



Issue 8 / April 2020

Message from the Chairperson:

Dear DLSHCC Alumni,

What a bumper year 2019 was for the DLSHCC Alumni Association. Once again, I need to thank my incredible committee for their commitment and support. I would also like to thank **Debbie Harris** and the **Board of Governors** of the College, for their unwavering support over the last year. Together we are going on to great things!

Our Alumni Secretary, **Eliana Connell**, worked tirelessly last year to update the database and by the end of the year, out of the 5105 records on the database (which is everyone who matriculated from both the boys, girls and co-ed college), we have 1153 email addresses, 1060 mobile and 274 landline contact numbers. The focus this year will be on populating the database and working on segmenting so we can start sending specialised relevant messages. Thank you to everyone who participated in our survey last year – the results are being integrated into our marketing and communications plans for this year.

In May 2019, we hosted our annual Come Back Give Back Dance, which is held the night after the Matric Dance in the same hall with the same decorations. As always, it was a fabulous evening and we raised a record amount of money. Thanks again to everyone who made this happen. This year's dance was scheduled for 9 May 2020 – but has sadly, like so much else, been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will advise the new date as soon as it is confirmed.

In September 2019, **Patrick** and I were privileged enough to attend our first South African Schools Alumni Association (SASAA) conference, at Eunice High School in Bloemfontein. We became members of SASAA at the beginning of last year and their annual conference is held at a different member school every year. It was an excellent opportunity to network and meet other Alumni Associations. The guest speakers were fantastic and we walked away with some firm friends, great ideas and good contacts for the future.

In our efforts to become more visible and make our presence known, we now have an official DLSHCC Alumni gazebo, flag banners, our own shirts and name badges. We have already

used the gazebo, etc, at various functions towards the end of last year and we look forward to many more!

The Alumni got involved in the Matric Final Day of school last year and sponsored their flip flops. As many of you know, it has become a tradition for the matrics to leave their school shoes on their last day and these are given to charity. We then gave them Alumni branded flip flops, as new Alumni!

We also presented the Grade 6s with a branded ruler each, with the message: as they left the Junior School and moved across the road to being their High School journey.

The opening of the **Gavan Ryan Aquatic Centre** at the end of November last year was a very special day. Thank you to all the Alumni that attended. I was involved in cutting the ribbon and I might have shed a tear or two at the emotion on such an auspicious occasion. We have lots of photos and more details in the newsletter.

In January the College hosted the second Starlight Sundowners, which is a wonderful outdoor event where the College community comes together. We had an Alumni welcome area where past pupils could reconnect over a beer or glass of bubbly.

2020 has got off to an uncertain start for our community and the world at large. We are navigating how to manage the Covid-19 Coronavirus which means the College has had to close in line with the Department of Health directive, and many events and gathering have had to be postponed. We will communicate with you regarding the new date for the *Come Back Give Back Dance*.

Thanks for your understanding and patience.

We hope to see more and more of you in 2020 once all this madness settles down.

May God Bless you and keep you safe.

Kathleen Genade

Chairperson: Alumni Committee



ALUMNI CONTACT:

Alumni Chairperson: Kathleen Genade: *kathleen@omnibill.co.za / 082 560 9635*

Treasurer & Finance: Deolinda da Silva: *deolinda.dasilva@comair.co.za / 082 928 7493*

Alumni Marketing & Liaison Officer: Jenny Duffy: *alumni@dlschcc.co.za / 083 212 0070*

Alumni Board Representative: Patrick Munyembate: *patrick@apmgroup.co.za / 072 787 4692*

If you would like to join the Committee, please contact **alumni@dlschcc.co.za**

The Gavan Ryan Aquatic Centre

An overview of the pool journey - from the ground-breaking ceremony to the first gala. Many thanks to Alumni for their support!
 Our vision is to have our very own Alumni area. If you'd like to find out more about this, please email Patrick - patrick@apmgroup.co.za.



Featured Alumni

Rachel Smith - Class of 2007

A short story of passion

South African gin drinkers can now enjoy their favourite tippie while also doing their bit to educate and grow the hospitality sector.

A share of the profits from every bottle of SMITHS™ South African Dry Craft Gin sold will now go towards up skilling deserving individuals by providing hospitality related bursaries on a biannual basis.



Rachel Smith at the 2019 SA Craft Gin award ceremony. Elderflower and Spice won Double Gold and Citrus won Gold.

