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TransDale Extra



150th Anniversary Reunion Special, Part 1

UNFORGETTABLE!

The 2011 Dale Reunion: After 150 great years, the biggest and the best, a resounding success



WE DID IT! Supporters hoist coach Grant Griffith aloft as they celebrate Dale's nail-biting 7-3 Reunion win over Queen's College.

This was the climax of an unprecedented weekend marking the school's 150th anniversary year.

An estimated 15 000 to 20 000 spectators watched a close match.

RIGHT: Four-time Old Dalian national president Dr Paul Smit, flanked by Dale Junior cheer leaders Onelisiwe Fani and Morgan Venter at the Reunion Assembly.

*** PICTURES: RICHARD DOMERIS and KEVIN WHITEHEAD**

*** HOW DALE DID IT – Pages 22-23**



Our Reunion space mission

By **WARWICK OSMOND**

WHEN May 19, 2011, dawned, I felt something like an astronaut would feel just before blasting off into space. My crew and I, were about to board this beast, which once it ignited and left the launch pad would be unstoppable.

That beast was Reunion 2011. And yes, we rode it, and yes, it was unstoppable. But like a successful space shuttle mission, we brought it back to earth safely.

Like any space programme, planning for Reunion 2011 started years ago. At first we had a 150th Steering Committee, including members from each of the school's three entities, Dale College, Dale Junior and the Old Dalian Union.

This committee has been responsible for coordinating all 150th activities and continues to do so.

In August last year, the ODU executive committee set up a sub-committee to plan the Reunion weekend.

Dr Paul Smit chaired this committee representing all groups which would play a role over the weekend.

At an early stage in the planning it was agreed to use the services of an events management company and Chris Micklewood and Kim Johnson of Sportsfan Eventing came on board.

Chris and Kim took over a lot of the logistical arrangements, taking a large part of the burden off the committee.

The main focus of the committee was on fine-tuning the



ON GUARD . . . Sentries parade before a crowded stadium celebrating Dale's 150th anniversary.
* **Picture: KEVIN WHITEHEAD**

How we rode the beast and landed safely

schedule of events and on preparing the personnel to manage various activities.

Since May last year, the college has been a hive of activity with a number of upgrade projects on the go. Before the Under 15 Rugby Festival held in June last year, Frank Joubert House received an internal renewal.

During the cricket season, new sight-screens were erected at the A-field. During the December holidays a team of workers was busy painting the school buildings.

Before the Thanksgiving and Dedication service in January, the pavilion and adjacent buildings were painted and repaired.

The Thanksgiving and Dedication Service, held on Friday, January 21, was a great success.

The drab old pavilion was transformed into something Romanesque by us-



SMILE OF SUCCESS
... Dale's deputy headmaster tells how his team planned and ran this year's memorable Reunion

ing draping, banners and flora. Rugby stands were arranged in a semi-circle in front of the pavilion to create an amphitheatre.

A tent was erected at the apex of the semi-circle to offer shade or shelter to the invited guests.

It was a spectacular affair and the goal of launching the 150th year in a formal and appropriate manner was achieved.

It was after this event that the Reunion planning committee decided to use the same format for the Reunion Assembly.

On January 24, the Monday after the Thanksgiving and Dedication Service, builders moved into the Malcom Andrew Sports Centre to begin renovations.

By the end of that first week the old building was nothing but a shell. Work progressed at a gallop and a month before the

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Kangela eDale College
...
Young Daliens render the War Cry





NEW AND READY FOR REUNION . . . The revamped Malcom Andrew Sports Centre

From Page 2 deadline the structural work of the updated MASC was completed.

The carpenters and fitters were then able to get into the building and complete the necessary finishings.

Because the new Malcom Andrew Sports Centre had taken over the old PTA tuckshop, The Gouv was converted into a tuckshop, returning the tuckshop to its original venue.

This work was completed just in time for the first home rugby match against Stirling. The changing rooms on the far end of the pavilion were converted into new public toilets.

This job was completed on the morning of the Reunion Assembly. The last coat of paint was being applied as the guests were taking their seats!

Separate to all this building activity, but still of great importance to the school, a changing room and tuckshop facility was added at the hockey astro and completed.

The changing room facility was ready for Reunion.

