



The Outreach Programme – 2006

When I look at the Outreach Programme at Boys High, I am sometimes amazed at what has been achieved in four short years. What began as a simple intention to reach out to the wider (and less fortunate) community has produced some wonderful moments and deeply satisfying results. In this time we have painted murals at a centre for Aids orphans, established two libraries (one at a rural school, the other at a squatter camp school), taught Mathematics and Science to children from the townships, begun feeding schemes and met and made friends across cultural, economic and language barriers.

This year we decided to broaden the scope of our collections for the needy in our larger community by making this a sort of ‘planned giving’ by the whole school community.

Early in the year an appeal was made to the parents to collect different items in different months of the year. The idea was that an item or two added to one’s regular shopping trolley would not be felt. The result was astounding!

In the first three months of the year we collected enough school stationery to equip all the children at The Bramley Children’s Home and the Louis Botha Children’s Home, as well as two of the street shelters we support, for the entire year! When one knows how little is supplied to orphans by the state, one realises how important this was to them. Our next drive was for clothing (old and new), jerseys and blankets for the winter months and this, too, exceeded all expectations and allowed us to ensure a warmer winter for many of the children in the homes and shelters we help on a regular basis. The baby food and cleaning materials collected in the latter part of the year went to schools in the squatter camps. On behalf of all those who benefited, we thank the parents for their generous hearts.

The various other branches of the Outreach Programme continued to flourish.

The Social Outreach Society, under the cheerful and inspired direction of Mrs Penny Vlag has grown apace. The emphasis here falls on social interaction between the members of the society and boys from the street shelters, the Eersterus Care Centre and the Mohau Centre for Aids Orphans at the Kalafong Hospital. In my opinion, these afternoons are among the most unforgettable experiences of the year.

The V.H.Y.L. (Vedic Hindu Youth League) under the very able chairmanship of Savaal Singh, has been a shining example to all, collecting and distributing food and vegetables to those in need. They also made a large donation of stationery to Bramley. We look forward to a time when all the clubs at Boys High will be involved in some kind of outreach.

The Mathematics department, along with school-boy volunteers, continues to give fortnightly extra lessons to the pupils of Jaftha Mahlangu School and to hold workshops for the teachers from the township schools. The Science Department, in collaboration with the Shuttleworth Foundation, remains involved in mentorship programmes with both teachers and pupils of disadvantaged schools. School text books for English, Computer Science, Mathematics and Science have also been donated to various schools and the schoolboys are at present collecting books for the establishment of a library at a school in Mamelodi.

We have a number of plans for expanding the Outreach Programme in the new year and look forward to the challenges of living in and trying to make a better South Africa for all – even if only in our own small backyard.

Helene Donaldson, Teacher-in-Charge Outreach Programme



Mrs Vlag at Mohau.



Delivering stationery to Bramley Children’s Home.

Social Outreach

The past year has been a busy and very rewarding year for those involved in the outreach. As Master-in-Charge it has been most encouraging for me to see the number of boys getting involved in the different aspects of the society.

We have continued with our involvement in the Salvokop Street Shelter. The soccer games have become very popular on a Friday afternoon and the competition between the two sides has become quite fierce. Our boys have improved their soccer skills and are delighted if they can beat the shelter.

The two other aspects of our outreach – the Eersterust Care Centre and Mohau, the Aids centre at Kalafong Hospital – have also continued. Visits to Mohau are the highlight of every term and it is difficult to turn boys away because we only take sixteen to eighteen boys per visit. I take much pleasure in watching the boys interact with the small children and it is certainly an eye-opener to see even the naughtiest boys in a very different light. This is an experience that I wish each boy in the school could enjoy as it has certainly enriched the lives of those who have gone with us.

A new venture was launched this year involving Bramley Children's home. We were approached by Mr Pieter Cronje who asked if any of our boys would be prepared to give up a couple of hours on a Sunday afternoon to fly kites and play games with a group of children from the home. The dedication of our boys has been amazing as each time I have had five or six boys who have joined the children. This is really a sacrifice on the part of the boys and I appreciate it immensely.

At the end of every year we have to say good-bye to our matrics and once again I need to express my sincere thanks to Sebastian Kunert, who has been a wonderful chairman; Shaun Fickling and Magnus Banda. They led the society by their example and enthusiasm.