The innovative idea is the brainchild of Rachel Smith, the 31-year-old founder of Bursary Spirits and owner of SMITHS™ Gin. Rachel has been working in the hospitality and alcohol industry for the last nine years – managing some of the biggest global high-end luxury spirits brands – and so the next natural step was for her to create her own spirits portfolio, of which SMITHS™ Gin is the first.

There are three variants under the label so far. This includes a Spice South African Dry Craft Gin, which has an exciting masala-like flavour from nose to finish and an Elderflower South African Dry Craft Gin, which distils a combination of elderflower and other floral notes to create another South African first. The London Dry method is used for both in order to establish the distinct juniper-forward gin flavour. The final offering is a Citrus South African Dry Craft Gin, which uses fresh sprigs of orange, grapefruit and lemon and a strong juniper flavour to add an amazing burst of freshness.

The full range of 750ml glass bottles is currently available online at Take A Lot, Norman Goodfellows, Checkers, Makro Online, Craft Cartel, Eastleigh Liquors, Liquorcitiy Stoneridge and Bootleggers in Fourways. Other online platforms and store listings will be announced as and when confirmed via social media and the SMITHS™ gin website – www.smiths-ginza.co.za.

For any other queries or interview requests please contact us via email smithsginza@gmail.com and for usable copies of images, kindly email to the same address or contact Rachel on 082 746 3481.

Please also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram - @SmithsGinZA.



SASAA Alumni Conference



Alumni committee members, **Kathleen Genade** and **Patrick Munyembate** attended an Alumni Conference organised by SASAA in Bloemfontein in September.



2019 Matrics welcomed as newest Alumni

The **Matric Class of 2019** wrote their final examination on 28 November. Before leaving the College as pupils for the very last time, they donated their school shoes to charity and received a pair of DLSHCC Alumni flip-flops to walk into the next chapter of their lives.



Come Back Give Back Dance 2020

Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 outbreak and the College having to close down, this event has been postponed. We will keep you posted on the new date once we have it confirmed.

DLSHCC pupils are learning from home

Following the declaration of the National Disaster, De La Salle Holy Cross College closed at 14h00 on 17 March.

The academic programme will, however, continue until 8 April 2020. Although the benefits of immediate contact between teacher and children cannot be replaced by online methodologies, the College is privileged to have resources available to ensure that learning will continue during this compulsory school closure.

Ms Debbie Harris, College Principal said: *“My grateful thanks to the Headmasters and staff who have made plans to support our families and children academically and emotionally during this difficult time.”*



Dakarai Zhoya (Grade 7) showing her brother Mudiwa (Grade 5) how to use Google Classroom.

Engagements



Victoria Southey (Class of 2011) and Ashley Holden announced their engagement at St Andrews Golf Course. Victoria is the daughter of Richard and Candice (nee Saville) Southey (both Class of 1987).



Talitha West (Class of 2011) and Dale Deeb got engaged at Afriski Mountain Resort - we wish you all the best.



Reunions & Gatherings

Class of 2009 - 10 year Reunion



From left to right: Michael Parker, Kamal Sonne, Kyle Elliot, Sergio Gomes, Caroline Seward (Head Girl '09), Wade Lambert, Gia Monzeglio, Raquel Brandao, Matthew Thompson, Nikita Browning (née: Lombard), Cheleigh Esterhuizen, Martha Soteriades, Jessica Southey, Kate Nowosiad (née: Delmont), Carrie Folgore (née: Graham), Matthew Quadling, Danielle Krabbenhoft (née: Cleary), Ffyona McCaffery, Antonio Folgore, Stephania Amoretti (née: Dalle Ave), Nastasjia Eleftheriades (née: Ferreira).

Class of 1990 reunion in July 2020.

For more information contact:
 Greg Maynard
 +27 (79) 111-2850,
 Tracy Brink
 +27 (83) 280-9397 or
 Marlene Da Silva
 +27 (83) 229-4525.



Weddings



Kendall Quadling (Class of 2013) married Shaughn Lacey on 24 September.



Nikita Lombard (Class of 2009) married Quinton Browning on 5 October.

Tracey Venter (Class of 2001) married Keith Rain on 20th July.



Congratulations to all of you!



DLS Class of 1986 got together at the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens.



Alumni from 1977 enjoy the rugby at Pirates. Above, John Horrocks.

To see what is happening at the College, please follow us on Instagram (dlschc_alumni) and join the Facebook group:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2304078967/>

To sign up for our Alumni newsletter and to be kept up to date on Events, Happenings & News, please email: alumni@dlschc.co.za or go to <http://www.delasalle-holycrosscollege.co.za/alumni/calling-all-past-pupils>