Before we knew it, the Reunion weekend was upon us. The Golf Day, which ignited the weekend programme, was a great success.

What a race against time . . . but we made it

*** Pictures: KEVIN WHITEHEAD**

From there the action was transferred to Dale Junior for the usual Thursday night finger supper. This was bigger and louder than in past years, with lots of laughter and banter between old friends.

The weather was kind to us. We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day for all the outdoor formalities on the Friday morning.

The Memorial and Reunion Assemblies at the CB Jennings Field went off as planned. By all accounts, the unusual venue, away from the Hallowed Courtyard, did not detract from the dignity of the occasion.

The Friday afternoon programme included a display by EP Skydivers of Grahamstown, the SAPS mounted unit, Caledonian Pipers, a rugby

match between Dale and Queen's "Legends" - narrowly won by Queen's - and a rugby carnival by Dale Junior Under 7s.

A Sing-Song by Dale boys at the pavilion preceded the First XI hockey match in the evening. Dale lost this game by three goals to one.

A formal dinner was held in the ODU Assembly Hall that evening, with (Prof) Andy Andrews as the guest speaker.

He had the guests in stitches of laughter with his almost conversational speech. (See Pages 5-6.)

At the marquees on the B-field the party rocked with the band Third Degree providing the entertainment.

The Saturday started with a fantastic breakfast where HO de Villiers, as guest speaker, was superb.

Another exciting feature of the breakfast was the auctioning of a stud bull, which fetched R23 000. After the breakfast the focus of attention was on sport.

Excitement mounted throughout the day as we anticipated the first team rugby match.

The arrival of the Dale cheerleaders by helicopter owned by an Old Dalian, Darron Gudmanz To Page 4

We were humbled, says ex-head Andy



"BACK HOME" . . . Ex-headmaster Malcom Andrew at Reunion with his wife Pam and Old Dalians Derek Moodie and John Kirk. ODU 1999 national president Derek lives at Wesley, near Peddie, John in Dundee, KwaZulu-Natal.

MALCOM ANDREW, headmaster of Dale from 1982-1996, and his wife Pam were among honoured guests at this year's celebratory Reunion. Andy writes:

"Pam and I came away humbled by the very warm welcome we received - from staff, ex-parents and from hostel and ground staff who came up and hugged us. It was truly great to be back among old friends.

"What impressed us was the number of first-generation Old Dalians from Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal who attended the Friday Assembly/Memorial Service and the rugby on the Saturday.

"The FNB lady, who put together the Classic Clashes schools' rugby programme, estimated the crowd on the Saturday afternoon at between 15 000 and 20 000. This has to be a record!

"The vibe from Dalians and Old Dalians on the other side of the field was something special.

Present Dalians have the same manners, pride in their school and the same determination to succeed as previous generations. We were humbled by what we saw."

Aerial kick-off for Reunion



RECORD Reunion crowds watched spectacular aerial displays over the CB Jennings Field. On Friday, skydivers landed amid fire and smoke. On Saturday, a helicopter landed Dale cheerleaders Odwa Mtyida (left), Mhlahi Noyila and Siyavuya Jojozi. A fly-past by light aircraft and the main rugby match provided a thrilling climax.



And what a party after the rugby!

From Page 3 (1981) of East London, and a fly-past by light planes organised by James Wardle, father of Justin Wardle, an Old Dalian, thrilled the capacity crowd.

The rugby match, as expected, was a tough encounter. Dale took an early seven-point lead and Queen's narrowed this to only four points with a penalty.

Dale had to defend against wave after wave of attacks by the Queen's players in the latter part of the game and held on to win by seven points to three.

When the final whistle blew, players

*** Pictures: RICHARD DOMERIS**

and coaches were swamped in the centre of the field by thousands of rapturous supporters. Festivities continued into the early hours of Sunday morning with revellers at the marquees rocking to the beat of the band Centre Stage.

At the Monday Assembly there was a subdued atmosphere among staff and boys.

Everyone knew they had been part of something special in the history of the school.

Years of planning and expectation had materialised in a spectacle and an experience

beyond imagining.

We had ridden the beast, we had achieved our objectives and we had come safely back to earth. Mission accomplished - what satisfaction. Every member of the Dale Family who has been a part of this momentous year, in any big or small way, deserves a high five and a big "thank you."

