, G Evans, C Marais, L Terblanche, W van Rooyen, D Pitman, E van Niekerk, M Graham, S Hwang, N Fidler, E Hudson-Lamb, R Soar.

Back Row L-R: M Finbow, M Maimela, K Ditsebe, M Eccles, M Greyling, J Oldnall, J Sun, M de Canha, R Christian, C van Rooyen, S Graham, D Gillhan, H Vermooten, C van der Westhuizen, D Poultney, JW Viljoen, A Urban.

Cello Quartet



Front Row L-R: M Eccles, R Davey, F Scholtz, W van der Hoven.

String Quartet



Front Row L-R: L Terblanche, W Viljoen, O Moatshe, H Basson.



Dixie Band



*Front Row L-R: H Vermooten, H Hamman, E Conradie, W Rich.
Middle Row L-R: W Yates, L Newby, R Davey, J van Biljon, D du Plessis.
Back Row L-R: A Mennen, Dr N van der Walt.*

Jazz Band



*Front Row L-R: D Pretorius, A Mennen, J Hinch, W van der Hoven, D du Plessis.
Back Row L-R: C van Rooyen, Mr M Botha (Master-in-Charge), M Kahts.*

The year 2006 was, musically, undoubtedly the most successful choir year Boys High has had in a long time. Although the choir was relatively small, the boys persisted in singing with passion and creating the most beautiful sound. This year the choir operated with about forty boys, divided into typical male four-part voice groups (First and Second Tenors, Baritones and Basses).

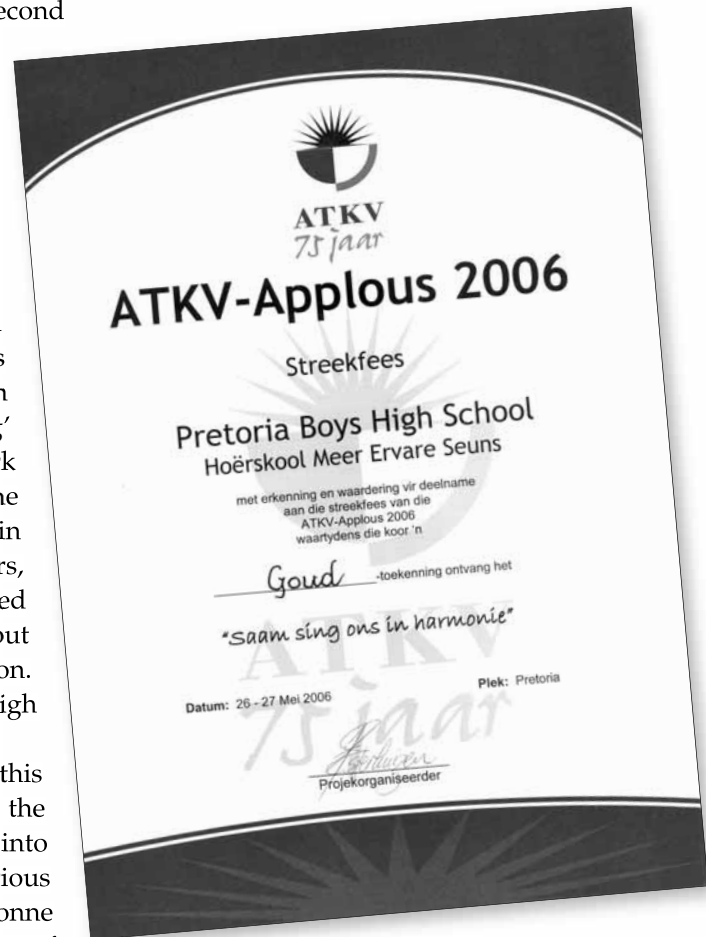
The year started off with a bang when the entire choir travelled to Hammanskraal for the Choir Workshop. The weekend turned out to be a huge success. The choir entered the 'ATKV Applous' national choir competition's 'more experienced boys choir' section. At the first round of the competition the boys sang an advanced repertoire that included a prescribed work by Niel van der Watt, a work for two pianos and male choir called 'EVOE!' by a Finnish composer, an Afrikaans song called 'Winternag' by Niel van der Watt and an experimental work called 'U Yi'Nkosi' by Christo Burger. The choir's sound, enthusiasm and charm resulted in their being awarded gold. Only two boys choirs, of which Boys High was one, were then invited to the final of this competition. This turned out to be a truly successful and memorable occasion. The choir was also invited to sing at various high school choir festivals.

The choir would not have achieved all of this had it not been for the dedicated pupils and the staff behind the scenes, putting all their efforts into organising and arranging the choir and its various functions. To the choir accompanist, Mrs Yvonne Reyburn, who put in seemingly endless hours of

dedication into making 2006 such a musical success, we express our sincere appreciation.

Thank you to all involved in making one of the most memorable years of Boys High choir history.

Christo Burger, Conductor



Choir



Front Row L-R: C van Rooyen, B Radebe, W de Villiers, J Bell, S Booysen, M Ferguson, Mr C Burger (Conductor), T Matus (Chairman), Mrs Y Reyburn (Accompanist), O Mdoniyama, G Stephens, A Molefe, C Lane.

Back Row L-R: M Eccles, S Nombekela, D Molvoer, H van den Berg, B Theron, T Bagshaw, J Pitman, J Hinch, KJ Tsai, P van Zweel, JW Viljoen, A Niewoudt.