The DHS Herald

18 November 2010 Issue 37/2010



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"Nature gives us two ends: one to sit on and one to think with. Ever since then, man's success or failure has been dependant on the one he used more." Robert Bloch

Durban High School Head Master : Mr David Magner From the Head Master's Desk

Last Thursday the School held its annual Remembrance Day Service. The ceremony is an important day on the school calendar, as it is critical that the boys of this School understand the history they are a part of. We honour all who have died in war, but particularly old boys of this School. It is not a question of whether the war was justified or not, it is important to remember that the individuals concerned gave their most precious commodity - their lives. We try to choose a theme each and this year we year, remembered those who died in the Border War. This was a conflict that many of us still remember well. South Africans of my generation spent many months doing what was called National Service. I spent two years of my life in the Army, and they were not easy. I am not ashamed to say I was in the Army. In my day we had 3 options. Go to jail, go overseas or do the time. I chose the latter, despite my British birth, as I felt I wanted to remain in SA and make a change to this country. I was not going to effect any changes from London! I learned a lot whilst in the Army, and do not regret being there. Like many South Africans at the time, being in the Army did not mean support for the Nationalist Party and their Apartheid policies.

Likewise Lt Nigel Osborne. Nigel left DHS in 1975, and was killed in the Mozambican bush near Mapai in 1979. He was flying a Puma helicopter, and was shot down by Mozambican forces. All 17 personnel on the chopper died that day. 30 years later a team of ex soldiers went to the crash site. The striking feature of this discovery was the support of the local community. The local people bore no ill will towards their

former enemies, and in fact went out of their way to assist in locating and looking after the crash site. What struck me was the spirit of reconciliation. These Mozambicans, who had been through years of war, poverty, anger and violence, were now reaching out to their former antagonists. It is remarkable, and very humbling. It is also a big lesson for South Africans.

The ceremony was as always a very moving experience, and I don't think I can ever listen to the Last Post without feeling a strong sense of emotional loss. My thanks to everyone involved in making the day so special, but in particular to Mr Oddy. To the friends and families of loved ones who made a special effort to be with us, thank you. I know that the sense of loss will never go away, but I hope that being at a Ceremony like last week helps to ease the pain.

This Friday I am to the Premiere of Spud. I am hugely excited to see this film. I have seen a trailer, and spoken to people who have seen the movie. The consensus is that it is wonderful film. With local boy John Van De Ruit as the writer, DHS Old Boy Ross Garland as the producer, and Blessing Xaba, a DHS boy, as one of the leads, there is also a lot of personal interest for me in the film. More next week!

Let's keep holding thumbs that the Boks can continue their winning ways on tour.

"Those who are good with a hammer think everything is a nail." Abraham Maslow

Have a great week. Dave Magner Class of 1973

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Durban High School



Debbie Vaughn, Major George Urguhart (DLI), Pat Osborne, Mr D Magner, Dianne Bosch and Lieutenant Nic Noome' (NMR) at DHS for the annual Remembrance Day



Lt Colonel Greg de Ricquebourg lays a wreath in memory of all those killed in war





Staff XI vs U14A XI

On Friday 12 November an interesting game of Cricket unfolded on Van Heerdens when the mighty Staff IX took on the terrifying U14As!

The Masters batted first, scoring a magnificent 153 all out. Barry Coskey was the star batsman with a first class 50 not out; Kurt Donaldson a fine 22 and Thabani Sibiya a lusty 17. The rest of the team do not want their results published! Suffice to say most of them were caught. The school boys replied with a respectable 129 all out, with Jordan Kisten scoring 21. The rest of the boys chipped in, but they were reined back by a superb display of fielding and bowling by the masters; with Chris Rein taking 4 wickets for 4 runs in 10 balls including a hat trick to win the game

Great fun was had by all and thank you to the boys, masters, parents and biased staff umpires for buying into the fun aspect of the game.



SEABROOKE THEATRE AT DHS

Seabrooke's will be closing this week for the very necessary renovation to the auditorium. This will be completed by the beginning of 2011 and shows have already been confirmed for the first term next year.

To "re-open" Seabrooke's, Old Boys Liam Magner and Jacobus van Heerden will have a run of their follow-up to Tokoloshe Come and Go, *Tokoloshe Come Again!* This is a whirlwind adventure of comedy and song that takes you through The Valley of a Thousand Hills. It is scheduled from 1 - 5 February.

This will be followed by our annual *Performing Arts Competition* at the end of Feb.

Next up will be the hilarious and superbly performed *Big Boys*

Don't Dance from Gauteng brothers Bradley and Ashley Searle, directed by Vanessa Harris. The dates for this show are 1 - 5 March.

To conclude the term, our own School production of *The Outsiders*, based on the S E Hinton novel, will be staged from 22 - 25 March.

Please diarise these events and watch our website for details: <u>www.durbanhighschool.co.za</u> Click on the Seabrooke's link.

Should any of your family / friends / colleagues like to be on the *Friends of Seabrooke's Theatre* mailing-list, please ask them to contact me: <u>seabrooke's@durbanhighschool.co.za</u>

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Durban High School



An exhibition of local and international artists who stand united in support of babies abandoned in South Africa

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do." Helen Keller

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 25 Nov - 17 Dec 2010 Sun - Wed 9.30am - 4.30pm Thurs - Sat 9.30am - 7.30pm







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