And it is not over yet! The Dale Junior Hockey Festival and Cape Schools Rugby Week, both hosted by Dale, have followed. The Cross-country Festival begins in October.

THE LEGACY OF DALE

*** As guest speaker, Prof Grenville (Andy) Andrews enthralled his audience at the Reunion 2011 dinner.**

Here are edited extracts from his inspiring and entertaining address in which he paid tribute to the institution that “shaped and continues to shape” Old Dalian lives.

By ANDY ANDREWS

WHEN my matric class of 1961 left Dale 50 years ago the world was a bit like Charles Dickens’ opening lines in “A Tale of Two Cities:” “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times . . .”

But for us 1961s, it was definitely the best of times. We had everything good before us, although we did not know it then. Why? Because we Old Dalians had won the lottery of life!

We were given great gifts. We were given a solid, excellent education, came from good, loving families, good homes and started jobs in an economy experiencing incredible growth.

We were born into the “baby boomer” era where anything was possible. We did not face devastating depressions or world wars like our parents experienced. What a world of opportunity we faced, having had the benefit of being exposed to a group of dedicated teachers at Dale.

At Dale you learnt about the difference between reality and

theory. We were also educated by the sons of Transkei traders and Peddie farmers who gave us amazing insight into how the world worked.

Something has remained with us since leaving Dale – a bunch of acquired attitudes and values. Some learnt at home, others at Dale.

We found that at Dale individuality was valued. You could do “your own thing.” You “owned up” if asked “Who broke that window?” You swore “to your colours” and everyone knew it was the truth.

I believe we treated each other, teachers and scholars, with respect.

- We won the lottery of life, says Andy
- Dale gave us the confidence to succeed
- It taught us principles that served us well

Teamwork was essential to survival.

You learnt to give of your best – even if you did not win you made sure that the guy who did win broke the record.

But what remains with us? What beyond friendships that have lasted half a century? I think Dale gave us four kinds of intelligence that have served us very and will continue to serve all Old Dalians.

The first kind is that of “spiritual intelli-

gence” – a sense of purpose, something outside you that seeks a greater good, a search and the passion to make a worthy contribution.

One quotation might capture this: “We all live under the same sky – but have different horizons.”

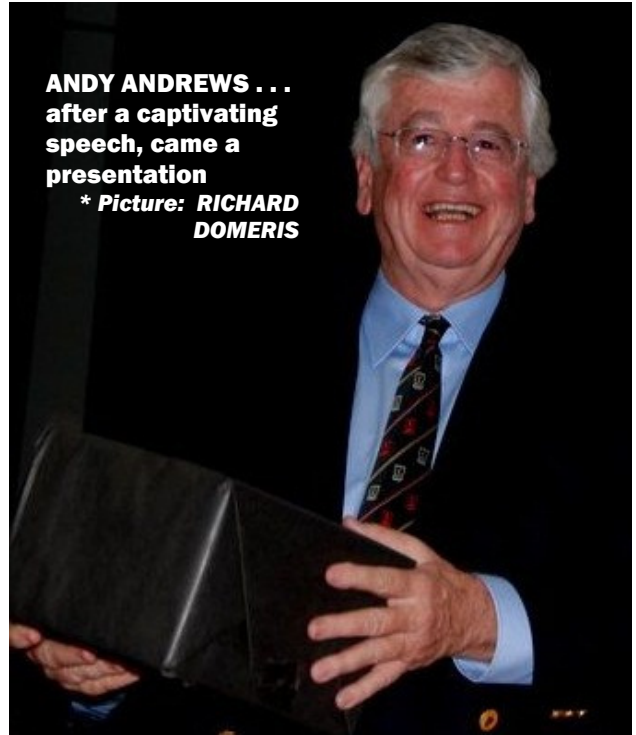
The second kind of intelligence is a “moral intelligence,” an appreciation of what is “right.” The ability to see “true worth” on your moral compass. Knowing what is the right thing to do and what is “non-negotiable.”

No lies, no half-truths and no exceptions to rules and standards.

It is no accident that Dale has produced many exceptional men. They include . . .