My thanks also go to Mrs Helene Donaldson who is always there when we need her, is taxi driver on our trips to Mohau and is a constant source of encouragement. Dr Helena Kruger also came on board this year and she has given unstintingly of her time, both on Fridays and Sundays. I can truly say that we have had a good year.

Mrs P Vlag, Master-in-Charge

2006 has been a very active year filled with lots of enjoyment and irreplaceable memories. The number of boys who have taken part in the society has grown and this has been very encouraging.

Many boys who join underestimate the importance and value of the social outreach programme to the community. Being part of the society requires one to be emotionally strong and it requires a fair amount of commitment that few are prepared to offer.

As I come to the end of my time at Boys High, I have come to realise all the personal lessons I have been privileged to learn. Showing compassion to others should not only happen on a Friday afternoon when the society is playing soccer or visiting the aids orphanage. It should be shown all the time, everyday, everywhere and to everyone. I have learned to appreciate my life with the people in it. The small things, no matter how bad, remind me that there are others who are worse off than I am. I have learned to be thankful for what I have.

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who were involved in making this year a special and successful one. Mrs Vlag and Mrs Donaldson – it was pleasure working with such caring, compassionate and loving people. You are two in a million and an example to many. To all the boys involved in the society, thank you for trying to make a difference in the world.

Sebastian Kunert, Chairman

Social Outreach Society



*Front Row L–R: T Dreyer, M Banda, S Kunert, M Grimbeek, S Fickling.
Back Row L–R: Mrs P Vlag, S Singh, Dr H Kruger.*



The R.C.L. at Pretoria Boys High School functions primarily as the voice of the pupils, supplying a platform for their needs, concerns, suggestions and grievances. The Chairman and the Teacher Liaison Officer meet with the Headmaster fortnightly and the Chairman also attends the quarterly meeting of the School Governing Body. Here any matters raised at the regular meetings are brought to the attention of both the Headmaster and the Governors.

The second function of the R.C.L. is as a body that raises funds and distributes these to various charitable organizations. The Form I Charity Sports Day was held in the winter term this year and raised the astounding sum of R15,000, a record for which we must thank the 25 Solomon House boys who collected R5,000 on their own! They deserve our congratulations. The quarterly 'civvies' days netted us R18,000 and the International Day, most ably organized and run by the Form IV group, raised in excess of R20,000. The odd sales of popcorn made another R2,000.

The money raised during the year was then distributed to organizations chosen by the R.C.L. at our annual Charity Assembly held in November. The five organizations which each received R10,000 were The

Salvakop Street Shelter, Bramley Children's Home, The Mohau Centre for Aids orphans, The Wet Nose Animal Rescue Centre and Streetwise.

The task of R.C.L. Liaison Officer is not one I find onerous. It gives me the opportunity to see the finest in the boys. Their commitment to others and their unselfish donation of their time and energy – something a teenager has little of – continue to warm my heart. It is immensely satisfying to see this in a world so concerned with self-gratification. It is also good to know that we are sending out into the world citizens who are aware of the needs of others and of those less privileged. South Africa has need of citizens like this.

The R.C.L. functioned quietly and efficiently under the able and enthusiastic Chairmanship of Ofentse Molonyama. His warmth, caring attitude and willingness to support my every suggestion – and ignore the demands made upon his time – made him a joy to work with. My sincere thanks also go to Johash Sigapragasan, the Vice-Chairman for his unstinting support and to our secretary Lee Scott for his timeous delivery of the minutes of each meeting.

Helene Donaldson, R.C.L. Liaison Officer



Form I Sports Day.



Form I Sports Day.