- * Three Victoria Cross recipients.
- * International sportsmen: Buster Farrer, HO de Villiers, Ackie Ackerman and Makhaya Ntini. Not many schools can match this.
- * Outstanding doctors and lawyers. Business leaders such as Ian Marais and Neil Harvey.
- * Theologians like

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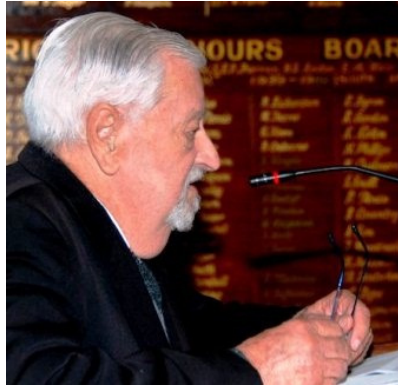
ANDY ANDREWS . . . after a captivating speech, came a presentation

*** Picture: RICHARD DOMERIS**



Front row (from left): Peter and Penny Terbrugge, HO de Villiers and Old Queenian Robbie and Meryl Muzzell. Back: Barbara and Bertie Butler, Pam and Alan Kietzmann

*** Picture: KEVIN WHITEHEAD**



OUR JACK . . . Grit and guts
* Pictures: RICHARD DOMERIS

The courage of Uncle Jack: Duty first

OLD DALIAN PRO Jack Rosenberg, aged 83, showed typical guts and devotion to duty when he appeared at Reunion after collapsing with a heart ailment two days before the opening day. Having spent months preparing the Old Dalian side of Reunion, Jack was rushed to intensive care in an East London hospital.

But by Friday he was back, wheelchair driven on to the school grounds to attend the historic events marking the college's 150th anniversary.

Jack attended the morning Assembly and the evening dinner, where he joined other past-presidents to receive awards from guest speaker Prof Andy Andrews.

Next morning he attended the breakfast, rose to introduce guest speaker HO de Villiers and to receive a President's Emeritus Award for dedicated service. Now Jack is recuperating at his King William's Town home after a heart valve and bypass operation.

We wish him a speedy and lasting recovery. Go well, Jack!

Andy on a lighter note

AMID the more serious aspects of Andy Andrews' speech, he dropped in some stories that had his audience in stitches. Two samples:

* We were very innocent in those days. When a little boy from Sutton House asked his Gran: "What is it called when two people in the same room sleep on top of the other?" Gran decided it was time to explain in detail about the "Birds and the Bees."

Five minutes later the boy was back. "Gran," he said, "It's called bunk beds and Jimmy's mother wants to have a word with you."

* We learnt how to spot a good deal from a bad one. Three Old Boys from Dale, Selborne and Queen's were talking about their best pub.

The Old Dalian says: "In King there's a pub that if you have three drinks they give you one for free."

The Selbornian says: "In East London there's a pub where if you have five drinks they give you one free."



IN STITCHES . . . Rob Mellon (left) and Stuart Sutton have a good laugh * Picture: RICHARD DOMERIS

"That's nothing," says the Old Queenian. "In Queenstown there's a pub where they give you five drinks for two hours, then they take you upstairs for two hours of sex."

"That's amazing," say the other two. "Did this happen to you?" "No," says the Queenian, "but it happened to my sister."

Dale made real men - stars and unsung heroes

From Page 5 Brian Jennings and HOC Coventry.

We can go on and on. Dale has developed thousands of real men. Unsung heroes in their own right.

By developing the four kinds of intelligence, Dale provides a subtle kind of confidence. A belief that they can achieve in their own way.

If you have someone who believes

in you, you can feel it. A coach, a teacher, a parent can make such a difference. Russell Searle believed that HO would play for South Africa. Percy Davis believed that Ackie would be a superstar.

A school like Dale facilitates this process of building the belief and character that enables Dalians to make key strategic choices. We are the result of those choices and how we use the tal-

ents and opportunities given us.

As Dale speeds towards its 200th year it will continue to develop young men who will make their own choices and will shape the destiny of South Africa and the world.

What an exciting time it will be! We cannot imagine it but Old Dalians will prosper in it - no matter what the future holds and brings.

BREAKFAST WITH HO

By **BARRY TURNER**

ONE OF Dale's most famous sons, Springbok prince of rugby fullbacks and the man who changed the style of fullback play, HO de Villiers, captivated a 150th anniversary Reunion breakfast audience in the Old Dalian Assembly Hall.