International Day

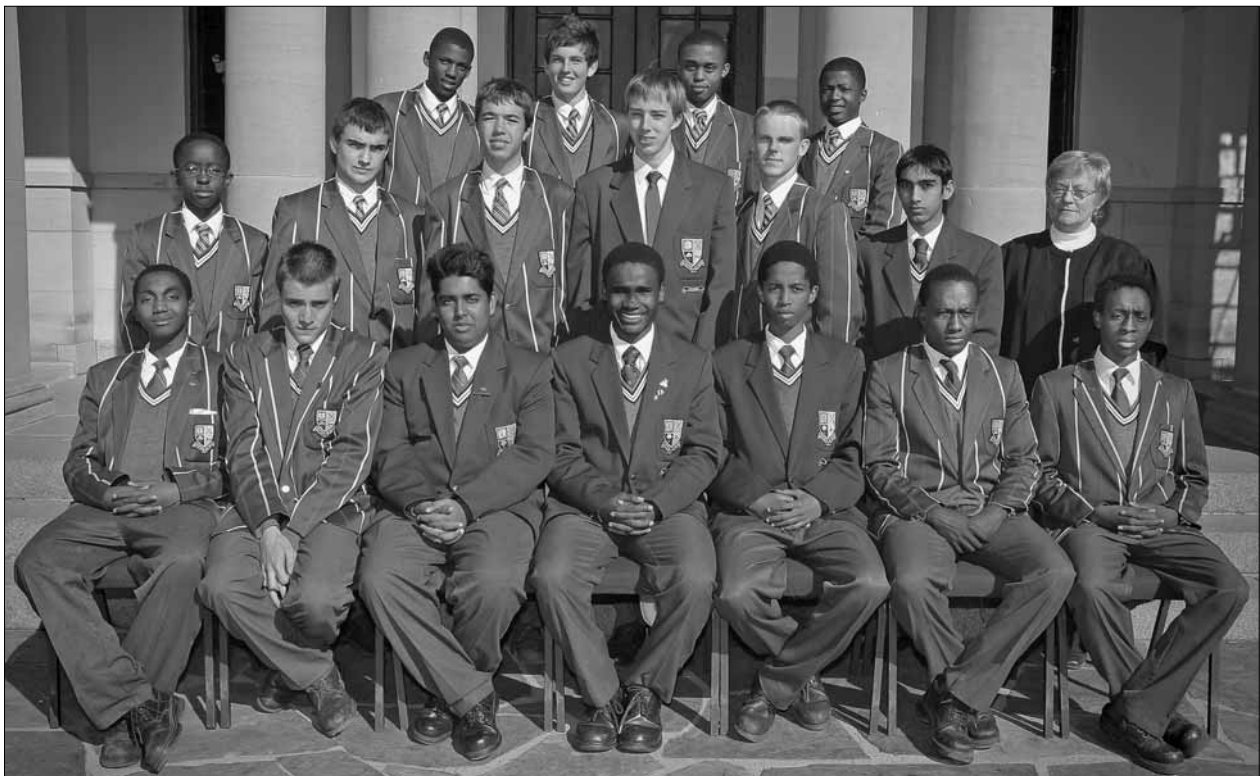
James Brawley; Mr Alan O'Brien; Nic Jordaan



International Day

'Taking time out' Micahel du Plooy and Mr Schroder

RCL



*Front Row L-R: I Kotane, P Lombard, J Sigapragasan (Vice Chairman), O Molonyama, T Moloko, M Khosa, O Teisho.
Middle Row L-R: L Motha, D Nel, N Kruse, T Bagshaw, P Pearce, S Ram, Mrs Donaldson.
Back Row L-R: B Motlhatlhego, C Kearns-Eastwick, T Skosana.*



*International Day – Sunnyside House
Sean Gilbride; Heuriko Swanepoel; Phillip Voutsas; Gary Cloete; Nicholas Marais;
Siddhartha Ram; Warren Ackhurst*



*International Day – Town House
Nicoelaos Romanos; Angelo Lazarides;
Lesidi Mashishi; Lesidi Nake*



*International Day – Abernethy House
Michael du Plooy and Willem Potgieter*



*International day – School House
Devon Mackenzie; Shaun Landsberg;
Heinrich van den Berg; Deon Nel*



What is the one thing you always looked forward to in the mornings, at breaks and after school. What is the one place which gave you peace of mind during a rough day at school. The answer is so obvious that you don't even have to think twice.

This year, the Media Centre has evolved to a greater height. We celebrated the annual World Book Day by allowing users to return their overdue books without having to pay a fine. Users also received bookmarks which were made by the Media Prefects.

With our focus in 2006 to get as many boys as possible to read, we were proud to introduce a new initiative. The Media Centre therefore held a three day book sale, which turned out to be very successful. With Jonathan Cerveira and Trevor Mampuru controlling payment, it was interesting to see the variety of books bought, with topics ranging from cooking, how to make chocolate to the art of warfare and many others. Staff members and parents also supported us by buying books. A total of R15 000 was made as a result of this endeavour. In November, a smaller book sale was held for the staff only, which also proved an amazing success.

Under the auspices of Mrs Theron, we also participated in an Inter-School speed-reading competition held at Hoërskool Menlopark, in which media prefect Edward Naicker Form IV achieved second place, reading 336 words per minute. We entered two teams, a junior and senior, with a total of eight boys participating.

As far as Outreach to the community is concerned, the Media Centre has also been involved in helping establish the Banareng Primary School Library, in Atteridgeville. This is a school with which Boys High has a very special relationship. Mrs Theron, Mrs Mahlangu, and a team of Media Prefects went to Banareng on two occasions and assisted in sorting out their books. We also took along stationery and books collected by Boys High students. Finally, when the Banareng Library was complete, we were invited to attend the official opening by the Headmistress, Mrs Paulina Sithole. This was a day that we will always remember after experiencing the joy of those school children who have so much less than we. We also met people from the Japanese Embassy and lecturers and students from an American university who were also involved in funding and assisting at the school. One of our media prefects, Lucky Mathegana Form 5, Solomon House, a former student from Banareng Primary, was also invited to attend.

As far as the school's clubs and societies are concerned, our GP Room and lecture room facilities are used by them for many of their activities and meetings. What attracted many boys to use our centre are the beautiful displays and themes that are represented in the Media Centre. The displays

were put up by Savaal Singh and Jonathan Cerveira and other media prefects who came to work during the weekends. We give thanks to these boys who gave up a couple of their Saturdays to improve the Media Centre as well as those media prefects who varnished and sanded desks, restored shelves and performed a variety of other tasks.

This year, the Media Prefects again went to Tonquani to have a weekend of fun and relaxation. What made it more special was the new Media Prefect T-shirts which we wore. We were very proud of wearing these and plan to wear them to all future events where we will be going as a group.

At the beginning of this year we also had Johash Sigapragasan Form V joining the Media Prefect group for the first time. With his diligence and hard work he set an example to all our Media Prefects.

Our library assistant, Mrs Mavis Mahlangu, had a busy time this year packing books and trying to restore order in the very busy library and we appreciate her hard work.

We look forward to an exciting 2007 and hope that the Media Centre grows from strength to strength.

Kefilwe Ndala (Head Media Prefect)
Savaal Singh (Form IV)

Colours awards

Full Colours

Kefilwe Ndala	Form V
Jonathan Cerveira	Form IV
Paul Roebuck	Form IV

Half Colours

Edward Nicker	Form IV
Lesedi Nake	Form IV
Savaal Singh	Form IV
Teboho Radebe	Form IV
Xavier Bezuidenhout	Form III
Trevor Mampuru	Form III

Top readers

Jack Shih	Form II, Hofmeyr	64
Duane Havenga	Form II, Hofmeyr	54
Yuan-Chih	Form I, Hofmeyr	45
Wando Ndimini	Form IV, Armstrong	44
Sibusiso Masters	Form I, Abernethy	41
Willie Viljoen	Form II, Sunnyside	34

Media Prefect Camp

Once again, the year reached the point where the media prefects had to escape their daily routine and go camping at Tonquani.

The camp was arranged by Jonathan Cerveira with the assistance of Marco da Silva and Kefilwe Ndala, while Old Boys, Nathan Williams and Ryan Kichenbrand purchased all the food and made all the delicious salads.

This year there were twenty-two prefects joining us at Tonquani to have a relaxing weekend.

The journey to Tonquani was completed in two waves because we had only one combi available. The first trip was taken by Mr Fowler, Savaal Singh and the Form I and Form 2 media monitors and the second by Mr and Mrs Theron and the senior media prefects. The juniors had to set up camp while waiting for the seniors to arrive. Under the supervision of Savaal Singh they had a fun time canoeing on the dam. Boettiger, Boshoff, Vandeyar and Roodt showed some unusual rowing skills when they had to salvage the boat from the freezing water. That night we all had a braai at the Kakkelaar Cottage. Everybody had fun braaing trying not to burn the meat, except Trevor Mampuru who wasn't that fortunate.