HO, as he has always been known at Dale, was a boarder from Grade 8 to Grade 12. He was headboy and First XV captain in 1963.

The venue seating more than 260 guests was a glittering spectacle, thanks to the wives and helpers of the ODU executive who transformed the dinner banquet hall of the previous evening into a venue to grace the occasion. An equally fitting breakfast was served.

To kick off, headmaster Mike Eddy received a token cheque for R30, 000 from Brian Stanley of FNB for Dale hosting the Classic Clash rugby game.

Out in the Hallowed Courtyard in a portable pen was an equally fine specimen of a St Gertrudis show value bull that was later auctioned at the breakfast.

The bull was donated by stud breeder Old Dalian Kietzmann from Thornhill, near Port Elizabeth, with the proceeds going to the ODU.

The fine specimen of "Hallowed Bull" was auctioned by AJ Robb also as a token of donation and was knocked down at R23,000.

An emotional but controlled HO was introduced by Old Dalian PRO Jack Rosenberg, bravely battling the aftermath of a pre-Reunion heart-



Stud breeder Alan Kietzmann with wife Pam with HO de Villiers and the bull he donated for auctioning at the 150th anniversary Reunion * Story: Page 12

Rugby hero looks back at life at Dale, what it did for him and the success that followed



AHA, AHA , AHA. . . Whisky Bertram, from Perth, Australia, leads the Dale War Cry (below)

*** Pictures: KEVIN WHITEHEAD**

related collapse.

HO took his audience through his life from a boarder at Dale, his friends at boarding school, the teachers who influenced him, did not like him and to his mentor and headmaster, the legendary RW (Russell/Johnny) Searle.

HO was touched by what he has seen at Dale: the changes reflected in the demographics but still maintaining what is dear to all Old Dalians, the upholding of traditions.

To illustrate what he meant, he called up his old friend Old Dalian Whisky Bertram (former cheerleader and First XV player) who had flown in from Australia for Reunion. Whisky scored the only try of the Centenary game to give Dale the win over Selborne.

Bertram appeared from behind the stage curtains dressed in his Dale cheerleader's outfit to lead the Old Boys in a rendition of the War Cry.

HO's talk, interspersed with fun, took us through the path of rugby and of climbing the ladder of success. He spoke about the disappointments, the highs and the fun characters that made up his life on the sportsfields and the social circles that he kept.

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HO, Bobby and Co meet again - and recall a magic occasion



TWENTY-FIVE years ago Dale rugby hero HO de Villiers gave young Dalian Robert (Bobby) Gemmell a green-and-gold jersey (numbered 10 for Naas Botha) at the Reunion to mark Dale’s 125th anniversary. He gave other jerseys to Dalians Malcolm Lenz (N. Transvaal), Andrew van Zyl (E. Province) and Mark Wainwright (W. Province), seen with HO and Bobbie in this 1986 picture.

At Reunion 2011, celebrating Dale’s 150th, HO met outgoing ODU president Gemmell and Wainwright (on HO’s right) again and reminisced. Bobby still has his Springbok jersey, but Mark’s, once worn by WP and Bok wing Carel du Plessis, has since been stolen.
* Reunion pictures: RICHARD DOMERIS and KEVIN WHITEHEAD

HO: Dale taught me to think

From Page 7 He kept his audience captivated with referrals to his schoolmates in the audience and also to the characters on the rugby fields and in Test teams.

He spoke about his family, his trips to New Zealand, where his daughter lives, and how the sports fields and the education at Dale College taught him humility and the ability to think and to think fast.

His fame at Dale as a rugby player and head-boy did not prevent him from receiving the occasional disciplinary cane from his mentor, RW Searle. What is more, he was not singled out or mollycoddled.

HO has made a success of his life through hard work and the Dale motto – Per Ardua ad Astra.

He touched upon the banter that he always exchanged with the late Minister of Sport – Steve Tshwete – and how they would discuss “what if” had they played against each other.

Steve was educated at Forbes Grant in King and always admired Dale and the products of Dale. He was barred from attending, but in the New SA his son and nephew did so.



BASHER DAYS . . . HO looks back

For the occasion HO donned a school blazer and basher to add to the occasion and to bring home what Dale means to him.

His humanitarian side came

through when talking about his close friend, the great cricketer and Old Dalian Hylton Ackerman, for whom he set up a committee to raise funds when Hylton was stricken with diabetes and kidney failure.