Later we were divided into groups and fled towards the orange plantation, in what was initially supposed to have been the ordinary 'stalk the lantern'. After a horrendous scream from Musi Kahimbaara, oranges

were flung from all directions. It eventually took the coming of the brave Mr Fowler, and old boys, Nathan and Ryan to mark an end to that horrendous 'norange' war.

Later that night while everybody went back to the camp, Trevor Mampuru, Edward Nicker, Savaal Singh and Jonathan Cerveira went to the Kakkelaar Cottage to have a chat and hot chocolate with Mrs Theron until the early hours of the morning. Unfortunately, Savaal had a problem staying awake and we continuously had to wake him up.

The next morning after waking up everybody went to Kakkelaar Cottage for rusks and coffee. Breakfast was prepared by the Form IVs on the skottel braai. For dessert we all cooked 'stokbrood' over the coals. After breakfast we prepared for the long walk to the Eastern Kloof. To our surprise we found the kloof exceptionally dry, but we were very lucky to find a lovely pool in which to swim. We enjoyed lunch at the pool and had a fun-filled afternoon playing cards and swimming.

That afternoon after enjoying a coke and cake we played 'Mafia' under Grant Stephens' guidance till sunset. After supper we chatted till late around the fire where Robert Basson, previous Head Media Prefect gave us some good advice on the privileges of being a Media Prefect at such a wonderful school. Later at the camp we enjoyed listening to music till late at night. Some guys had fun dancing while some could not even find the rhythm to the music.

Media Prefects



*Front Row L-R: T Radebe, J Cerveira, J Sigapragasan, M da Silva, Mrs A Theron, K Ndala, G Stephens, T Bagshaw, E Naicker.
Middle Row L-R: N Ali, T Mampuru, G Kurtz, P Roebuck, S Singh, E Wesigye, L Nake, M Kahimbaara, T Tembo, D Havenga, A Pillai, B Harle.
Back Row L-R: R Oakes, N Roodt, G Cronje, T Boettiger, R Boshoff, T Mphelo, S Makina, J Viljoen, C Stephens, F van Stratten, K Nake, R Smart,
T Sekwele, X Bezuidenhout.*



The next morning we all slept a little later except for a few of the early birds who could not wait for coffee and rusks. After we packed our things we once again made our way up to the Kakkelaar Cottage for brunch, where Mrs Theron made her famous 'papert'. After the bus had departed, the rest of us stayed behind to clean up. We all had a feast eating the left over food before we headed back to school

Our sincere thanks to Mr and Mrs Theron, Mr Fowler and the Old Boys, Robert Basson, Nathan Williams and Ryan Kichenbrand.

Jonathan Cerveira (Form 4)

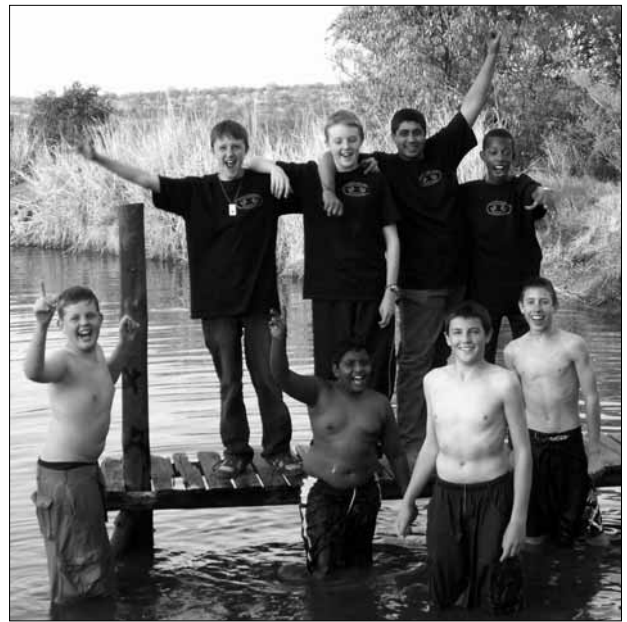
Willie Viljoen (Form 2)



Headmistress Paulina Sithole and Lucky Mathekgana at the opening of the library at Bonareng Primary School.



Stokbrood and syrup for breakfast.



Savaal Singh with the brave juniors in the ice cold mud dam.



The Junior Monitors testing their rowing skills.