His ability to raise funds and put into place a banquet in Hylton’s honour where a cheque of considerable amount presented was placed into trust.

This was a breakfast of laughter and emotion. Old Dalian barrister Peter Allan, who had flown in from New Zealand, presented HO with a token of appreciation from the Old Dalian Union to commemorate the morning of fun, formality and a serious side of a great talk.

Allan was a deputy headboy of Dale, Dale First XV vice-captain, honours recipient for rugby, a team-mate of HO at one time and also a great athlete.

An emotional HO also received a laminated and preserved letter from his Under 15 rugby coach, where Zach Maree explained why he switched HO to fullback “because he would not part with the ball at centre.”



WINNER: Whisky and 646 kg bull

The bull that raised R23 000 for ODU

OLD DALIAN Alan Kietzmann (1956– 1970), a Santa Gertrudis stud breeder from Thornhill, near Port Elizabeth, brought a performance-tested stud bull to be auctioned at 2011 150th anniversary Dale Reunion.

Breeders from Port Elizabeth, Cradock and Cathcart, interested in buying the bull, were referred to the Old Dalian Reunion. The halter-trained bull was paraded in the Hallowed Courtyard on the Friday night and before the HO de Villiers breakfast the next morning. It was an auctioned by an Old Queenian, AJ Robb, and knocked down to the Port Elizabeth buyer for R23 000.

The entire proceedings were donated to Old Dalian Union projects.

* A contest to estimate the bull’s weight was shared by Whisky Bertram from Perth, Australia, and another Old Dalian. Each won R250. Whisky returned his share. The bull’s weight: 646kg.

We'll Keep a Welcome for you Old Boys

. . . when you come home again to Dale



By STUART SUTTON (headboy 1983)

SOME years ago, I came across a stirring Welsh anthem, entitled “We’ll Keep a Welcome,” sung by a male Welsh choir. They sang of welcoming back their countrymen, when they “Come Home Again to Wales.”

It struck me then, that with minor adjustments, this would make a fitting Reunion song, which could be performed by the Dale College Choir.

With only days to go to Dale’s 150th anniversary Reunion, the song came back to me. I knew that if at no other time, this was the occasion on which it should be sung.

My concern was that I wouldn’t be giving the school staff much notice to include it in their programme, but I figured, nothing ventured, nothing gained.

Thanks to the marvels of the Internet, I was easily able to source some sheet music, the lyrics and even a You-tube link of Shirley Bassey singing the song.

I e-mailed these to deputy headmaster Warwick Osmond, the 150th anniversary convener, early on Monday, May 16. a mere three days before the Reunion was due to begin!

I was delighted to get word from Warwick the next day, that he had passed on my info to the Choir and that they had decided to use it in their line-up for the Reunion Assembly.

I was so impressed by the school’s willingness and ability to respond at short notice. I learnt later from choir mistress Petro van Biljon, that the Choir had agreed to get together on the public holiday before Reunion, to rehearse!

“The Choir was excited and overwhelmed with the song!” said Petro, “It was meant to be.”

Hats off to headmaster Mike Eddy, Warwick Osmond, Petro and the Choir for their openness to possibilities and



Choir mistress Petro van Biljon plays her keyboard as the singers welcome home Old Dalians. Soloist Kamva Kostille is second from left.

Petro, who is in her seventh year as music teacher at Dale Junior, is choir mistress at both schools. She holds an LIB degree and practical and theory music qualifications from UNISA.

*** Pictures: RICHARD DOMERIS**

How Choir won race against time to adapt Welsh song for Reunion

their flexibility!

I flew in to East London on the Friday morning of Reunion and was soon driving up to King, looking forward to celebrating Dale’s proud milestone of 150 years, and eager to catch up with old friends.

But I enjoyed a special anticipation, for hearing the Choir’s rendition of the song. Early in the Assembly, the Choir performed two items, a traditional African song, followed by a twist on the Rolling Stones classic, “Paint it Black”, with Petro van Biljon’s fingers dancing impressively across the ivories!

The MC announced that a final special song was to be saved for later in the programme.

At last, the Choir stood once more, to be conducted by headboy Wandile Tshabe.

Perhaps more than anyone present that morning, I hung on to every stirring word as soloist Kamva Kostille sang the opening verse, in the clearest, angelic voice . . .

*Far away a voice is calling,
Bells of memory chime.*

*Come home again, come home again
They call through the oceans of time*

There was a big lump in my throat as the full might of the Choir joined in for the chorus . . .

*We'll keep a welcome in the hillside
We'll keep a welcome in the Vale
This land you knew will still be singing
When you come home again to Dale.
This land of song will keep a welcome
And with a love that never fails
We'll kiss away each hour of longing
When you come home again to Dale.
We'll kiss away each hour of longing
When you come home again to Dale!*

This song helped me realise how fond I was of my old school and the family that is Dale.

I quietly vowed not to take that for granted in the future.

At least for this Old Dalian, this was an extra special welcome. I hope it was for others too – as we came home again to Dale!

** Note: “We’ll Keep a Welcome” was composed by Mai Jones in 1940, with lyrics by Lyn Joshua and James Harper.*

The song has been recorded by, among others, Jill Daniels, Harry Secombe and Shirley Bassey. Headboy Wandile Tshabe has sung in Petro’s Choirs for years.

He is also a talented drummer and jazz musician.

BORN AGAIN: Dale Cadets return



ON PARADE . . . The Dale Cadets take the field in an impressive march past at Reunion 2011



GOODBYE KHAKE . . . Led by Sithembile Sgwabe, a resplendent group strike up the band

Cadets march through King streets again

By LIEUT ZANE HAGEMANN, CO the Dale Cadets

AFTER months of training, mainly on Friday afternoons, the Dale Cadets impressed the Reunion crowd with a very successful parade.

Celebrating 150 years of tradition at Dale College, our Cadet Detachment No 12 was reborn.

The sentries, for years the lifeline of our Cadets took part again successfully in the Memorial Service held in honour of Dalianians who paid the ultimate price for South Africa.

This year, however, they paraded again at Reunion after much hard work and enthusiasm from Dale teacher Siphso Adam, who has shown great interest in their revival. Regimental Sergeant Major Russell Volker once again assisted in fine-tuning the Cadets.

Attached to the Amatola Commando Unit for many years, he also assisted with our Cadets.

After the Memorial Service, the



LIEUT ZANE HAGEMANN



RSM RUSSELL VOLKER

Cadets assembled at the Victoria Grounds. We then exercised our right to the "Freedom of King William's Town" and marched up Ayliff Street, along Walker Street and into Cathcart Street.

Turning left into Maclean Street, we then marched up Market Street to dismiss at the Memorial Hall. This march was accompanied by the drums of the band.

During the afternoon proceedings, the Cadet paraded on the C.B Jennings Field. This consisted of a march past with the salute and inspection taken by ODU President, Dr Paul Smit.

This indicates the rebirth of our proud Cadet Detachment and we hope to maintain this momentum into the future.

*** Pictures: RICHARD DOMERIS and KEVIN WHITEHEAD**

Bring back the Sunday service, says the RSM

OLD DALIAN Russell Volker (matric 1976) has helped train Dale Cadets for many years through his service with the Amatola Commando in King William's Town.

He joined this unit in 1987 and served as a platoon sergeant, company sergeant major and regimental sergeant major until the Government closed the commandos in 2006.

Earlier, as part of his national service, from 1977 to 1979 he was involved in many operations in South West Africa over 16 months.

Russell proudly wears the Pro Patria, General Service and Long Service medals. He served in camps until 1987 and missed his 30-year medal by six months.

Commenting on the Dale Cadets, Russell says: "As an Old Dalian and a military man, I would really like to see the Cadets become a regular item again.

I also think that it is time to hold the Memorial Service on a Sunday morning again with the Cadets on parade.

"The Memorial Service is a time for us to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us and this must be done in a dignified and meaningful manner.

"Pupils need to know for whom the wreaths are being laid and why, that the tradition can continue and that when they come back for Reunions as Old Dalianians they understand and want to support the Memorial Service."

** Russell is director of Volkens Electrical and part owner of ComOffice (computer shops) in King William's Town and Port Alfred. His wife Pat is secretary to the headmaster of Dale College and was earlier secretary of the Old Dalian Union for many years.*



ON PARADE . . . the flags of Dale and South Africa adorn the field